

ASLC NEWS

United in Christ. Welcoming All.

Asheville Tourist Game

Friday, July 20, ASLC will attend the Tourist Game which includes fireworks after the game and \$1 hot dogs. We will meet at the entrance at 6:30pm but if you're running late just look for us in the stands! Everyone is on their own to purchase tickets.

Treasurer's Report

	May 2018
Income	\$10,738.20
Expenses	-13,057.70
Net Income	-\$2,319.50

YTD 2018 Net Income =
-\$6,074.54

Sincerely, **Bob Lierman**

The expenses are high in May due to the plumbing issue we needed to resolve which set us back \$2,952.58. We have had \$1,400 in donations toward this project and paid the rest out of our reserve funds which are diminishing quickly. Let's do our best in July to pay off the repair and chip away at our deficit. Thank you!



Pastor's Column

Oh my! The picture above is where it all started 30 years ago. It's hard to believe but I was ordained on June 26, 1988. The photo is from my first Lent as Associate Pastor of Mt. Zion Lutheran in Conover, NC. A LOT has changed since then (Thankfully I ditched the mustache. I though it made me look older!) in terms of the way we "do church."

Back in 1988 all I had to do was build it and they came. I ran four youth group programs at my first church: K-3rd grade, 6-8, 7-9, 10-12! On Sundays in Conover there was no competition with Church. It was the center of many people's universes. The mall was closed, sports teams did not meet and young people really needed a place to hang out and fellowship with one another. It was exhausting but quite rewarding. Many of those kids, who now have kids of their own, are still in touch with me via Facebook. I feel quite blessed to have had such an impact on their lives.

Now in 2018 there are tons of options of things to do on Sundays since the Church is no longer [con't p2]

[from p. 1] the community center in most places. This means we need to get creative and a lot more flexible in the ways we do ministry with youth and their families. In smaller churches it's no longer paid professionals who do youth ministry on behalf of the congregation. Everyone is a mentor in some capacity and intergenerational activities give everyone in the church an opportunity to nurture the youth and become spiritual mentors to them.

Back in 1988, worship in ELCA congregations was a lot more homogenous. Everyone had the Lutheran Book of Worship (green hymnal) in their pews. And if you visited another ELCA church while on vacation, you could pretty much be guaranteed their worship was the same as your home church.

In 2018, worship in ELCA churches is quite diverse. Some use the Evangelical Lutheran Worship (cranberry book) exclusively, while others don't have any hymnals at all and project their service on giant screens. Some have organs as their primary instrument while others have bands that lead them every Sunday. Some have very conservative theologies while others, like ours, are part of the Reconciling in Christ network of churches. Some use very traditional "church" language in their liturgies, while others take a more conversational approach. The options for worship are as diverse as the number of channels on most of our televisions!

There are other changes as well but the Church has always undergone change since those first disciples met in people's homes. Our task is to try to discern where the Spirit is leading us in a culture that is more polarized and individualistic than ever. I have learned a lot over those 30 years and have no doubt that God will continue to teach me new things as I look forward to the next 10 years of ministry.

Blessings, Pastor Dave

Congregational Meeting

Our Annual Congregational Meeting will be held Sun, July 8, 11:00am, after worship. The purpose of this meeting will be to elect officers and Church Council members for the coming year and to receive the annual report. Hard copies of the report can be picked up in the gathering space or downloaded from our church's web site.

Wild Goose Festival

Pastor Dave will be attending the Wild Goose Festival in Hot Springs on July 13-15. Pastor John Propst will be covering worship on Sunday. Any pastoral emergencies should be directed to the church cell phone, 505-5229.

Pritchard Park Breakfast

Mark you calendar for our next homeless breakfast at Pritchard Park which will be Sun, Aug 12th. Set-up for the breakfast will be Sat, Aug 11. There is a sign up sheet in the gathering space for those who wish to donate food and/or volunteer on the day of the breakfast. Thanks for your continued support of this project.

Pastor Dave cooks brats & burgers for ASLC's cookout!



