

# JOY MISSION CHURCH Newsletter

We are a congregation on a mission!

## First Fellowship Meal at our New Home

**Fish Fry July 2023** - God provided a rain-free afternoon and a lovely breeze. What a wonderful place to gather and share table fellowship together with new and old friends alike! **Thank you** to our Fellowship Team and all who brought, cooked, prepared, and enjoyed food; set up; and cleaned up for this event.

We plan to hold another fellowship meal in the fall.



**JULY MINISTRY OF THE MONTH**

### School supplies for students at Midway Elementary School

- Composition notebooks (wide ruled, no spiral)
- Elmer's glue sticks
- Crayola 24 count crayons
- Color pencils
- Dry erase markers
- Highlighters
- Kids' scissors
- Kids' socks & underwear

*Place donations on the designated table in the church office. Thank you so much!*

### UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES TO GROW IN FAITH

- CMR Youth & Family Retreat – Sept. 8-10 Laurel Ridge, NC **Registration Ends 8/16.**
- CMR Men's Retreat – Sept. 22-24 Laurel Ridge, NC
- CMR Lutheran Women Convocation – Sept. 23 Troutman, NC
- Lutherans for Life Conference – Oct. 11-13 Cincinnati, OH
- NALC Youth Gathering - July 1-4, 2024 Boerne, TX

*Ask the pastor for more information or to register.*

## AUGUST MINISTRY OF THE MONTH

### Mission Lexington

#### FOOD PANTRY NEEDS



- Rice
- Instant Potatoes
- Canned Soup
- Cereal/Oatmeal/Grits
- Peanut Butter/Jelly
- Canned Fruit

THANK YOU!

[www.missionlexingtonsc.com](http://www.missionlexingtonsc.com)

### Highlights from the Carolinas Mission Region Women's Clergy Retreat

SC Mission District Dean Pastor Melinda Jones & Smidgen

Pastors Paulette, Dawn Rister, & Heidi Punt & Gizzy!



### We Need YOU! How has God gifted you to serve?

- Worship Team: Pr. Paulette (803) 767-7231.
- Fellowship Team: Karen Price (803) 206-5423.
- Discipleship Team: Pr. Paulette (803) 767-7231.
- Property Team: Steve Teer (803) 513-4399.

**Please pray for the upcoming NALC Convocation and elections August 9-11.**

*Is God calling you to become a member missionary disciple of Joy?  
Contact the pastor for more information.*

# JOY MISSION CHURCH

✝ We love God, love neighbor, and serve with joy in Jesus' name through worship, fellowship, and discipleship.

## DISCIPLESHIP CORNER

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“Come, follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.”

– Jesus (Matthew 4:19 NIV)

This month, we feature excerpts from the forward to *Life to Life Discipleship* by the Rev. Dr. Daniel Selbo, Bishop of the North American Lutheran Church.

Following his resurrection from the dead and before his ascension back into heaven, our Lord Jesus gave his followers a mission that was to be their first priority and that would become the driving force behind everything they would do. We refer to it as **The Great Commission**. We consider it to be our Lord's deepest desire and calling for his Church...our primary task.

Disciples of Jesus are not born but are made. They do not just happen. They result from a faithful and faith-filled response to a certain and secure promise. Through Baptism and the teaching of God's Word, the Holy Spirit works to produce faith and to change and transform lives. We are not the ones who transform others. That work belongs solely to the Holy Spirit. We are the ones, however, through whom God has chosen to work.

The NALC's Life-to-Life discipleship experience is designed to give guidance and direction to the work we are called to do. It provides a foundation for the task we have been given and a framework for how that task might be carried out. It is not a foolproof method. It is not the only way in which the Holy Spirit can and does work.

At the same time, it is consistent with the commission and the promise given to us by Jesus, and in concert with the teachings of our Lord that call us to a living relationship with others and a life-giving relationship with Him.

Discipleship begins with a living relationship with Jesus (John 15:5)... Discipleship is lived out as we pass on what we have come to know and believe and have experienced to others. When Jesus met Peter and Andrew by the shores of Galilee, he invited them into a journey that would ultimately change and redefine their lives. ...A disciple is one who is called by Jesus, (“Come, follow me”), ...transformed by Jesus, (“and I will make you”), and... on mission with Jesus (“fishers of men”). ...a disciple is someone who accepts the invitation and challenge to follow Jesus, strives to live a life consistent with his, and teaches others to do the same.

The NALC is committed to following our Lord's commission. We view the making of disciples as our number one priority and task. [O]ur vision for the NALC is that every congregation develop a disciple-making culture, every pastor and lay leader become a disciple-producing branch, and every congregational member come to know and believe and trust that the calling and commission Jesus gave to his first followers and, ultimately, to his Church, is one that belongs also to them.

My prayers are with you as you respond to our Lord's calling and as you commit to actively sharing in his commission. We are in this together. It is why we exist. And until our Lord returns, it is our primary task.

Watch for opportunities to participate in the *Life to Life Discipleship* experience coming to Joy this fall.

To the glory of God alone (Soli Deo gloria!)  
Pastor Paulette



Joy Mission Church  
179 Midway Road  
Lexington, SC 29072  
Return Receipt Requested

## We are NOT the mission. Our mission is the Great Commission:

“And Jesus came and said to them, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of age.’” (Matthew 28:18-20)

This is why we exist - to: **Love God. Love neighbor. Serve with joy in Jesus' name.** July 2023