



✝ Worship 10am ✝ Fellowship 11am

117 N. 3rd Ave. | PO Box 1 | Kure Beach, NC 28449

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APRIL 2020 – NEWSLETTER

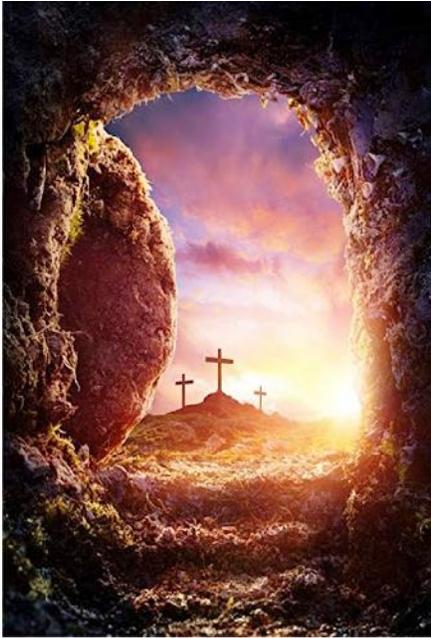
Volume 20, No. 52



Our Mission Statement – As joyful followers of Jesus Christ, we welcome and care for all people. We boldly proclaim the Good News, share our faith, and love God by serving others.

Our Statement of Welcome – Accepting those who Christ has already accepted, Kure Memorial Lutheran Church affirms that all people, regardless of race, national origin, sexual orientation, or economic status, are unconditionally welcome to our community of faith and are invited to join us in worship, fellowship, and ministry.

“...Now is your time of grief, but I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy.”
(John 16:22)



You will probably agree...these are really strange times we are living in! Things in our lives have changed greatly, just from a month ago! We can't get close to those we love, outside of our own households. We can't offer hospitality to others, like we are used to. We can't come together for worship during this time of separation. I saw a picture on someone's Facebook page of one of our folks looking and talking through the window at her niece! It's just not the same as the personal connection we are all used to. Along with this, there is so much uncertainty of how long it will take to get back to "normal" ...whatever that will look like, when this virus thing passes.

A couple of people from church, both forwarded me an interesting article about this whole virus situation we find ourselves in. It was in the "Harvard Business Review", dated March, 23, 2020. The article was entitled, "*That Discomfort You're Feeling is Grief*". It was an interview with David Kessler, an expert on grief. He walks through the 5 stages of grief and how our thought process during this current crisis plays out through each of them. He also gives a reminder, something that I learned in my seminary training...that the stages of grief do not happen in a linear pattern, but rather are like lily pads on a pond. And when we grieve, we go from one to the other, then to the next, and then back again, so we may experience different stages of grief more than once during a crisis situation. This is how the five stages of grief were described in the article:

1. **Denial**, which we say a lot of early on: *This virus won't affect us.*
2. **Anger**: *You're making me say home and taking away my activities.*
3. **Bargaining**: *Okay, if I social distance for two weeks, everything will be better, right?*
4. **Sadness**: *I don't know when this will end.*
5. **Acceptance**: *This is happening; I have to figure out how to proceed.*

As we think about all of these stages...think about where you have been and where you might currently be in the process! My guess is, that we all have been bouncing around in most, if not all of these stages, without even realizing it! There is no shame in admitting it...it's just how we, as humans deal with situations that change our sense of normalcy.

But here's the thing...in whatever grieving we experience, Jesus promises us rejoicing and joy. In the passage above, when Jesus was preparing his disciples for his crucifixion and resurrection, he told them that there will be grieving...but then they will rejoice and no one will take away their joy. Yes, their world would be turned upside down and it would seem to be the end...but he promised them

that joy was on the other side in the resurrection, and that his resurrection would bring joy and new life. It's the same way with us. Yes, our worlds have been turned upside down...maybe for some more than others. And I think we all have experienced some sense of grieving throughout this current situation. However not only does Jesus promise us that we will rejoice when we get to the other side of this...Jesus continues to provide little snippets of joy along the way to keep us hopeful, joyful and to give us comfort that he will always be with us...encouraging us and inspiring us.

You know...understanding these stages of grief is important to help us understand how we process the difficulties in our lives. But what gives us peace and hope in the midst of them is the joy and new life that is ours in the resurrection!

If you are interested in reading the full article, go to: https://hbr.org/2020/03/that-discomfort-youre-feeling-is-grief?fbclid=IwAR35_IZ8_xajIcqad-GfMTT6_Hcp_ytepXFah30uvVNMHnbri4RB6GmVPC4

Surfin' on God's Grace!

Pastor Dan

Our Holy Week and Easter Sunday will look much different this year! With all of the recommendations for distancing ourselves from one another, no gatherings of 10 or more, etc...we will not be holding “in person” worship until, at the earliest, May 17, which is the most recent recommendation from our Bishop. As we all know...it may even be extended beyond that...but I remain hopeful! Anyway...with that said, we will continue our “Facebook Livestream Only” service option each Sunday until we can, once again, worship together in person! For Holy Week, we invite you to worship with us via Facebook Live on *Palm Sunday, April 5 at 10am; Maundy Thursday, April 9 at 7pm; Good Friday, April 10 at 7pm and Easter Sunday morning, April 12 at 10am.*

Easter...The Resurrection. Our, bishop, Tim Smith shared a unique perspective on this, which I would like to share with you all! Bishop Tim talked about the current crisis we are living in. He said if we really think about it, we are living a passion story...or Good Friday if you will. The current situation is giving many of us overwhelming feelings of anxiousness, fear, worry, discomfort, uneasiness, uncertainty, anger and sadness. But we have to keep in mind that new life is coming. The resurrection is on the horizon. So, when this crisis has passed and when we will, once again be able to worship together in our sanctuary, it will be at that time that we will come together to celebrate Easter a second time! Whether it is in May, June, July or beyond...We will gather for another Easter celebration with Alleluias and Easter hymns...and the reading of the Easter story as we are reminded of the new life of Christ that emerges even from the darkest seasons of our lives! We will also have a meal together following that worship service to celebrate our coming together again! I can't tell you how excited I am about this! More to come...so stay tuned!

Most things are put on hold for the month of April! However, we are still collecting food for the *Help Center* as well as food and other supplies for *the Good Shepherd Homeless Shelter* in Wilmington. Both are in dire situations because churches aren't meeting and providing assistance they typically do. Here is the list of items for *Good Shepherd*: *milk, ground coffee, sugar, sliced bread, salt and pepper, bottled water, hand sanitizer, rubber flip flops, Gatorade, puzzles and games, and adult coloring books.* You can drop items off at the church for both organizations. Or if you prefer not to go out, but would like to donate something, you can leave it on your doorstep and someone will come and pick it up to get it where it needs to go! Please don't hesitate to contact the church office if that is the case and we would love to help out!

The Good Shepherd team would like to thank the entire Cape Fear community for your support helping with programs and services for the hungry and homeless. Our homeless and hungry neighbors are especially vulnerable during the COVID-19 pandemic. The donations from grocery partners have dropped by seventy-five percent. The Help Center would be grateful for donations of masks, gloves and hand sanitizer because they are critical items and are of limited supply. The wish list is updated daily at www.goodshepherdwilmington.org. Many volunteers fall into the high risk category and have been encouraged to stay home. The Help Center is working hard to provide relatively uninterrupted services. A number of people rely on these meals. Beginning March 16th, a hot to-go lunch option was incorporated Monday through Friday. Three major fund raising events have been postponed. Please check the website for updates. Call (910)763-4424 if you have questions, concerns or would like to offer support from afar. Everything is greatly appreciated.

Cost Rica Mission Trip Fundraiser: Please support our Costa Rica Traveling Mission Team with your donations of...are you ready for it?...old sneakers! Yes, you heard right! As you are taking this time at home to clean out your closets...please donate your old sneakers (in good condition) that you would otherwise throw away or donate to the local thrift shop to our “GotSneakers” shoe collection campaign! Simply bring in your old sneakers, drop them in the plastic bin in the church entryway. Or...if you would like for someone to pick them up for you, please leave them on your doorstep and let us know...we’ll come get them! For every pair of shoes that they can donate to a needy family, we get \$3! So, this would be a great way for you to support our Costa Rica Mission Trip and clean out your closets at the same time! We’re all about efficiency! Please contact Pastor Dan if you have questions. See the flyer at the end of this newsletter!

The Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser for the Costa Rica Mission Trip has been postponed until a future date. More info on this will be coming when we know more! Thank you for your patience!

Facebook Livestream of our Worship Services! As you may know, we have been livestreaming our worship services on our Facebook page since early December, 2019! It has become even more important now that we cannot meet during this time of separation! Please be sure to tune into our church Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/Kure-Memorial-Lutheran-Church-113882918643415/>; at 10am every Sunday morning join us for worship. We have had a great response the first couple weeks; we have been “livestream only” and hope you will continue to join us! And please notify your family and friends, who are either in town or out of town to join us as well! We have been emailing the service outline to everyone each week...so if you are not on our email list and would like to be, please email the church office and let us know at kurememorial@kurememorial.com.

Prayer for today - for a pandemic

May we who are merely inconvenienced

Remember those whose lives are at stake.

May we who have no risk factors

Remember those most vulnerable.

May we who have the luxury of working from home

Remember those who must choose between preserving their health or making their rent.

May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close

Remember those who have no options.

May we who have to cancel our trips

Remember those who have no safe place to go.

May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market

Remember those who have no margin at all.

May we who settle in for a quarantine at home

Remember those who have no home.

As fear grips our country,

Let us choose love.

During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other, let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbors. Amen. - Cameron Bellm

Continued financial support during this time is greatly appreciated: We invite you to continue your financial support for our ministry together by either dropping off your offering (either in the church or at the church office), mailing it to the church office (P.O. Box 1, Kure Beach, NC 28449), setting us up in your bank online “bill pay” system, or going to our website, kmlc.org and donating through our new online donate options. This will help us to continue doing the ministry God is calling us to do...especially in these trying times! Thank you so much for your continued support!

From the Financial Secretary:

March was indeed an interesting month for us, filled with many blessings, along with concerns about needed building improvements and worries regarding COVID-19. In spite of everything, our Tithes and Offerings came in right on target. We projecting needed \$21,842.50 to support our Mission Plan and our Tithes amounted to \$21,908.08! Also, \$770 was donated to our Capital Building Fund to help cover the cost of parsonage repairs.

This month we also offered the possibility of on-line giving though our webpage. Five families made their contributions through the PayPal format offered and one family set up monthly bill pay through their bank.

A heartfelt thanks to all those who contributed in support of our Mission Plan. A special shout-out goes to those who have generously increased their offering to help us get through these days and to those who have made contributions for capital repairs.

Parsonage Upgrade: Update The results of our unusual congregation meeting regarding the parsonage repairs and upgrades are 54 yes, 0 no. I received responses via telephone, mail, email and in person. There were many good questions and comments concerning this project. I have recorded names, dates, comments and votes so this information may be kept.

Thank you for your concerns, questions, comments and votes.

Todd Vought - President
KML Church council

From the Discipleship Commission:

The discipleship commission has cancelled meetings for the month of April, 2020.

All Church Women United activities are on hold. Except for migrant worker kits! Migrant workers are still working in the fields as we all have to eat. So, please gather together the items listed below in an 18" by 36" duffel bag made of strong material and bring them to the church any time in April or May.

- Toothbrush in container •Toothpaste •Dental floss •Soap in plastic soap dish
- Towel, washcloth •Disposable razor •Deodorant •Shampoo •Hand cream
- Band aids •Safety pins •Nail file •Comb, brush

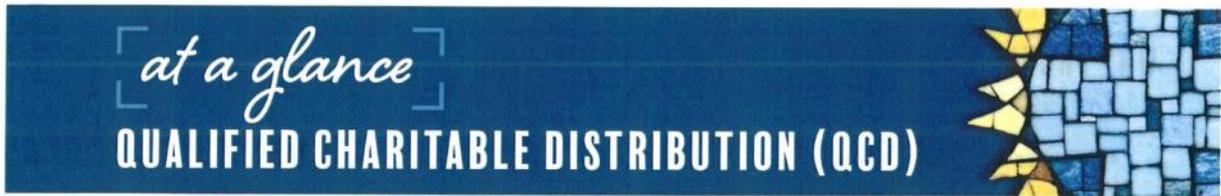
Friday morning book club has been canceled till further notice at which time I will let you know the meeting place. Keeping you all in my prayers as I wash my hands :) -Becky Wetzel

The VITA Tax Program at the Senior Centers has been suspended due to concerns over Covid-19. The tax filing deadline and tax payment deadline have been pushed through to July 15, 2020. We will keep you posted on updates and when Tax Preparing will resume.

Do you have an IRA and want to be able to make contributions to Kure Memorial or other charities? Here is some information we want to share with you:



ELCA Foundation
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.



WHAT IS A QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTION?

A **Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD)** is a wonderful way to support the life-giving ministries of the ELCA and receive key tax benefits.

Here's how it works:

Recent changes to the law have raised, from 70½ to 72, the age at which you are required to withdraw from your Individual Retirement Account (IRA) a certain amount of money known as your Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs). These distributions are taxed as they are withdrawn. Despite this change in the law, a QCD continues to allow taxpayers over age 70½ to donate to charities directly from their IRA, which would allow you to avoid federal income tax on this money while supporting the ministries of the ELCA.

DO I QUALIFY TO GIVE A QCD?

YOU QUALIFY IF YOU ARE:

70½
YEARS OLD



Giving to a public charity



An owner of an IRA



Are at any income level — QCDs have tax benefits for low-, middle- and high-income taxpayers.

gotsneakers?

A Sneaker Recycling Organization

We'll take 'em!

Donate your new or lightly used (no holes or rips) athletic shoes and help us raise money for our

2020

Costa Rican Mission Trip
Kure Memorial Lutheran Church

It's that simple!

Just drop off your unwanted shoes and they will be recycled/re-used in countries that need them!

Thank you for your Support!

VOLUNTEERING

The Property Care Committee is seeking anyone that is interested in being part of the lawn care subcommittee. As spring and summer are now upon us there is a continual need for yard maintenance of the church property. This would entail being accountable for cutting the grass and some trimming on a scheduled basis. At most, you may be scheduled once a month. If interested, call Tom Wetzel at 517-230-6290 who is setting up the schedule for the coming months through fall.

The Sunday Lunch ministry always need assistance with preparing the lunches and distributing them. Through the pandemic, people still have to eat! We always welcome additional help with the weekly shopping at Aldi's. Contact me, Jean Graff, at kjeb415@charter.net or by cell: 309-339-9272 or just catch me at church. We are now making 50+ lunches per week, so it takes a group effort!

Coffee hour fellowship: We will not be meeting for fellowship until further notice.

The Needs in April 2020 include: 5 April.....Mayonnaise or Miracle Whip.
12 April...Canned fish. 19 April....Pasta Sauce. 26 April....Canned Fruit.
If you have question, please contact Anne Hope and Tim Marvin at 910-458-4057.

Game Night~each third Thursday in the Fellowship hall has been cancelled until further notice.

The KMLC Church Council News

Church council will not meet in April 2020.

Sanctuary Flowers: Since we are not worshipping in person during the month of April, we will not be having sanctuary flowers.

Sanctuary Lamp: Our Sanctuary Lamp burns continually, signifying the unswerving presence of the spirit of the Lord in our hearts and in our lives. To sponsor the sanctuary lamp, choose your Sunday date and the loved one or occasion you wish to honor and sign up in the Fellowship Hall. The cost of sponsorship is \$5; an acknowledgement will be made in the Sunday Bulletin.

April 5 – Rick and Deborah Haynes / In honor of children and grandchildren

April 12 – Cox / In honor of mother

April 19 – Tom Wetzel / In honor of family birthday's

April 26 – Janice Hindle / In Memory of Peter R. Haswell

✠ REMEMBER IN PRAYER ✠

HOMEBOUND, HOSPITALIZED, SPECIAL CONCERNS

Kim Workmeister, Teri Massey, Anne Burkauskas, Cathy Heglar, Cat Morgan, Nancy Baker, Ellen Prevatte, Ted Prevatte, Sharon Efird, Maxine Jordan, Lisa Lee, Barry Nelder, Emily Barber, Nancy Spaller, Judy Kunf, Bob Stuart, Barb Stuart, Mina Piedmont, Betty Swann, Joanne Adams, Marge Lucido, Cathleen Applegate, Carol Ochs, Hannah Dumbrowski, Victoria Sanchez, Aris Mora, Steve Siferd, Janet Kassor, Makayla Halscher, Alison Kohl, Morgan Smith, Billy Ward, John Walker, Steve Jones, Pam Solstad, Morgan Davison, Tracy Schweyer, Scott King, Janna Ellen, Kaitlin Sprague.

FRIENDS & FAMILY

Sandy Hunt and Ginny Blauboer (Buckley), Tracy McKay, Tom Grady, Pat Hankin (Hambel), Paul Piedmont (Piedmont), Kristi Johnson, Cyndie Heath, Jami Harris, Jac Schlagle, Lexi Westfall (Hitchcock), Senka Gambino, Jean Behanna, Rick & Sharon Ellis (Lundy), Terry Ford & Carl Ford (Rehder), Arlo Bond (Jordan), Joey (Palamara), Pat Addington (Hearne), Julian, Jason & baby Jackson (Full), Mary Adobato (Vecchio), Megan Manley (Cox), Beverly Lynn (Kure), Richard White (Prevatte), Arden Buckley & Erin O'Brien (Buckley), Brad Cook & Hugh Brady (Shearin), Kari Craig, (Palamara), Bridges family (Lundy), Larry Gilbert (Wrenn), Kat Pycior (Stephanos), Anne C., Claire Houston, Tammy V., Dave Stultz, Matt Stultz, Pastor Tom Schutt, Belle Hunt (Keck), Barbara Gavigan (Gavigan), Robin Stoehr (Gourville) Meghan O'Brien (Campbell).

Please pray for the caregivers as they care for those who are ill.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE MISSIONS OF OUR CHURCH

Federal Point Help Center / Coupons to Service men's families / KMLC Preschool / Girl Scout Troops #867, #901 and #155 / Good Shepherd (food & supplies) / Trinity Grove / KMLC Youth Group / Katie B Hines Senior Center lunch program / The Lutheran Church of Costa Rica/ Casa Abierta-La Carpio / Seamen's Center

MEMBERS, FAMILIES & FRIENDS SERVING IN MISSIONS

Nathan Overton - ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission, Hungary.

STUDENTS ATTENDING COLLEGE / SEMINARY

Emily Graff-Luther Seminary / Tommy Ullring-CFCC / Katelyn Copenhaver-Santa Fe College / Jade Denne-NC State / Jordan Pivik-ECU / Rachel Colleen-ECU / Katie Elkin-Duke Divinity School / Andro Keck-CFCC / Vegas Vecchio- University of Washington, Seattle / Heather Keck- Medical University of South Carolina / Mackenzie Clark-Hood College, Maryland.

MILITARY PERSONNEL SERVING

Col Wayne Lett in Frankfort, Germany; John Brandon in Wayton, Utah; Steven Blum at Fort Bragg; Christopher Bennett in San Diego, CA; Marley Von Cannon at a Naval Base in Walton County Florida; Brandon Muehl in Texas; Jacob Clinton at Fort Geiger, NC; Thomas Stafford at Ft. Bragg, NC; Jeremy Millsap at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri.

COSTA RICA MICRO LOAN RECIPIENTS

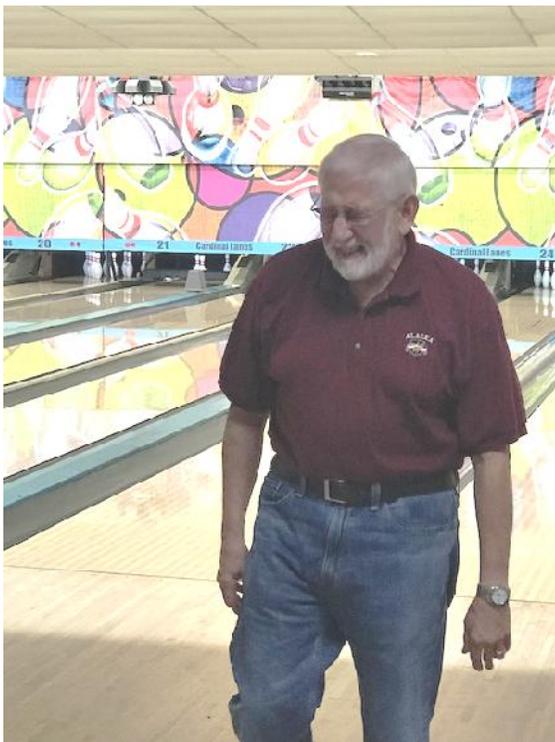
Rosa Marin, Aida Marin, Raquel Marin: Village of Guatuso / Zoraida Hernandez, Raul Perez: Village of Quitirrisi / Ana Yensi Rivera: La Carpi / Alexa Araya: San Jose / Marta Dodero.

Preschool on the Road!

Our Kure Memorial Lutheran Preschool teachers have been working to stay connected with their students! They have been putting together packets and delivering them to their students and some have even "facetimed" with some of them! They are doing their best to stay connected during this time of separation!

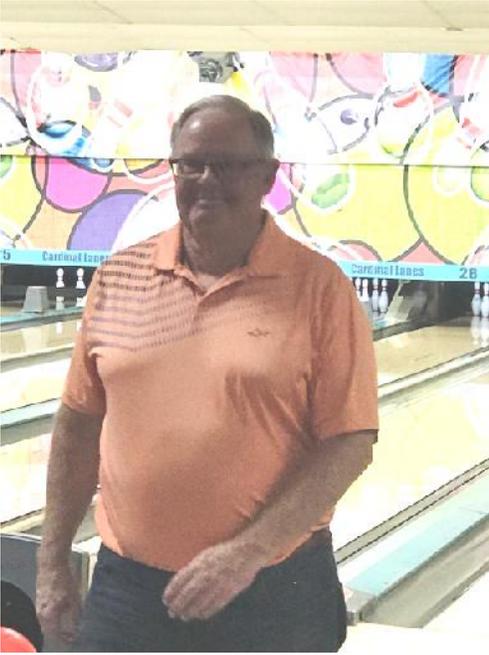


BOWLING FOR BACKPACKS FUND RAISING EVENT TO BENEFIT THE GOOD SHEPHERD CENTER/HOMELESS SHELTER!



WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE WHO DONATED BACKPACKS AND ITEMS TO FILL THEM WITH FOR THE HOMELESS MEN AT GOOD SHEPHERD. WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO THANK ALL THOSE WHO BOWLED IN THE BOWLING EVENT THIS YEAR! THERE WERE 23 BOWLERS AND 3 SPECTATORS FROM KURE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH THAT PARTICIPATED. AND WITH ALL OUR SUPPORT, THEY ANNOUNCED KMLC AS A MAJOR SPONSOR! "GO TEAM"! CAN'T WAIT UNTIL NEXT YEAR!







KMLC STAFF

Pastor:	Rev. Dan Keck
Council President:	Todd Vought
Church Office Manager:	Courtney Jalloh
Musician & Choir Director:	Kristin Woodie
Interim Coordinator of Youth & Family Ministry	Tammy Ebersole

COUNCIL MEMBERS FOR 2020

Steve Shuttleworth, Terry Hambel, Dottie Herman, Eleanor Lundy, Peter Yandow, Gayle Palamara, Cory Petermann and Todd Vought.

COUNCIL OFFICERS

President: Todd Vought
Vice President: Gayle Palamara
Secretary: Peter Yandow
Treasurer: Eleanor Lundy
Financial Secretary: Terry Hambel

COMMISSION CHAIRS

Worship - Dottie Herman / Kristin Woodie
Resource - Peter Yandow
Nurture - TBD
Service - M.J. Shalanski
Discipleship - Barbara Vought
Preschool - Celeste Carpenter
Property - Keith Graff

COUNCIL LIAISONS

Dottie Herman

Gayle Palamara
Terry Hambel

Eleanor Lundy
Peter Yandow