



Signed Prints of Jerusalem

Would you be interested in purchasing a print like pictured above? The church has several signed copies for sale. They are hand signed by the artist, Peggy Cone. The prints are being sold for \$50 each. They would make great Christmas presents. Please see Patsy if you are interested.

BREAKING NEWS!! - AS A CHRISTMAS SPECIAL—SIGNED PRINTS OF THE CHURCH ARE BEING SOLD FOR \$30!!

In order to help raise money for repair of the amphitheater, a signed, beautifully framed print of the church will be raffled off. The cost of tickets is one ticket for \$5, or 3 tickets for \$10. Please see Patsy for details.



We will be placing wreaths at the Jerusalem cemetery. If you would like to sponsor a wreath please follow the link and select Jerusalem Lutheran in Rincon, GA. Wreaths will be placed in December and need to be ordered by December 1 for placement in 2025. Orders placed after December 1, 2025 will be placed next year.

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/16sPXr7LoT/>



Come join us on December 3rd, 10th and 17th at 6:15 pm for Soup and Sandwich, followed by a short worship service and craft time.



**Jerusalem Lutheran Church
"The Swan"
December 2025**



An Afternoon with Wade Davis, Baroque Cellist
By Jerusalem Lutheran Church
2966 Ebenezer Road
Jan 11 from 3pm to 4pm EST

On January the 11th, at 3:00 PM, Mr. Wade Davis will present a performance of Baroque cello music. This music of the 17th and 18th centuries would the music heard throughout Europe during the time of the Salzburger’s Exile and the time of this congregation’s formation at Ebenezer. What a wonderful chance to bring time period music to life with the wonderful acoustics in this historic church.

About Mr. Davis:
He attended the **Peabody Conservatory of the Johns Hopkins University**, where he earned both a **Master’s Degree in Baroque Cello Performance** and a **Graduate Performance Diploma in Historical Cello** under the guidance of **John Moran**. Today, Wade Davis is increasingly recognized as one of the leading voices among a new generation of American Baroque cellists. His performances are praised for their warmth of tone, stylistic integrity, and expressive freedom. Drawing from his deep study of historical performance traditions, Wade brings vitality and nuance to the works of Bach, Vivaldi, and the rich repertoire of 17th- and 18th-century music.

A sought-after collaborator and soloist, he performs regularly with period ensembles and chamber groups throughout the Southeast and beyond. With his blend of scholarship and passion, **Wade Davis continues to shape a distinctive career as a Baroque cellist in high demand**, engaging audiences with performances that connect the elegance of the past to the immediacy of the present. Come hear the beautiful sounds of the past come to life in the present.

The concert is free but please sign up for tickets on Eventbrite.

Stewardship Corner

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." - Romans 15:13

I was once asked by a homeless woman why I practiced my religion. My response to her was that it gave me hope. As soon as I read this verse I was reminded of that conversation. This is the season where amid the darkest part of the year, in the lowliest state, we celebrate the birth of hope. Not the hope that I get everything on my Christmas list but the hope that brings peace and an appreciation for all of God's blessings.

The Christmas season has been a special time at Jerusalem Lutheran Church since 1734 and this year will be no different. Events such as Advent services, the greening of the nave, the Christmas cantata and the Children's pageant are planned. But the one that is really special for me is the Christmas Eve candle light service. Such peace and joy in the message of Christ's birth.

So as you prepare to celebrate Christmas with shopping, decorating and cooking please also add two more things. First, come and participate in all that makes this time of year so special at Jerusalem. And second please remember Jerusalem with a special Christmas donation so that our church will be here for Christmas long into the future. Live generously, my friends.

WELCA News

WELCA will meet on Thursday, January 8th at 1:00 pm in the social hall. We will have election of officers and will be making plans for the year. All women of the church are invited to join us.



Attn: JLC Men

We're pleased to report there were 9 men present for the November meeting. It seems a good time was had by all. The next Men's group meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 14th at 6:00 pm in the social hall.



In our prayers

Members – **Chip** Lingle, **Dianne** Exley, **Ed** Lee, **Fletcher** Waldhour, **Helen** Gnann, **Isabelle** Shearouse, **Johnnie** Jordan, **Marty** Hendrix, **Nell** Kessler, **Tom** Coleman, **Virginia** Spano



Friends and Family:
Ambra Metzger, daughter-in-law of Trellene
Becky Malcolm, friend of Patsy
Beverly Mullen, sister of Chip Lingle
Brett Allen, grandson of Tommy and Kathy Allen
Emery Fennell – friend of Patsy and others
Hank Heller, relative of Jane and Ray Zeigler
Krista Seckinger, relative and friend of several.
Linda Arnsdorff Murray, friend of Kathleen
Merry Bentley, relative of several
Peggy Exley Anderson, family of several
Richard Porter, friend of Virginia Spano
Stefanie Cole, niece of Lisa Repasy
Susan Exley – friend of Virginia Spano
Susan Waldhour, sister-in-law of Fletcher Waldhour & Carlene Coleman
Tony Plummer, son of Wanda Palmer, church sexton

Please let Sandy know if anyone needs to be added or can be taken off the list.

Serving in the military, law enforcement & other responders: **Christopher** Zeigler, **Jack** Thain, **Kyle** McCord, **Morgan** Milbrandt, **Patrick** Wheble, and **Thomas** Smith

Constitution update/revision committee

In the coming months, we will be forming a committee to look over the church's constitution to bring it up to date and make any changes needed. If you are interested in being on this committee, please notify the church office.

Your Help is Needed

Located on the side table in the sanctuary are lists for each committee of the church. Please sign up for at least one committee. We need your help and ideas. Not sure of the responsibilities of each committee? See page 4 of the Swan. Duties of each are listed. Please don't wait to be asked. Step up!!

Property



Thanks to :

Tom Coleman, Todd Schnobrich, and Trevor Register for purchasing and installing a toilet in women's bathroom.

Gill Zeigler for cutting and cleaning church yard.
Gill & I painted new fence around AC with water sealer.

Worship and Music Note



Your Worship & Music Committee has been busy planning Advent and Christmas services as well as the usual hymn selections to compliment the lessons and sermons.

This Advent season Wednesday night Soup & Sandwich will be having a more casual devotional style event including a craft to go with each week's theme. Worship & Music Committee members will be Leading the evening. Please join us this Advent. Soup & Sandwich begins at 6:15 with our devotion and craft following, December 3, 10, and 17.

Advent calendars for daily devotion are on the table by the back door of the church. Please take one for home devotion. Choir will be presenting our Cantata, "A Garland of Carols," on December the 9th, at 3:30, at Lakeview. The Cantata performance will take the place of our December service. On December the 14th, the Cantata will take the place of the sermon for our congregation. Don't miss this musical celebration for the season.

On December the 13th, 10:00, we will have the Greening of the Nave. We decorate the church for Christmas. Come be a part of this tradition. We adorn the windows, hang the wreaths, decorate the tree, and put out or Nativity so they may begin their journey to the manger. On that same day, December 13th, at 10:00, our youth and children will meet in the church to practice for the the Children's Program presented in place of the sermon on December the 21st. Our participants will be fitted for costumes and we will rehearse movement. There are NO speaking parts. We will need some adults to fill in. We will have lunch in the social hall before going Christmas Caroling. Our caroling is open to ALL , not just choir and youth. Come share the gift of song to our shut-ins and others. We will travel by car to those folks and sing a few carols to brighten their day. Join us at 11:30 in the Social Hall (pizza provided for lunch.) Drivers are needed.

Evangelism



Your Evangelism Committee is working hard on spreading the news about all that goes on at Jerusalem.

- Advent/Christmas brochures are on the back table in the church for you to take and share. Some will also be placed in our visitor mailbox by the old pump.
- The tri-fold church brochure is being updated for distribution.
- Our Direct Mail Flyer is now being updated to go out to the surrounding area.
- Plastic display holders for both brochures are here and will be place at City Halls, the Chamber, and other prominent locations Around Effingham.
- We will have a Holiday ad in the printed and online Effingham Herald for our Christmas worship and events.
- We are also in the process of joining Event Brite. An online advertisement app that will help us promote church activities.



Thank you! Thank you! To all who donated Jiffy Mix. We collected 148 boxes to give to the Manna House to help fill the Boxes of Hope.

How can you help?
Contact the Manna House at
Tel: (912) 826-2037
mannahouserincon@gmail.com
Or go to the website
Mannahouserincon.org

For every dollar spent at the Manna House Thrift Store, they can buy 10 pounds of food.

Congregation Committees

Nominating committee – may consist of the outgoing members of the Congregation Council whose term will expire at the annual meeting.

Audit committee – an audit committee of three voting members may be elected by the Congregation Council. Audit committee members shall not include the treasurer, financial secretary or Congregation Council. Term of office will be three years, with one member elected each year. Members are eligible for reelection.

Staff Support committee – may be appointed by the Congregation Council, to include the Vice-Chair, one other council member, and no fewer than four (4) voting members of the congregation. Term of office shall be three years, or term of Council position, with two members appointed each year. This committee will meet quarterly.

When a pastoral vacancy occurs, a **Call Committee** of six voting members may be appointed by the Congregation Council. Term of office will terminate upon installation of the newly called pastor.

Christian Education/Youth – shall oversee the educational ministry of this congregation. Activities include, but are not limited to:

- Providing materials and staff for weekly Sunday Church School
- Providing instruction in Lutheran faith and doctrine for new members
- Overseeing the instruction of non-confirmed members, which leads to the Rite of Confirmation
- Providing a Vacation Church School experience for the community
- Encouraging all members to actively study the Word of God.
- Oversee the Lutheran Youth organization and provide adult supervision for the programs and activities of the youth of the congregation of all ages, focusing on faith development and spiritual growth for children and teenagers.

Evangelism committee – shall stimulate and lead the congregation in continuous endeavors to strengthen its spirituality or reawaken members who have become indifferent and reach others, not members of the Church with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Finance – in consultation with representatives of each committee shall prepare a draft budget for presentation to the Congregation Council at its regular November meeting each year for approval before being presented to the congregation at the Annual meeting. This budget shall indicate the intended support for local, synodical and churchwide ministries as the expression of this congregation's work in the name of Christ. The committee shall exercise oversight of all the financial affairs of the congregation and make sure that they are being conducted properly, giving particular attention to the payment of obligations and the regular forwarding of benevolence monies to the synodical treasurer. The committee shall be responsible to advise the Congregation Council concerning the congregation's investments and insurance programs. /**Stewardship committee** – shall endeavor to evoke and promote expressions of Christian faith in the daily lives of all members teaching Christians to use their time, talents, and resources for the ongoing work of the Christian Church, locally, nationally, and throughout the world.

Social Ministry committee – shall be responsible to initiate and maintain ministries of compassion and helpfulness for the ill, the oppressed, the underprivileged, the imprisoned, and in general, all persons of all ages which are in need of aid for the body or soul.

Worship and Music committee – shall advise and assist the Congregation Council in seeing that the services in God's house are conducted regularly and in accordance with the practices and liturgy of the ELCA. It shall be the responsibility of the committee to promote and maintain church choir, to secure appropriate accompaniment for each service, and provide proper appointments such as paraments, hymnals, and worship materials.

Property committee – shall see to the care and maintenance of the grounds, equipment, and the facilities of the congregation.

Special Events committee – shall provide and host special programs for the development of Christian fellowship within the congregation and community.

Memorial committee – shall see to the receipt and disposition of funds and gifts given in memory of/ or in honor of Christians or to the Glory of God through this congregation. There shall be no less than three members of this committee, serving without term. The congregation treasurer shall be a standing member of this committee. It shall be the committee's duty to recommend appropriate gifts that can be given, or to secure items appropriate with funds given, with the consent of Congregation Council.

December 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1  6:30 WELCA Christmas Dinner	2	3 8-10 Manna House 4:00 bells 5:00 choir 6:15 Soup/sand (w/m)	4	5	6 <i>Christmas at Ebenezer 10-3</i> <i>Christmas tea 11am & 1:30</i>
7 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship <i>2nd Sunday of Advent</i>	8	9 3:30p Choir Cantata at Lakeview	10 8-10 Manna House 4:00 bells 5:00 choir 6:15 soup/sand (social min)	11	12	13 10am Greening of the Nave and practice for the Children's pro- gram
14 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship with choir cantata <i>3rd Sunday of Advent</i>	15 <i>Annual report deadline</i>	16	17 8-10 Manna House 4:00 bells 5:00 choir 6:15 soup/sand (property)	18	19	20
21 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship with Children's Christmas Program <i>4th Sunday of Advent</i>	22	23	24 <i>11pm Christmas Eve service</i>	25  <i>10am Christmas Day Service</i>	26	27
28 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship - Lessons and Carols	29 <i>January Swan deadline</i>	30	31			



December Birthdays

Edwin Lee	12-3
Kristy Downs	12-21
Howard Gnann	12-22
Chuck Holmes	12-22
Christopher Mizell	12-27
Garrett Schnobrich	12-30

<i>Altar Flowers for December To the Glory of God and</i>
<i>December 7 – in memory of John Robert Peavy by Lisa Repasy</i>
<i>December 14 - in memory of Margaret and Michael Murphy by Kathleen Wendelken</i>
<i>December 21 – in celebration of Sam Hendrix birthday by Marty and Dave Hendrix</i>
<i>December 24 –in memory of Benny Kessler and Mary and Otto Hart by Mary Sue Kessler</i>
<i>December 25 –in memory of Blanche and Alton Kessler and Carolyn Arnsdorff</i>
<i>December 28 –in memory of Juli Gnann by Charlie Gnann</i>

Shut-ins and their addresses

Dianne Exley
728 Hwy 119S room 18
Springfield, GA 31329
912-657-3254

Virginia Spano
459 Hwy 119
Room 227B
Springfield, GA 31329

Johnnie Jordan
728 Hwy 119S room 7
Springfield, GA 31329
912-657-3154

Nell Kessler
P.O. Box 102
Rincon, Ga 31326

Isabell Shearouse
728 Hwy 119S room 5
Springfield, Ga 31329
912-392-3188



Volunteers for November

Lector - Sandy Gibson
Communion Prep -
Worship Assistant—
Lock up - Jane Zeigler

There are openings in November
for you to help.

A way to help

Please don't forget to continue your support of Jerusalem's on going ministries while you are away. Use the new on-line portal as a way to contribute your tithes and offerings when you are out of town. Just click on the link

[HTTPS://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZWM0](https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZWM0)

and follow the instructions.
If you need assistance please contact a member of your Stewardship Committee or let the church office know.



“Scan here to support the ongoing Ministry Mission of Jerusalem Lutheran Church”

and

Jerusalem Lutheran Church
2966 Ebenezer Road
Rincon, GA 31326

December 2025

Mission Statement

Jerusalem is a community in Christ
whose mission and challenge as disciples is to:

+Welcome all people

+Worship by celebrating the word and Sacraments

+Witness the Gospel through our sharing, loving, and service

With God's grace and the gift of the Holy Spirit,

May we be strengthened for this mission