



## Let's Celebrate!

Join us after the second service on **March 8th** to enjoy food and fellowship in recognition of our successful Stewardship Campaign. We made great progress this year and want to take a moment to pause and appreciate everyone's support.

We'll have a potluck chili and sundae bar as we break bread together. Please visit the sign-up genius link below to sign up for a dish to bring. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050E48A8AA2AA5FD0-chili>



Ash Wednesday Services at Cross and Crown will be at **12 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Wednesday, February 26th.**



## Thanks for the Stories!

The Storytelling Weekend with Rebecca Anderson was storm-damaged but successful! Though Thursday's workshop was cancelled due to the weather, all who were able to attend the rest of the events found the experience energizing. At the Saturday evening gathering, we heard well-crafted

and well-told stories from 10 participants. Pastor Rebecca's Sunday sermon at C&C was well-received, and after having lunch with youth from our church and Advent, she told (no surprise!) yet another story. Thanks to Melanie and her crew for providing the lunch, to Thrivent for an Action Team grant to cover it, and to all of you for showing up to enjoy stories that were true and life-changing.



## StoryCorps—Come and See!

The Cross & Crown StoryCorps group will meet **Tuesday, Feb. 25th at 2:00 p.m.** We'll be looking at Readers' Theater opportunities, hearing about the Storytelling weekend events from those who attended, and sharing some stories. If you've been curious about this group, join us at this meeting. We'll be alternating monthly between afternoon meetings and evening meetings on the 4th Tuesday. In March we'll meet at **6:30 p.m. on March 24th.** Check us out!

## ROADSIDE CLEAN-UP SATURDAY, MARCH 7<sup>TH</sup>

Please save **Saturday, March 7<sup>TH</sup>** beginning at 8:45 a.m. for our next Roadside Clean-Up. We should be finished around 10:30 a.m. Bring gloves, appropriate clothing, and a desire to make a difference in our community!



## Wise Owls Play Games!

Join us **Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 to 12 noon** in the Fellowship Hall for a morning of fun and games. We will have board games, cards, and puzzles. As we gather, everyone will join in whatever game group they want. Bring a bag lunch if you like, and we will supply popcorn. And bring your own favorite games. Hope to see you there!

## An Evening of Amazing Music

The OWLS travel to hear The National Lutheran Choir perform on **Saturday, Feb. 22, 7 p.m.** at Christ Lutheran Church, 4519 Providence Road, Charlotte. Admission is free! Donations accepted

for Crisis Assistance Ministry: new or gently used clothing. Sign-up in the Narthex. Please indicate there if you would like to carpool.



## ADULT DISCIPLESHIP

**SUNDAY MORNINGS:** (starts at 9:45 a.m.)

- **Book of Faith class** is studying the book of Exodus. We will continue Exodus until we finish this book of the Bible. Meets in the Cross room.
- **Footsteps** class continues a study of Christian History & Teaching. Today's topic is the Church Christology. For more information go to <https://sites.google.com/view/candc300/home?authuser=0> and click on "Christian History" or contact Robert Hughes. Meets in the parlor.
- **Good Soil (young families group)** is discussing the Enneagram and how it can be used in parenting. Meets in the Good Soil Room.

Enneagram Study group meets **Tuesday from 7:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m.** in the parlor All are welcome to this basic study. For more Information go to <https://sites.google.com/view/candc300/home?authuser=0> and click on "Enneagram." A suggested book is *The Enneagram: A Christian Perspective*, by the Rev. Richard Rohr. You need not know anything about the Enneagram in order to benefit from this study. This study will normally meet the third Tuesday of each month.



## Racial Bridge-Building Forum

You're invited to the quarterly Matthews-area Racial Bridge-Building Forum, **Tuesday, Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>, 7 p.m.**, at Matthews Presbyterian Church. Pam Kelley, author of *Money Rock: A Family's Story of Cocaine, Race, and Ambition in the New South*, will speak about her book. A former reporter for the *Charlotte Observer*, she has won honors from the National Press Club and the Society for Features Journalism. And she was a finalist for the 2008 Pulitzer Prize for Public Service. Rev. Luke Mabry of Matthews Presbyterian will moderate the discussion.

## A Day that Will Change Your Life

I thought I knew the history of racism in America. I thought I was 'enlightened' about the hurdles African Americans are still jumping to live without barriers. It thought I had put aside the assumptions I'd learned as a child to make. Until I sat through and then later led this workshop. It changed me, and I still have a ways to go. All pastors in the NC Synod ELCA have had the chance to be part of it, and now it is coming to you. It's challenging and empowering and worth the day. It's easy to attend, right here at C&C and offered to all in the Mecklenberg-Union Conference of churches. And it's free.

## Developing Culturally Sensitive Leaders

**Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 9 a.m.—4:30 p.m.** (with lunch)  
Led by Rev. CeCee Mills and Rev. Matt Canniff-Kesecker

Registration needed so we have materials for everyone. To register, go to [nclutheran.org](http://nclutheran.org) and click on Events. Step out in faith and give yourself the gift of this experience!  
Pastor Ginn

## FEED THE RED FOOD BARREL

Collecting food for the Matthews HELP Center is an ongoing outreach that C&C participates in. One of the ways that sets this food pantry apart from others is that they provide hygiene and cleaning supplies.

Most requested items:

Canned Pasta	Pasta Sauce
Oatmeal	Grits
Tuna	Crackers
Soup	Rice
Ramen Noodles	Cereal
Cereal Bars	Peanut Butter
Canned Fruit	Canned Veggies
Toothpaste	Fruit Juice
Hygiene Items	



Items can be dropped off in the red food barrel located in the Fellowship Hall.



### Thank You For Your Dedication!

Thank you to those who came out and helped take care of clean up work as a result of the tornado on Thursday. With your help we were able to worship on Sunday!

### Storm Damage Update

From Hugh Kluttz, who manages our church's insurance:

A tornado struck the church on Thursday February 6, 2020. We suffered roof damage and the front portico was ripped off the building and destroyed. Thursday afternoon a remediation company removed about 50% of the debris. Friday a small group of volunteers worked on cleanup. Then on Saturday a larger group moved the remainder of the debris to the bottom of the parking lot, and cleared all the parking areas in preparation for Sunday services. The entire campus lost many trees. They are still down, and will be for a while.

We are now in the claim process, which will not be a fast operation. First priority is the roof, making certain it's secure and water tight. Once that is done, we will begin the bid process for the portico. Then we'll select a tree company to clean up the front area of the property along Hwy 51.

**It is imperative that no one go into this area and try to remove any of the trees.** This is a dangerous area and that work is best left to the professionals. The same caution applies to the section between the cell tower and Settler's Landing, where even more trees are down. Please don't go there.

Our damage could have been a lot worse. With the preschool children, church staff and Bible Study participants in the building, we were fortunate that no one was injured when the storm hit.

Thanks be to God.



### An Opportunity to Give

The Holy Land travelers from C&C will visited and delivered greetings to Augusta Victoria Hospital in Jerusalem, which since WWII has been supported by Lutheran World Federation (LWF). It provides radiation therapy, pediatric kidney dialysis and

other specialty services for people from communities in the Palestinian territories, the only West Bank facility available to many. Find Augusta Victoria on the web and learn about their work. While our members are in the Holy Land, you're invited to make a contribution to the hospital.

### LUTHERAN WORLD FEDERATION NEWS

Lutheran World Federation Jerusalem works to serve the humanitarian needs of the poor and marginalized, following the example of Jesus Christ. LWF Jerusalem focuses on: emergency assistance through development, advocacy, peace and reconciliation initiatives, and disaster relief; service to refugees, those living in poverty, and the marginalized; and ecumenical partnerships (LWF is a member of Action by Churches Together). The Central Office of the LWF Jerusalem Program is located on the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem. LWF Jerusalem is supported financially through the contributions of Lutheran churches, private individuals, and organizations that work for justice, peace, and humanitarian aid. The generosity of these donors provides healthcare, education, and emergency relief to Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

All contributions of any amount are helpful and appreciated. LWF Jerusalem will send you a receipt acknowledging the arrival of your donation. If you wish to donate money to a specific project, please indicate which project on the memo line, or in an accompanying note. Here is the link for more information. <https://lutheranworld.org/content/jerusalem>

## MEN'S GROUP NEWS

### THE MEN'S GROUP GOES TO PRISON???

The Men's Group is planning a tour of Southern Grace Distilleries ([www.southerngracedistilleries.com](http://www.southerngracedistilleries.com)) on Saturday, March 14th at 2 p.m. Southern Grace is America's 1st distillery located in a former prison! The tour will offer a history of the prison as well as information on how the award-winning whiskey is crafted! A tasting will follow, so you must be 21+ to attend. Tours are \$14. We will likely grab lunch before the tour. Please contact Pastor Brook ([pastorbrook@crossandcrown.org](mailto:pastorbrook@crossandcrown.org)) if you're interested in joining!

### 2020 Men's Golf Outing-- JOIN US!

Friday, April 3rd, 9:30 a.m. start time  
Red Bridge Golf Club (Locust, NC)  
4-man Captain's Choice  
\$48/player (includes golf, cart, range balls, and lunch)  
Selected charity for this year - Bright Blessings USA.



## Miriam Circle News



**May 2<sup>nd</sup> is the date of the C&C annual yard sale.** We are accepting

donations NOW. All your gently used items, household goods, furniture, electronics, sporting goods, games, books, linens, glass ware, gardening tools. Bring it! Your old/used stuff is someone's "to die for" find. Donations should be brought to the signed room, downstairs near the elevator. NO CLOTHING however.



**Does your home have critical repair needs that are impacting the health and safety of your family?** If so, Habitat for Humanity's

Critical Home Repair Program may be able to cover the cost of such repairs **AT NO COST TO YOU.**

Funds for such repairs are made available through the Community Development Block Grant Program and include roofing, HVAC, plumbing, and accessibility modifications, among other repairs.

For additional details and program criteria, please see the flyer in the narthex, speak with Bob Roth, or to apply contact Homeowner Services at 704-847-4266 ext. 108.

## Youth and Young Family News



The Cross & Crown Weekday School is currently enrolling for next year. We offer 2, 3 or 5 day options. We are open from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. daily. Please contact Mary Anna Bingham at [weekday.school@crossandcrown.org](mailto:weekday.school@crossandcrown.org) for more information.



### GOOD SOIL

Join the Good Soil group each Sunday during Sunday School for a discussion of the Enneagram and how it can be used in parenting! It's a helpful tool (and also really fun!). Join us! Also, the Good Soil Group has fun service projects and family outings planned for 2020. All are welcome.