# **June** 2025





To the people of Becks Lutheran Church,

It's Pentecost! We'll celebrate the day on June 8 at our regular worship service!

Pentecost is sometimes called the birthday of the church. The story in Acts 2 is intended to look that way. The disciples are given the Spirit. They then address a crowd gathered in Jerusalem for another reason. The crowd is made up of people from all over the Roman world, speaking a variety of languages and representing a variety of cultures. The Spirit empowers the disciples, who are mostly illiterate people, to communicate with folks who are very different from them. According to Acts, some 3000 people are converted in this story.

The book of Acts continues to push the boundaries from beginning to end. There is the conversion of Africans. There is the conversion of Gentiles (non-Jews). There is the expansion of the Gospel outside the Middle East into Europe. Acts has a broad view of the church, unlimited by human boundaries or prejudices.

And the book of Acts can be considered something of a mission plan for churches of other times. It calls us to continue to expand our reach to people who are very different. It tells us that all our boundaries are invalid and that that Gospel is supposed to go everywhere and

to everyone! Congregations shouldn't be just one people, one race, one narrow slice of humanity – they should be broad expressions of the rainbow of humanity as a whole. The welcome should be unconditional for all those who wish to follow Jesus.

As we watch the decline of the church, we need to reexamine our sense of mission in the context of Acts and of 21<sup>st</sup> Century America. We need to find ways to expand our view and our understanding of church and congregation. Our mission field is the world, not just within the property lines. And the way churches find new people now is usually by members inviting people they know or encounter in their normal lives: the grocery clerk, the dental hygienist, the person you meet frequently while taking a walk. It's one person inviting another. It's not quick, like in Acts, but glacially slow. But it's our call and it's within our ability.

Following Jesus is a great thing. It's a transformative thing. And Acts gives us some idea of what to do: go and invite anybody! Any race, any language, any worldview. Tell them what you love about your congregation and why they might love it, too!

And it's never about the same ol' same ol'. It's about risk and growth and change. Acts is the story of radical change and we should expect the same. Whatever the church becomes in the next decades won't be what any of us grew up with. I hope and pray it will be better!

Peace, Pastor Chris



Becks Evangelical Lutheran Church, ELCA 441 Becks Church Road Lexington, NC 27292 (336) 249-2056

### The Rev. Chris Johnson

Visit us on the web: www.beckslutheranchurch.org
The Rev. David K. Huddle, Pastor Emeritus



<b>Monthly Stewardship</b>	
Needed for the month of May	
— Budget	\$13,132.00
May 4, 2025 —Budget —Facility Reserve	\$3,855.00 \$410.00
May 11, 2025 —Budget —Facility Reserve	\$1,266.47 \$170.00
May 18, 2025 —Budget —Facility Reserve	\$3,228.00 \$20.00
May 25, 2025 —Budget —Facility Reserve	\$1,805.00 \$20.00
Received for May —Budget —Facility Reserve	\$10,244.47 \$620.00

# JUNE BIRTHDAYS



Natalie Gallimore	1
Jerry Gallimore	3
Connor Gallimore	6
Kim Shuman	6
Stuart Aldridge	8
Brenda Beck	13
Jaden Benson	14
Katie Munger	15
Tonia Crook	19



Please join us for Adult Sunday School at 9:30 AM on FIRST and THIRD Sundays each month!

June 1, 2025 and June 15, 2025

Come early for a time of fellowship prior to class beginning at 9:30!



As you begin making your summer vacation plans, please remember that the work of the church continues year-round.

Please prayerfully consider maintaining your contributions to the church.





Becks Lutheran Church Council Stated Meeting — April 27, 2025 Huddle Classroom

**Members Present:** Buford Blankenship – President, Micky Beck - Vice President, Eva Cushman-Secretary, Pastor Chris Johnson, Artie Helton, Kent Beck, Donna Myers

Members Absent: Selina Everhart, excused

President, Buford Blankenship called the meeting to order.

No guests were present.

Eva began the meeting with the devotions.

Donna made a motion to approve the March 23, 2025, minutes, seconded by Micky and approved by all.

No Closed Session.

#### Reports:

Finance: Report attached – For the month of March 2025, we were \$51.11 to the good. All expenses were as to be expected. Offerings were slightly up from the first two months of the year. For our year to date there is a loss of \$5,209.93. Adjustment of \$439.53 to be made from facility reserves to general fund to reconcile property and maintenance expenses for first quarter. Bank account balances General Fund \$37,989.18, Facility Reserve \$49,347.07, Non-Budget \$69,357.28, and Edward Jones \$103,892.89.

Membership and Outreach Team: No Report.

**Pastor Chris report**: Report attached – Since last Council meeting led 4 Sunday services, attended 3 text studies, Council Meeting, Worship Board informally and pre-assembly meeting. Visits including phone calls, shut-ins, hospital/nursing home visits (65 as of 4/22/25). The average worship attendance for March was 34, there were 3 Sundays in a row

with low attendance. Sunday school class met on April 6, 2025, with 11 attending. The April 20 class canceled due to Easter. Bible Study met on April 2, 2025, with 4 in attendance.

**Property Team**: The front doors will be repainted. Contractor will be looking at a crack on the inside wall near the organ pipes.

**Service and Fellowship Team:** There were 26 children that participated in the Easter egg hunt on April 19.

**Stewardship Team**: The catch-up offerings yielded \$1,321.00.

Worship Team: No Report.

**Discretionary Fund:** In \$832.00 and out \$500.00, balance on hand \$4,006.58 as of March 31, 2025.

#### Upcoming Events/Reservations:

May 10, 2025, Micky Beck has reserved FEB May 22, 2025, School Nutrition Program (sponsored by Donna Myers)

#### **New Business:**

- We will start donating to Pastor's Pantry in Lexington, Kelly will obtain the schedule of items to collect.
- Thank you to everyone involved for Clean-up Day, Easter breakfast and all activities.
- Shortening of spoken prayer list.
- Planning of new doors dedication tentatively in June.
- Encouragement of parking in front of the church when possible.
- Discussion of children's sermon on first Sunday of each month when there are enough children attending church. Nursery attendants.

The next Council meeting will be on May 25, 2025, at 8:30 a.m. at the office complex.

Motion to adjourn by Micky, seconded by Eva and approved by all.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eva Cushman Secretary Page 4 Youth News



Congratulations to
Alyssa Everhart
Class of 2025

Class of 2025 North Davidson High School

Alyssa has been awarded a scholarship from Becks Lutheran Church!
Your church family is very proud of you!





**Congratulations to** 

Jayden Benitez

Jayden was awarded the MVP (Most Valuable Player) for Soccer at South Davidson High School.

Jayden also received the Kent Bivens award for
Outstanding Athletic and Scholastic
Achievement!

We are incredibly proud of your accomplishments, Jayden.



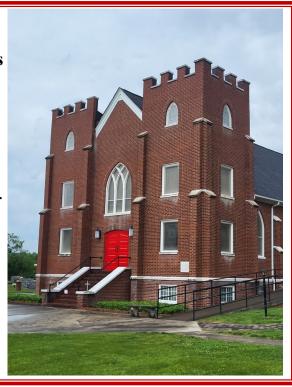


#### **New Church Doors**

We will dedicate the beautiful new church doors on Sunday,
June 29, 2025.

Please plan to stay for lunch following worship!

The meal will be provided by the church.





Grace Church, Becks Lutheran Church and First Lutheran Church are excited to present....

# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Mark your calendars now.

Sunday, July 27 - Tuesday, July 29, 2025 5:30 - 8:00 pm at Grace Church 419 S. Main Street, Lexington, NC



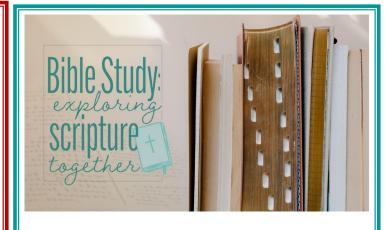
Multigenerational K - Adults This year we will use curriculum from Messy Church. This is a family-oriented program so that all ages can participate. We will offer a preschool area for 3-4 year olds.

Bring your children, your grandchildren, neighbors and friends.

More info as we get closer

## Lector Schedule June/July





Wednesday, June 4, 2025 12:00 Noon

Join us in the church parlor the first Wednesday of each month for Bible Study!

Let's get into God's Word!



Tuesday, July 1, 2025

2:00 PM — 6:30 PM

Register online at www.redcrossblood.org

A new opportunity for ministry!



We are collecting canned pasta (ravioli, SpaghettiOs etc.)

for Pastor's Pantry. Please bring your donations each week. Pastor's Pantry has suggested this as our target item moving forward for the next few months.



### We need your help!

The Council has asked that we please utilize the parking lot in front of the building (as you are able) for the sake of visibility by the community.