



The Weekly Update

DECEMBER 19, 2025



INTERIOR PAINTING TO BEGIN DEC. 29

Renovations funded through our Special Appeal are moving forward! Interior painting will begin on December 29 and is expected to take about five weeks. During the first week, painters will be working in the Narthex, covering floors and setting up scaffolding to reach the high walls, so access to the Narthex and offices will be limited.

Because of this, staff will work from home the week of December 29 but will remain available during normal office hours. If you need access to the building, please contact Pastor Melody or Laura by cell phone or reach out to LeAnne by email, and they will arrange entry for you.

If you currently use a hallway mailbox, please clear it ASAP so the boxes can be removed for painting.

Mailboxes will be removed on December 26th.

Christmas Eve Services

Family Worship 4 pm
(Nursery Available)

Candlelight Worship 8 pm

Both services will be live streamed.

A SERVICE OF

Lessons & Carols

DECEMBER 28TH
ONE SERVICE AT 10 AM



HANDS & HEARTS IN SERVICE

Join your fellow Cross & Crown members for our 2026 Congregational Mission Retreat, January 16–18! This is a chance to renew your spirit, deepen friendships, and serve together as God calls us into mission.

Our 2026 Theme: “Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord.” – Colossians 3:23

This theme us that true service flows from more than our efforts—it begins in the heart.



Retreat Schedule:

Check-in: Friday, January 16

Depart: Sunday, January 18

All participants will receive four meals during the retreat:

- Saturday: breakfast, lunch & dinner
- Sunday: breakfast

Optional Add-On Day:

For those who want to stay longer, an additional night is available:

Depart: Monday, January 19

Meals included: Sunday dinner & Monday breakfast (Sunday lunch on your own.)

Saturday Only Option:

A day-rate is also available for those who want to participate on Saturday only.

**SIGN UP
BELOW**

We want this experience to be accessible to all, so payment plans and scholarships are available for anyone who needs them!

Special Guest Preachers: Pastors Ruth Ann & Ray Sipe

On Sunday, January 11, Cross & Crown will welcome Pastor Ruth Ann Sipe and Pastor Ray Sipe from Lutheran Disaster Response Carolinas. They will preach at both worship services, sharing how LDR Carolinas serves communities affected by disaster and where God is at work in times of crisis. Pastors Ruth Ann and Ray will also lead a Sunday School class at 9:15 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall focused on personal and household preparedness.

Following the late service, everyone is invited to stay for a light lunch (please sign up using the link below). This will also be our next Rooted Sunday for children and youth. We'll begin by eating together as one community. After lunch, children and youth will head to their Rooted Sunday activities, while adults will gather for a congregational conversation focused on preparedness, safety, and how we can faithfully care for one another in times of need.

This discussion comes at a timely moment as we prepare for our congregation's mission trip to Asheville on January 16–18 (19) and continue the development of our Safety and Security Team.

We hope you'll join us for this meaningful day of worship, learning, and preparation as we live out our call to serve.

PRAYER list

MEMBERS:

JEANETTE ABBOTT
SUSAN ARCURI
JENNY BOOTH
JUNE BROOKS
JIM BURNS
DENNIS DOWNEY

LINDA FARIES
KATHI & FRANK MACARINE
LORI MEATH
JOE & CRISS UCMAN
JD WINFREY

FAMILY & FRIENDS:

Kenneth Ackerman, Larry Pool's brother-in-law
Kristi Alary, Julie Moffat's sister
Sidney Ames, Susan Arcuri's sister
Scott Anderson, friend of the Ucmans
Sue Azukas, friend of Jerry Putnam
John Bailey, Russ Bailey's father
Andrew Bernauer, son of Wayne & Rosemary Bernauer
Jim Carty, Suzy Wlezniak's brother
Joann Church, Behzad Vaqar's mother
Drude Corbet, Angelina Corbet's brother
Ruth Deal
Rick, Debbie & Jason Eldridge, friends of
Vivian Farland

Reid Evans, friend of Barbara Maillet
Brad Faries, Barry & Linda Faries' son
Owen Farr, Julie Wright's grandson
Lily Ferrulli, Joann Ferrulli's granddaughter
Dorothy Henke, Lisa Roth's mother
Portia Hutchinson, friend of Felicia Eybl
Will Jacobs, friend of the Macarines being
deployed

Jim Kozlinski, Cathy Kozlinski's husband

Jan Knutson, Jerry Putnam's sister

Mark & Ellen Kramm, friends of Jill Jurgensen
Helen Laatz, sister-in-law of Leslie Laatz
Randy LaMere, Jennifer LaMere's father
Madsen family, friends of Joe & Criss Ucmans
Marylou, friend of Annette Downey
Jeanne Maylor, Denise Bratschie's friend
Ted Meiss, Christine Meiss' husband
Alice Louise (Lou) Miller, Criss Ucmans' cousin
Gary Mintz, friend of David & Debra Cox & Felicia Eybl
Matt Moulton, Tom & Janis Dorsey's nephew
Fred Olafson, friend of the congregation
Brian Orton
Nga Pace, Yen Forsblom's sister
Olivia Reardon, daughter of Barry & Linda Faries' friends
Sameer Saproo, Teri Strom's nephew-in-law
Nancy Scholhammer, friend of Susan Arcuri
Derek & Smith & family, Roger & Debbie Black's
daughter & son-in-law
Sherrill & Patricia Tucker, Donna Tucker's parents
Joanne Varnum, friend of Joe & Criss Ucmans
Haley White, Barbara Maillet's granddaughter
Lucas White, Barbara Maillet's grandson

Want to check on your giving progress? Contribution statements are always available—just reach out to Garry Rudolph, our treasurer, and he'll be happy to provide one for you.



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday: 8:30 am - 2 pm
Tuesday: 8:30 am - 2 pm

Thursday: 8:30 am - 2 pm
Friday: 8:30 am - 2 pm

Wednesday: Church Office closed, phone lines & office email is open & replied to between 8:30 am - 5 pm.

2025 CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Jeff Bratschie- President
Jill Jurgensen- Vice President
Felicia Eybl- Secretary

Lori Meath
Chris Frisina
Jerry Putnam
Kati Goode

Happy Birthday

Teresa Cartafalsa
Carole Stojetz

DEC. 20
DEC. 21

ROOTED SUNDAYS



NEXT ROOTED SUNDAY IS JAN. 11

This past Sunday, we celebrated our December Rooted Sunday! Children and youth learned about the Apostle Paul and how his calling was to share the good news of Jesus with the world. Several members of our congregation also shared their cultural heritage with the group, enriching the learning experience in meaningful ways.

John Hejka shared about his Polish heritage, while Ayke Blackburn introduced the group to Indonesia. Felicia Eybl, Cosi Roach, and Sylvia Schmidt all spoke about Germany. Felicia highlighted Christmas traditions and food, and Cosi and Sylvia explored the origins of Saint Nicholas and guided the children through a hands-on craft.

Rooted Sunday exists to help our children grow in faith with the guidance and wisdom of our congregation. It is a joyful and enriching experience for everyone involved, with each Rooted Sunday centered on a unique theme. Would you consider helping one Sunday? If so, please contact Pastor Melody.

Coming up this week...

Sunday, Dec. 21 8:15 am- Traditional Worship
9 am- Coffee Hour

9:15 am- Adult Bible Study on the book of Psalm
10:15 am- Contemporary Worship

Monday, Dec. 22 -7:30 pm- Women's Bible Study

Tuesday, Dec. 23- 12 pm- Staff Meeting

Wednesday, Dec. 24- 4 pm- Family Christmas Eve Service
(Nursery Available)

8 pm- Candlelight Christmas Eve Service
(Nursery NOT Offered)

Thursday, Dec. 25- Merry Christmas!

Friday, Dec. 26- Church Office Closed