



RELOCATION OF HOLY TRINITY CHAPEL

Dear Holy Trinity Family,

The word "sacred" means something that is dedicated or set apart for service or worship. Something sacred is considered worthy of spiritual respect or devotion or inspires awe or reverence among believers.

For probably 2 to 3 years the chapel, located upstairs on the 3rd floor, has not been used with any regularity. At their April meeting, the Council approved the chapel being moved down to the unused office close to the church proper (Nave). A new carpet was donated. On May 23, Glenn Rupp and Cody Carpenter physically moved the altar, pews, and kneeler down to the new location. The pictures below show the beauty of this new location. On May 28, we rededicated the chapel in its new location. Individuals or small groups may come and use this chapel six days a week for prayer and contemplation. The receiving of Holy Communion is available with prearrangement with the Pastor.

Your Staff/Team plan to use the chapel to either begin or end our meeting times on Mondays.

Pastor Tom



PASTOR TOM IS CELEBRATING 50 YEARS IN MINISTRY!



50 years ago, on June 3, 1973, I had the honor of being ordained at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Hickory, NC. This coming September, my graduating class will have a reunion in Columbia, SC. Some in my class have retired (I flunked that course!) and some have died. We all have had the privilege to preach the Holy Word of God and administer the Holy Sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion. I count it a true blessing to end my ministry serving in interim ministry. The lessons I have learned over these decades of caring for congregations have been invaluable. Holy Trinity Lutheran, Gastonia, NC, may be my last interim. However, if I have learned anything at all about ministry, the Lord will let me know. I simply seek His guidance and the blessing of health and joy to continue serving Him.

To God always be the glory! *Pastor Tom*



COMBINED WORSHIP IN NAVE Sunday, June 4

We will continue with our once-a-month combined services on Sunday, June 4. The schedule for the day will be:

9:00 a.m.Sunday School10:00 a.m.Combined Worship in Nave

SENIOR SUNDAY June 4



On Sunday, June 4 at the combined service, we will recognize **Mr. Samuel Black**, who graduated from Kings Mountain High School and will attend North Carolina State University in the fall. Sam is the son of Tim and Susan Black, and the brother of Charlie. Sam has been a fixture in our youth group and is an emerging leader in our parish. We will miss him, but we know that God has wonderful things in store for him.



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR COLLEGE GRADUATES!

Taylor Barnes graduated from East Carolina University with a Masters in School Psychology. Taylor is the daughter of Wes & Kasey Barnes.

William Niemeyer graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a degree in Exercise and Health Science. He also minored in German. Will is the son of Chuck & Bridget Niemeyer.

Congratulations to our graduates as they begin the next chapter of their lives! Please keep them in your prayers to make Christ-focused decisions on their paths, and for God's blessings to surround them in all that they do!

WELCOME OUR NEW NURSERY SUPERVISOR -EVELYN ANTHONY

We introduced you to Evelyn Anthony, our new Nursery Supervisor, last month. However, her picture was missing and we wanted to be sure everyone knew who she is. Evelyn has lots of experience working with children in a daycare setting, so we are grateful that she is using her gifts here with us.

Be sure to spread the word that we now have a consistent presence in the nursery for both services and Sunday school.



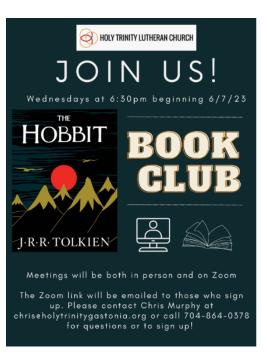
JUNE STAFF SCHEDULES

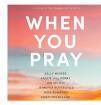
June will be a busy month for our staff. Pastor Tom will be flying to Florida on Monday, June 5, to visit his sister who is not doing well due to respiratory problems. He will return Thursday, June 8.

Kim Borromeo will be on vacation with her family June 5-9. (Volunteers will be asked to cover the phones in the mornings and Anita Stiles will be doing the bulletin.)

Cody Carpenter will be in South Carolina June 4-9 for orientation with Solid Rock Day Camp.

Chris Murphy will be on vacation June 12-15.





SUMMER LADIES BIBLE STUDY

WHEN YOU PRAY

A Study on Prayer from Kelly Minter, Jackie Hill Perry, Jen Wilkin, Jennifer Rothschild, Jada Edwards, and Kristi McLelland

Do you have trouble thinking of words to say to God when you pray? Are you afraid some emotions are too intense to express to God? Do you reach the end of a day only to realize you haven't prayed at all? You're not alone. Prayer is the way we relate to God, but sometimes it's a struggle. Throughout God's Word, we encounter many voices who teach us how to pray.

In this 7-session study, join with six beloved Bible teachers who will help you study prayers in the Bible that can inspire your own. You'll learn that God welcomes your praise and lament, your thanksgiving and intercession. You'll see examples of how to pray when you're alone and when you're gathered with others. Above all, you'll notice there's no one right way to pray. As you draw near to God through prayer, you'll find your faith strengthened and your heart united to Christ.

Because this study is led by a different Bible teacher each week, this is the perfect study for those who have an active summer schedule. Just attend when you can! You may order the book via Amazon Prime or Lifeway.

The date for the first session is Wednesday, June 14. Please contact Anna Houser (704-813-6560 / annaplus2girls@gmail.com) if you are interested in participating.

DID SOMEONE SAY ICE CREAM? Tuesday, June 13 ~ 6:30 p.m.

Escape from the heat! Join us for fun, fellowship and ice cream at **Tony's Ice Cream!** We'll meet in the back lot, across the railroad tracks, on **Tuesdays, June 13 and July 11 at 6:30 p.m.** Even if it is a hot day, there is shade in this lot and we'll have tents to provide extra shade. Feel free to bring a chair and a friend!





BAROQUE BROTHERS PROGRAM BY MATTHEW NOONAN Sunday, June 25 ~ 7:00 p.m.

On Sunday, June 25, 2023, Matthew Noonan will perform a program titled "Baroque Brothers" at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Gastonia, North Carolina. The concert is at 7:00 p.m. and will be followed by a light reception. This program is being presented by the Charlotte chapter of the American Guild of Organists as a part of their summer concert series for their 75th anniversary year celebration.

All of the music presented at this concert will be Baroque organ music. Works will include Böhm, Bruhns, Buxtehude, Vivaldi, and the immortal Bach himself. **The concert is free and open to all.** For those who are out-of-state or international, you can watch on YouTube. Matthew will go live on YouTube about ten minutes prior to the start of the concert. Here is the link: <u>https://www.youtube.com/live/EITxtFztMxk?feature=share</u>.

"KICK OFF" THE SUMMER BY GIVING BLOOD Monday, June 26 ~ 2:00-6:00 p.m.

Our last blood drive held in February was very successful! We collected 48 pints of blood for the American Red Cross. One of our donors, who has donated blood for about 50 years, wrote me a note about her experience at our February blood drive. This is what she said - "It is my privilege to come to your donation center. Never have I felt so welcome at any other donation center. Your church family



always makes me feel welcome and are friendly to all donors." We can thank Pepie Jones, Dennis Mercer, Beth Jenkins-Horsley, Sarah and John Waldrop, and Ken and Judy Weatherford for the Christ-like example they set that day.

Our next blood drive will be Monday, June 26 from 2:00 - 6:30 p.m. "KICK OFF" the summer and give blood. Contact Charlotte and John Sautner at <u>2sautners@gmail.com</u> or 704-860-3399 to set up an appointment.

Charlotte & John Sautner Holy Trinity Blood Drive Coordinators



The Call Committee had their first meeting in May for the purpose of selecting a Committee Chair and to begin communications with the NALC Call Process Coordinator, Pastor Shelly Schultz. We ask the congregation to be in prayer for God to give us patience and discernment as we navigate through this process. We do not know how long this will take, but rest assured that we all share the desire in finding a Lead Pastor who shares our vision of Holy Trinity, as we grow in *Knowing, Loving and Sharing Christ*.

Blessings, Donna Allen Call Committee Chair

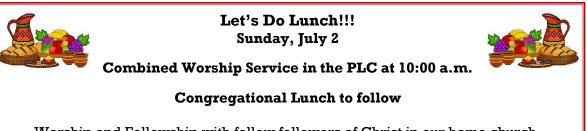


PROPERTY UPDATE AND THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who was able to volunteer on our first Property Church Beautification event of the year! We had around 10 people who helped trim hedges, clean up trash and debris on the grounds, and we removed about 10 feet of the iron fence growing through the bushes! All in all we had around 2 hours of light work (we have electric hedge trimmers), and I greatly appreciate the time everyone was able to volunteer.

Look forward to a Round 2 event soon to finish the other half of the hedge trimming, and we are also planning volunteer pressure washing activities and alcove cleaning in preparation for painting (once roof repairs are finished).

Richard DeFreitas Property Team



Worship and Fellowship with fellow followers of Christ in our home church. Bring the entire family. Invite your friends and neighbors.



WOMEN'S MINISTRY NEWS FOR JUNE

Eight of us Holy Trinity female disciples spent the weekend of May 5-7 at Blowing Rock Conference Center learning much from the citizens of Mayberry. As we watched and discussed episodes of **The Andy Griffith Show** and related Bible passages about mentoring, judging others, service, peace, and mercy; we laughed a great deal and even shed a few tears. As a craft activity, we painted rocks with Christian messages. We then surprised another visiting group with our rocks by placing them on their dinner tables. The recipients were thrilled and most appreciative and guessed that we were the givers. We started on Friday evening already knowing each other, but by Sunday morning, we had a deeper understanding and appreciation for each other.

LaVerne Davis, Women's Ministry Vice President

How can it be June?! This has been a busy year but we aren't finished yet! We will have congregational ice cream socials at Tony's in June and July (See article pg. 5). In August, we will kick off the college football season with our own Brittani Wells teaching us to cook tailgate foods.

In August, we are planning another **Cooking Demo and Sampling Class with Brittani Wells** and will feature tailgating! The event will be on **August 19 at 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.** More information to come, but go ahead and mark your calendars.

We will also have a **Basket Making Class on October 21.** Class size will be very limited and will cost \$30. Sign-ups will be made available closer to the date.

June Circle Meetings

This is a time of fellowship, snacks, a program led by a Circle member and service projects that are for Holy Trinity Disciples and people in the community. These groups are always open to new members. **Please join us!**

Circle of Patience:	Sunday, June	11 3:00 p.m.	Room 25
	Program: Hostesses:	Barb Kies Jo Carole Carson, Anne Cloninger, Barb K	ties, Nancy Sparks
Circle of Goodness:	U	Tess Gibbons LaRae Campbell	Room 25



Youth Schedule for the Summer



- June 4: Progressive Dinner 4:30 p.m. 8:30 p.m.
- June 21: Hiking day at South Mountains State Park
- June 24: Family night at church from 5:00 p.m. 9:00 p.m.
- June 29, July 6: Mystery Thursday 8:45 a.m. 4:45 p.m.
- July 9-15: Confirmation Camp at Laurel Ridge Camp and Conference Center
- July 17-21: Solid Rock Day Camp volunteers needed!
- July 21: High School trip to Top Golf in Charlotte 4:45 p.m. 9:30 p.m.
- July 27-28: All youth camping trip to Lake Lure
- August 3: Mystery Thursday 8:45 a.m. 4:45 p.m.
- August 4: Middle School trip to Bowl and Bounce
- August 6: Back-to-School Blessing at Unified Service
- August 13: Back-to-School Bash for Youth 4:30 p.m. 8:00 p.m.

There will be some spontaneous activities as well! Stay tuned.

What's a Mystery Thursday?

Mystery Thursdays are just that... a mystery! Youth will meet at the church on Thursday morning with \$10 and a water bottle, load up the van, and head to a mystery location. Possible activities include: a visit to a local museum, a trip to Dan Nicholas Park in Salisbury, an afternoon movie, or maybe even a day trip to Blowing Rock.

Trips will always be within a 1 1/2 to 2 hour driving distance (usually closer), and will not involve water/strenuous activity unless noted otherwise. We will also have chaperones on all trips. **If you would like to chaperone, see Cody for more information!**

Children's Schedule for the Summer

- June 24: Family night at church from 5:00 p.m. 9:00 p.m. Water activities for the kiddos (and hey, adults too!) Bring a swimsuit and a towel. Cookout in the courtyard.
 June 27: Day trip to Tiger World and Dan Nicholas Park in Salisbury 8:45 a.m. - 4:45 p.m. Rising K-Rising 5th grade. Chaperones needed! See Cody for more information.
 July 17-21: Solid Rock Day Camp at Antioch Lutheran Church in Dallas, NC.
 July 22: Family Park Day at George Poston Park 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Bring a picnic lunch and fishing gear if desired.
- August 6: Back-to-School Blessing at Unified Service Back-to-School Bash at church for elementary students 4:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

There will be some spontaneous activities as well! Stay tuned.



MEN'S MINISTRY NEWS FOR JUNE

Prayer

Our nation desperately needs prayer right now! Look at our news today and you see violence, murder, war and persecution to mention just a few reasons we need to pray.

A few weeks ago, the men of Holy Trinity had a Bible & Beer night, where we looked at what the Bible says about prayer. At the end of the evening, we decided to start a weekly prayer group. This group meets every Thursday morning at 8:00 a.m. in the newly relocated Chapel. This is open to men, women and students. Bring your prayer requests and join us. We are finished between 8:30 - 8:45.

If you cannot make the Prayer Group, but have a prayer request, call either Cody at the church office or me, Bruce Zander at 704-747-3066. Look forward to seeing you on Thursday mornings.

Bruce Zander, Men's Ministry Chair

Dates to Remember:

Friday, July 14: Honey Hunters Baseball game - Honey Hunters vs. Staten Island Firehawks

Friday, September 22- Sunday September 24: Carolinas Mission Region Retreat at Laurel Ridge



HOW MAY I GIVE ... LET ME COUNT THE WAYS

Most of us think about making financial gifts to the church in the typical ways . . . putting cash in the offering plate, writing a check, using our bank's bill pay system, or donating through an online link. Interestingly, approximately 60% of the funds received by Holy Trinity each week are given through the online system (link available on the website).

But, did you know there are other ways to make financial contributions to Holy Trinity? Some of the lesser known or used methods are described below:

- 1. **Stock Donation** You can donate stock as well as cash. This is a tax-savvy way to donate. If you own appreciated stock, you may donate it directly to the church without liquidating it and thereby avoid capital gains taxes and income taxes on the appreciated value. When the church liquidates the stock, there is no tax consequence for either the church or the giver. Holy Trinity has an investment account established solely for the purpose of receiving stock gifts.
- 2. Qualified Charitable Distributions For anyone 70 ½ and older who has an IRA account, gifts can be distributed directly from your IRA account to the church without counting as taxable income. For example, if you take a \$5000 distribution from your IRA and then contribute that amount to the church, the distribution really diminishes your account by \$5000 + taxes. However, if you send the funds directly from your IRA to the church, your account is only diminished by \$5000 as it will not be included in your taxable income for the year. Additionally, for those 73 and older, the distributions count toward your Required Minimum Distribution.
- 3. **Designated Gifts** If you would like to make gifts for specific purposes in addition to your regular tithe, you can do this. This method is how the Pastor's Discretionary Fund is funded. Other opportunities include the "More Than Bricks Campaign" (used to pay down the property loan), Children & Youth Fund, Women's Ministry, Men's Ministry, and other ministries supported by the congregation.
- 4. Name Holy Trinity as one of your beneficiaries Consider naming Holy Trinity or the Endowment Fund as one of your beneficiaries. This is a great way to leave an impactful gift to the church as part of your legacy and faithfulness. One benefit of leaving a posthumous gift to the Endowment Fund is that it will be a gift which will, hopefully, continue to bless the church and other ministries indefinitely.

If you would like more information regarding any of the above methods of giving, please contact either Lee Stadther (stadther@carolina.rr.com) or Anna Houser (annaplus2girls@gmail.com).

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I had another plan for this month's Herald article, but I felt a call to go in a different direction. As you probably know, the Lord speaks to us in many ways. He speaks to us through the Bible every time we open it. As we all know, communication is vital in any

good relationship, so when we read the Bible, we are inviting God to speak to us. As I said to begin, however, he can speak to us in many ways. Social media is where many spend a significant amount of time, so not surprisingly, the Lord can reach out to us even through Facebook! Pastor D. Parks saw a connection between filling his car with gas and our relationship with God. He noted he had waited too long to fill up his car with gas and literally sputtered into the gas station. We do the same thing. We wait too long to fill ourselves up spiritually. We wait until we are struggling and sputtering to fill up. Pastor Parks said to think about what would happen if we didn't wait but instead got regular fill ups. How would our lives be?

How do you fill your spiritual tank? Connecting with God through reading the Bible is a great way. Another way is through daily prayer. It doesn't have to be a long prayer. It can be a simple "thank you Lord for..., or give me strength to..." It can be blessing your food. (Don't forget the blessing when you eat out!). A third way is to gather with your church family. Get your tank filled in worship. Worshipping with fellow believers can really fill your tank! Join us each and every Sunday in worship and see what God does in your life. How many Sundays in a row can you attend worship? Challenge yourself and see how your life is enriched!

In His Service, Grant Sparks Council President

CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS From the May 15, 2023 Regular Meeting

At the May 15 meeting of the Church Council, the following actions were taken:



- Received and approved financial reports from Lee Stadther (see Herald article).
- Received a report and updated congregational meal schedule from the Trail Boss team.
- Received a report from Property regarding roof repairs on the church proper building.
- Received the nominations for Endowment Committee terms 2023-2026. Congregational vote to be held either 5/28 or 6/4.
- Approved renewal of property insurance with Guide One.
- Received information from Cody Carpenter regarding a pending request from Displaced Roses Ministry to use Holy Trinity facilities.
- Approved credit card use adjustments according to staff changes.
- Received staff and attendance reports.
- Next Council meeting: June 19, 2023.





HOW DO YOUR FINANCIAL GIFTS GLORIFY GOD?

¹⁶ Three times a year all your men must appear before the LORD your God at the place he will choose: at the Festival of Unleavened Bread, the Festival of Weeks and the Festival of Tabernacles. No one should appear before the LORD empty-handed: ¹⁷ Each of you must bring a gift in proportion to the way the LORD your God has blessed you. (Deuteronomy 16: 16-17 NIV)

We see in this verse, three times a year every male was to make a journey to the sanctuary in the city, that would be designated as Israel's religious capital. At these festivals, each participant **was encour-aged to give what he could in proportion to what God had given him.** God does not expect us to give more than we can, but we will be blessed when we give cheerfully. For some, 10 percent may be a burden. For most of us, that would be far too little. Look at what you have and then give in proportion to what you have been given. What is your response to those blessing God has bestowed on you?

For those that like numbers...

Noted below we show our April 2023 offerings compared with our monthly budgeted ministry plan. Our staff and leaders continue to manage our expenditures. Our church leadership is doing their best to be good stewards of our financial resources.

	<u>Month of</u> <u>April 2023</u>	<u>YTD through</u> <u>April 2023</u>
Gifts Received:	\$43,556	\$162,701
Budget for Ministries:	\$58,208	\$197,903
Difference:	(\$14,652)	(\$35,202)
Previous Year (2022) Comparison:	\$49,304	\$182,313
Difference between 2023 and 2022:	(\$5,748)	(\$19,612)

Thank you for your continued support of the ministries of Holy Trinity.

Lee Stadther Church Controller 2023



Chuck Niemeyer was inducted into the Gaston County Sports Hall of Fame on May 22 as a part of the 2023 inductee class.

From the Gaston Gazette on Sunday, May 21:

"When Chuck Niemeyer's swimming career began in Gastonia in the mid-1970s, he had no idea the sport would last as long as it has for him – or land him in his hometown Hall of Fame.

But Niemeyer's determination, talent and work ethic drove him to excellence in high school, college, national competition and currently as a 55-year-old masters competitor."

Congratulations Chuck on your induction and all of your accomplishments!



HOMEBOUND SAINT BIRTHDAY

Please join us in celebrating our Homebound Saint, Ann Riggs!

Ann will be turning 89 this year on July 22 and has been a member of Holy Trinity for 59 years!

If you would like to send a birthday card to Ann, her mailing address is: 1351 Robinwood Road, Apt. B-154, Gastonia, NC 28054.

Thank you for helping us to celebrate this special lady in our church family!





- The Family of Dru Huffstickler, following her death
- Rick Little, severe complications with cancer treatment
- Dave Henderson, recurrence of cancer
- Caroline Banker, for her health
- Phil Lindsay, for his health
- Cissy Belton, issues with her pancreas
- Jerry Campbell, for relief of pain
- Larry Aiken, for his overall health
- Trudy Huchko, mother of Brenda Biddle, for her health
- Bob Kosak, for his health
- Shirley Anderson, recovering at home after hospitalization
- Wanda Christman, at home following hospitalization and rehab
- Bob Frye, for his health
- Randell Irvin, for his health and wellbeing as he draws nearer to death
- Lauren Bryant, cousin of Marsha McLamb, cancer treatment
- Ellen Ratz, mother of John, undergoing cancer treatment
- Brenda Jenkins, for her health
- Homebound: Caroline Banker, Pinkney Froneberger, Rob Frye, Dell Guffey, Paul Kaiser, Ann Riggs, Kathy Wallace, Iris Work
- For those outside the Church, that they may be brought to faith in Christ Jesus
- Robin Simmons, for her health
- That the world would value the dignity of all life
- For peace in the world and in our homes
- Leah Sharibu, and all persecuted Christians
- The Voice of the Martyrs
- **Family and friends actively serving in the military**: Brett Boyd, Eric Cooper, Mae Dodd, Brian Hanna, Josh Holland, Andrew Lambert, Luke Saylors, Liam Overby, Ryan Wallace
- For healthcare workers: Beth Michaels, Melodie Garrison, Kailey Hinds, Cindy Isenhour, Lynn Ledbetter, Anna Murphy, Reggie Parlier, Jennifer Sutley
- All youth and children of Holy Trinity, for the Holy Spirit to guide them
- The Call Committee: Tia Abernathy, Donna Allen, Sam Black, Leisa Brown, Bill Eaker, Janet Green, Glenn Rupp, Grant Sparks, Grace Young, Bruce Zander

If you would like your name or someone else's name added to the Prayer List, please fill-out a Prayer Card at church, email or call the church office. Only the hospitalized and grieving members are added automatically.



With special joy, we recognize and celebrate these birthdays in the months of June & July. We are thankful for the life and spirit of the birthdays we celebrate. May the blessings of God flow in the life of each of you.

1

4

5

9

11



- 2 Brooke Barnes, Fred Cloninger 4
- Layne Rickle
- 5 Bill Eaker
- 7 Charlie Black, Bob Kosak
- 8 Josh Young
- 9 Evie Heffner, Samantha Thomas
- 10 Dennis Christman, Anna Houser,
- 11 Cissy Belton
- Jordan Bryant, Kailey Hinds 14
- 16 Judy Zander
- Charlie Niemeyer 17
- Will Niemeyer 18
- 19 Cody Carpenter
- 21 Gwen Nenninger
- Trenton Abernathy, Andrew Horsley 24
- Joelee Stroupe 25
- 26 Erin Busler, Brittani Wells
- 29 Linda Anderson, Charlene Linsenmayer



Tess Gibbons Leisa Brown, Dick Dubler. Claire Lemke, Ana Mathews Kerri Luksa, Christopher Sisk

Jaine Burleson

- 12 Don Huffstetler, Liam Cate
- 14 Samantha Kirby
- 15 Tia Abernathy, Judy Weatherford
- 18 Barbara Kies
- 19 Brian Buchanan
- 20 Gene Keller
- Ann Riggs 22
- 23 Noah Brown
- 24 Karen Beam
- 29 Glenn Rupp
- Kristi Carpenter, Carolyn Niemeyer 30 John Waldrop
 - Pat Huffstetler



31

Did we miss your birthday?

If your birthday is incorrect, or you have a birthday in June/July and your name is not on this list, please call or email the church office and give us the correct information. HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH 805 SOUTH YORK STREET GASTONIA, NC 28052

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Knowing, Loving and Sharing Christ

Phone: 704-864-0378 Website: www.holytrinitygastonia.org

Intentional Interim Pastor Director of Music Ministries Seminary Ministry Assistant Organist Office Administrator Custodian Nursery Supervisor

MINISTRY STAFF

Tom Corbell Chris Murphy Cody Carpenter Matthew Noonan Kim Borromeo David Stephens Evelyn Anthony twcorbell@gmail.com chris@holytrinitygastonia.org cody@holytrinitygastonia.org matthew@mwnoonan.com kim@holytrinitygastonia.org