



From Death to Life: A Lenten Journey March 9 - April 24, 2011

Gail Ramshaw, in her Lenten devotional, 40 Days and 40 Nights, writes of journeys:

“Most of us have never embarked on a journey. We take road trips, and go on hikes, and enjoy vacation travel, maybe splurge on a cruise, perhaps even join an expedition. But journey is a lengthy ordeal, marked by the unexpected, the delightful, or disastrous.

In 1742, Henry Melchior Muhlenberg left his comfortable homeland in Germany and sailed to colonial Pennsylvania to minister to its Lutheran churches. When the ship ran out of drinking water, the rats, who also were thirsty, licked the sweat off the passengers' faces while they slept. That's a journey!

Deuteronomy 26 (Part of the Old Testament Torah) speaks of the beginning of the journey - slavery in Egypt - and of the end of the journey - arrival in the land of milk and honey. Of the journey itself, the decades of woeful nomadic life, this Deuteronomic creed says only that God helped them through.”

Ash Wednesday, March 9, begins an extraordinary journey for us children of God, who are baptized into the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Our journey is an annual pilgrimage in the Springtime [in the northern hemisphere - “lent” means “springtime.”] Lent is a journey on which we encounter once more, as a church, the saving, life-giving mercy of the triune God.

We speak of the time from Ash Wednesday through Easter Day as a “Lenten journey,” moving through the forty days (Lent) to the great Three Days (Maundy or Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Day). We take this journey in the company of our brothers and sisters in Christ, formed to be a body: living, moving, breathing, and walking through the world.

Our journey will include signs and symbols like ashes, water, bread and wine, and a cross. It will include challenges like temptation, guilt, weakness, illness, and grief. We will journey through the results of our sin - broken relationships, fear, and despair. But God will help us through to Easter Day with forgiveness, new life, resurrection, and salvation. This is a journey not to be missed.

This journey from death to life is no joke. It can be long and arduous. But such a journey will change your life, and not just your individual life, but your communal, shared life in God.

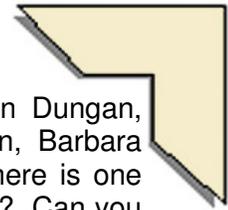
Please read the road markers on page 3 that will mark our journey together in Lent (Spring) 2011.

In March ...

- **Sunday, March 6** - Upper Bucks Conference Assembly at Keller's Church 1:30-5:15
- **Wednesday, March 9**— Ash Wednesday Services at 1 and 7:30 PM
- **Saturday, March 12** - WELCA at 9:30 AM and Family Movie Night in the evening
- **Thursdays, March 17, 24, & 31**- Lenten Simple Supper and Study Gatherings
- **Sunday, March 13** - Palisades Cluster meets at St. Luke Ferndale at 3:00 PM
- **Tuesdays, March 8 & 22** Ladies' Bible Study

Inside this issue:

Council President's Report	2
Lenten Road Markers	3
Church Happenings	2 - 5
March Worship Assistants	6
March Birthdays & Anniversaries	6
March Highlights	5
Lenten MidWeek Simple Supper & Study	5
Prayer List	7
Care-A-Lot News	7
March Calendar	8



**SOUPER BOWL
OF CARING Report**

A big thank you goes out to Katie Aquino for her help with the 2011 SOUPER BOWL of CARING CAMPAIGN. She collected 103 canned goods at her Williams Township Elementary School. A total of 343 non-perishables and \$66.02 was delivered to the Easton Food Bank and the Food Pantry at St. John's. As always our congregation and Care-A-Lot Pre-School were very generous. Your donations are much appreciated in our community.



Here are our Souper Bowl statistics for the last 9 years:

<u>Year</u>	<u>\$\$\$</u>	<u># of food items</u>
2011	66	343
2010	124	392
2009	102	501
2008	30	624
2007	35	493
2006		197
2005	110	102
2004	150	
2003	97	

**CARD SHOWER for
Dorothea Shaffer**

Her family is asking for a shower of cards and notes in celebration of the 100th birthday of Dorothea Shaffer on March 1, 2011. Please send her a birthday greeting! Her address is:

Dorothea Ilgen Shaffer
Stratford Arms—14F
2600 South Ocean Blvd.
Boca Raton, FL 33432-8417

Council Corner

From your Council President ...

Your council members for 2011-2012 are as follows: Helen Dungan, Lynn Gaun, Joseph Hlavaty, George Kreitz, Valerie McGinn, Barbara Naska, Beth Ross, David Sauter and Pastor David Deal. There is one open seat on council to fill. Are you capable of filling that seat? Can you or Would you commit to taking a few hours of your busy everyday schedule and work with a dedicated group of God's people to oversee the

business end of God's church. If you take a good look at your council members who are committed – all of us have busy lives outside the church but somehow we make time to have an interest in the future and the things that are happening here at ELC of Durham. If you are interested in serving as a council member or would like to know more about being a council member, please talk to anyone that is listed above.

We are beginning to see signs of spring. After such a long time seeing the ground covered with a blanket of white it is a joy to see the white stuff melting away and the smell of spring in the air. Before long, being the humans we are, we will be complaining about the hot temperatures and mowing the grass. Are we ever contented with the life that God gives us? Or can we always find something to complain about! The scriptures tell us that we should look to God for our contentment. Contentment comes from God. Isaiah 45: 24 says "the Lord is the source of my righteousness and strength." 2 Corinthians 1:2 says "the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ is the source of every mercy and our comfort."

Contentment was the discussion at our Lady's Bible Study this week. Contentment is hard to hold on to when things happen that we don't expect: an accident, sudden death, illness, loss of job, loss of home, financial problems, etc. When you are restless and worried, what do you do? Do you complain about the situation, do you stay up all night worrying, do you blame others or do you take it to the Lord in prayer and then learn to be patient and wait on Him? Jesus tells us in John 16:33 "Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world." In James 1:2 the Bible tells us "Dear brothers and sisters whenever trouble comes your way let it be an opportunity for joy." Wow! I guess that's where the saying "Something Good always comes out of Something Bad" comes from. So I guess what I am trying to say here, is let us all be a little more contented with the life that God has given us and when we find ourselves complaining about something – stop and think – what good can come out of this. Remember God can use us, just as we are, so long as we are willing to be used. All the trials we have to go through serve His purposes in making us grow into the person He wants us to become.

Let God use you just as you are – take God's message out into the world, invite people to church, be a happy contented worker in God's church by getting involved and volunteering, always love one another.

Your sister in Christ,
Barb Naska, Council President

A note from the Kehler family -

Dear Durham Church Family: We could not begin to thank you enough for all of your kindness, love, prayers, and support throughout and after Sue's illness. Your unwavering faith and support continues to help us as we grieve. May God bless you all.

Peace be with you.

Josh, Jeremy, Jenny, Dorothy, and Mary Jo

Road Markers on our Journey in Lent

Ash Wednesday, March 9, 1:00 & 7:30 PM -
Communion Service with the Imposition of Ashes
"Return to the Lord ..."



First Sunday in Lent—March 13—10:30 AM Holy Communion;
Matthew 4:1-11 "Anatomy of a Temptation"

Cluster Lenten Midweek Gatherings beginning Thursday, March 17
6:30 PM—Light Supper; 7:15 PM—Rob Bell/NOOMA DVD, Devotions and dialog
(March 17, 24 and 31, April 7 & 14)

Second Sunday in Lent—March 20—10:30AM Holy Communion; John 3:1-17—"Nick at Night"

Third Sunday in Lent—March 27—10:30 AM—Holy Communion—John 4:5-42;
"Human Buckets—Living Water"

Fourth Sunday in Lent—April 3—10:30 AM Healing Service/Holy Communion—
John 9:1-41 (Jesus heals the man born blind) - **"Double Exposure"**

Fifth Sunday in Lent—April 10—10:30 AM Holy Communion—
John 11:1-45 (Death and Resurrection) - **"The Stench of Life"**

Sunday of Passion/Palm Sunday—April 17—10:30 AM Holy Communion
Matthew 26:14-27:66—EcoPalms distributed—The Climax of the Journey nears

Maundy Thursday/Holy Thursday—April 21
7:30 PM Holy Communion—"The Last Supper" - *First Holy Communion*

Good Friday, April 22—7:30 PM Service of Reading and Prayer— "On a hill far away..."

Easter Day, April 24—RESURRECTION, RESURRECTION!! We have arrived!

6:30 AM - Sunrise Communion/Holy Baptism
10:30 AM—Festival Communion Service



*Memorial
Gifts*

Memorial gifts to the congregation in honor of Betty Kirkpatrick in the amount of \$740 were received from: Sue Kehler, Helen Ballek, Helen Miller, Madlyn Chasar, James Weber, Jr., Jayne and Jim Miller, Mr. & Mrs. Edward Schreiter, Jr., Lois & Jim Altemose, Hans & Karen Rilling, WELCA, Isabelle Service, Kathryn Gutshall (Ladies Pinochle Club), Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Morganello, and Hutchinson, Gillahan, and Freeh, PC.

"In my Father's house are many rooms ... I go to prepare a place for you. " (John 14:2)

Outreach - Helen Dungan

Souper Bowl of caring: Thanks to everyone who contributed to Souper Bowl of Caring; and especially to Cheryl Mesko for coordinating it. The food and money was split between the Easton and Upper Bucks food banks. We had a donation of over 100 cans of soup from Williams Township Elementary School, a big thanks to Katie Aquino who organized their food drive.

Food banks: In March, we will be collecting **canned pasta (ravioli, spaghetti, etc.)** for the food banks; this is at the request of the Easton food bank.

Personal care items: If you are traveling and have a collection of those little bottles of shampoo, conditioner, or soap the hotels supply, the food banks could use them. Easton creates little gift bags of personal care items to give out. One of their volunteers actually asked all the travelers on a recent bus trip to give her their unused loot.

Food baskets: It is a tradition at Durham to place food baskets rather than flowers on the altar during Lent. If you would be willing to sponsor one, there is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex. You can either purchase food yourself or commission me to be your shopper. The cost is about \$25, the same price as the flowers.



WELCA - Helen Dungan

During our February meeting we talked about God's command that we love one another. The basic tenet of our faith is to obey this commandment, but it isn't easy and we all fail to love as Jesus loved, unconditionally. We are called to reach out to the stranger in the midst of disasters, stand up to injustice and try to fix the problems of our world even when we

know we might fail.

Our program for March is almost a continuation of this theme – becoming better disciples of Christ, and using the time of lent to strive for spiritual growth. Pastor will lead our discussion; Helen Dungan is hostess.

Our main order of business of our March meeting is giving away the soup supper money.

Please join us as we strive to grow in our faith, share fellowship and food, and the joy of giving.

Soup Suppers - Helen Dungan

January we sold 104 quarts of vegetable soup, 82 quarts of potato soup and fed 22 people. Our profits were \$980.68.

Final figures are not yet available for the February soup supper, but we did collect more than \$1,000

We could not make this much money without the generous donations we receive:

First a HUGE thank you to Trauger's Farm Market (Myron and LeeAnn Kressman) who contributed the potatoes, leeks, cabbage in January and the chickens and broccoli in February.

Wendy's Old Fashioned Hamburgers (through Mark Harwick) donated the onions, tomato base, crackers and cups.

Other vegetables, chicken, milk, bread and desserts were contributed from the congregation – not to mention the labor!

Our chief chefs, Esther Crouse, Mark Harwick and in February Diane DeWalt, who made the broccoli soup, deserve an especially big thank you. This year we actually froze our own broccoli – so we also thank those who helped with that endeavor. Many people peeled, chopped, baked, washed dishes and pots and pans, served, set up and took down, and cleaned.



Thanks to all of you; this is a huge undertaking which couldn't happen without your help.

Palisades Cluster - Helen Dungan

The next meeting of the Cluster is March 13, 2011 at St Luke's Ferndale at 3:30. A representative from Bear Creek Camp will be speaking to us. With 3000 acres, 25 miles of trails, and a lake, there are plenty of opportunities for adventure and discovery at the camp. This is an opportunity for members of the congregation to learn more about this ministry, and ask questions. Please join us.

March Highlights

Upper Bucks Conference Spring Assembly

Sunday, March 6, 1:30-5:15 PM at St. Matthews, Keller's Church

Highlight: Congregations in the Conference will share successes in the areas of evangelism, worship, Christian Education, Youth Ministry, small groups, etc. Pastor Deal and some of our Sunday School teachers will be sharing a workshop on "SPARK" Sunday School.

Ash Wednesday - March 9

Lent: A Season of Repentance and Prayer & Rededication to God begins

Worship Services at 1:00 PM (spoken) and 7:30 PM (with Choir) - Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion at both services



Sunday, March 13 - Daylight Savings Time begins early this year.

Set your clocks forward one hour before you go to bed on Saturday night!

SPARK Sunday School will finish a unit on "The Lord's Prayer" and begin a 4-week exploration of Jesus' Last Supper.

Very special Lenten Midweek Program on Thursday evenings from 6:30 to 8:00 PM throughout Lent, sponsored by the five northernmost congregations in the Palisades Lutheran Cluster. See below for more details about the gathering each week. Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham will begin the series on March 17, hosting a light supper, followed by devotions, a DVD, and discussion.



LENT, The Season of Repentance Begins

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 9. Ash Wednesday provides a reminder of our profound sin and mortality.

1:00 PM Spoken worship with imposition of ashes and Holy Communion

7:30 PM Worship with choir, imposition of ashes, and Holy Communion

Make plans now for Lent Midweek!

The Palisades Cluster of Lutheran Churches is planning a weekly informal, simple supper and study program for Lent. Each week, a different local congregation will host a simple supper and continue worship using the NOOMA series. What is NOOMA? Jesus lived with the awareness that God is doing something, right here, right now, and anybody can be part of it. He encouraged his listeners to search, to question, to wrestle with the implications of what he was saying and doing. He inspired, challenged, provoked, comforted, and invited people to be open to God's work in this world. Wherever he went, whatever he did, Jesus started discussion about what matters most, because for Jesus, God is always inviting us to open our eyes and join in. NOOMA is a series of short films that explore our world from the perspective of Jesus; an invitation to search, question, and join the discussion.

The participating congregations will take turns to host these simple supper and study gatherings on Thursday evenings from 6:30 to 8:00 PM. The schedule is:

Thursday, March 17 - Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham

Thursday, March 24 - St. Peter's, Riegelsville

Thursday, March 31 - Trinity, Pleasant Valley

Thursday, April 7 - Christ, Springtown

Thursday, April 14 - St. Luke, Ferndale

Make this year's Lenten discipline include reaching out to our neighboring congregations!

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED: IF YOU CAN HELP US HOST THE LENTEN GATHERING ON MARCH 17TH, please speak to Norma Fox of the Hospitality Committee.

March Worship Assistants

	6 *	9* Ash Wednesday	13 *	20 *	27 *
Youth Acolyte & Communion Assistant	Alaina Apgar	Katie Aquino	Corinne Ashmore	Clayton Leichliter	Danny Codd
Greeter(s)	Jim & Jayne Miller	7:30 PM Lynn Gaun	LeeAnn & Myron Kressman	Laura & David Pyne	Ken & Cleo Eck
Lector(s)	Joe Hlavaty	7:30 PM Tom Gaun	Carolyn Williams	Beth Ross	Ken Anderson
Council Communion Assistants	Norma Fox and George Kreitz	Norma Fox and George Kreitz	Val McGinn and Beth Ross	Val McGinn and Beth Ross	Joe Hlavaty & Barb Naska
Counters	Norma Fox and George Kreitz		Val McGinn and Beth Ross		Joe Hlavaty & Barb Naska
Head Usher	Althea Crouse				
Altar Guild	Barb Naska and Dot Peterman				

* Asterisk indicates that Holy Communion will be served.

	March Birthdays		March Anniversaries
4	Amanda Harrison		
6	Gladys Nicholas		
8	Kelvin DeWalt		
23	Aubrey and Scott Segreaves		
		28	Bob and Esther Crouse



**Upper Bucks Conference
Annual Assembly**

The Koinonia Conference:
Where Pastors and Congregations support each other through Christian Fellowship and Education to strengthen one another for mission in our communities and the world.

Sunday, March 6th
Agenda

- 1:45pm Fellowship & Refreshments
- 2:00pm Devotions by the Rev. David Deal
Introduce Synod Leaders (Synod Council, Staff, Exec. Comm)
Introduce New Rostered Leaders in Conference
- 2:15pm Workshops & Refreshments
- 4:50pm Business
Approve March 14, 2010 Conference Assembly Minutes
Treasurer's 2010 Year-end Report - Bruce Saylor, AiM
Approve 2011 Conference Budget - Bruce Saylor, AiM
Elect Executive Committee Members:
(1 Lay Quakertown, 1 Lay Indian Valley, 1 Rostered Palisades)
(Laura Ulrich, Barry Bowman, Rev. David Deal)
New Business - Rostered Leader Anniversary Recognition
5 years: Rev. Mukesh Cheedie, Bruce Saylor, AiM
10 years: Rev. Amy Bender, Rev. Paul Chapman,
Sr. Mary Julia McKenzie
20 years: Rev. Julie Bergdahl
25 years: Ethel Geist, AiM
- 5:15pm Closing Devotions

What's the point of going to Church???

"Friends help pew sitting"

According to an article in the March edition of The Lutheran magazine, close friendships among church members does indeed seem to be the key to happiness among religious people, according to the Faith Matters Survey of U.S. adults.

According to the article, one-third of Americans who attend religious services weekly and have three to five close friends in the congregation said they are "extremely satisfied" with their lives. *(submitted by Linda Sauter)*



Care-A-Lot News



Believe it or not, spring is almost here! This month we will focus on using our imagination, especially as we take our field trip to see Peter Pan at DeSales University. The children will be learning about working together in class and at home, as well as from Pastor Dave and the Spark Bible. Our focus on sports this month will also help us learn about working together as a team. Our tell and show this month will be to bring in a favorite sports item.

We will be learning about symmetry and will use butterflies to help explain the concept. The Blue Whale class will get to be the lead scientist starting this month as they each bring in their own experiment to share with the class.

We will be having our Saint Patrick's Day celebration and start getting ready for spring. Think warm thoughts!

Love,

Mrs. Hower, Mrs. Naska and Mrs. Pason

**Care-A-Lot Preschool normal schedule is
9:00 AM to 12:30 PM on Tuesdays,
Wednesdays, and Thursdays.**

PRAYER

Please speak to the pastor before the service if you have someone you would like him to lift up in prayer. To place someone on the Prayer List, call the Church Office. For urgent prayer needs, start the Prayer Chain by calling Virginia Hager. Please make updates to Prayer List in the Narthex on the condition of anyone you've placed on the list. If you are on the Prayer List and are ready to be removed, please let us know!

Please keep in your prayers:

FOR HEALING: Clarence Berger, Clarence Fox, Leo Fox, Norma Fox, Betty Hahn, Johnny Hesser, Michael Kempf, Betty Kiefer, Elfriede Marschewski, Bob Newcomb, Evelyn Newcomb, Harold Nicholas, Silas Rodenbach, and Scott Segreaves.

FOR THOSE IN SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY: Private 1st Class Michael Hesser (USMC, Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan), Private Nicholas Squartino (USMC, Camp Geiger, North Carolina), Private Blake Rodd (US Army, Fort Wainwright, Alaska), Sergeant Jamie Newcomb (US Army Reserves), Ensign Randall Reichenbach (US Navy, USS Preble, deployed), Sergeant Jimmy Apgar (US Army, Ft. Richardson, Alaska), and Lt. Col. Matt Trauger (USMC – Special Ground Forces, now in S. Carolina).

FOR FRIENDS AND FAMILY: Cara Apgar, Alexa Bailey, Ryan Beer, Eric Beerer, Harriet Bizon, Charles and Rita Bolesta, Al Boorse, Lena Carafa, John Corliss, Pam D'Angelo, Rev. Deborah Dawson, Rev. Harold & Miriam Deal, Fred Donatelli, Jr., Virginia Fisher, Carol Fluck and Family, George Gallop, Elaine Gawronski, John Goodbread, Marie Gustafson, Avery Noelle Hanrahan, Betty Helm, June Hissim, David Inscho, Mary Ellen Jonczyk, Seth Klinger, Bob Manship, Alice Ann McNulty, Dave Morrell, Carol Mutter, Elfriede Newcomb, Sandy Patten, Howard Pensack, Esther Perry, Chase Pfeiffer, Chelsea Pursell, Ruth Sauter, Laurel Scheetz, Orville Shoemaker, David Spiegel, Debbie Statler, Alex Ulrey, Vincent Viscomi, Kelly Walsh, Todd Walsh, and Abby Walton

FOR THOSE WHO ARE HOMEBOUND: Judy Barron, Ruth Behm, Madlyn Chasar, Virginia Fisher, Clarence Fox, Irene Fox, Jean Haas, Marcella Krager, Lillian Melchior, Evelyn Peterman, and Mildred Seifert.

FOR THE GRIEVING: The families of Sue Kehler, Vance Bowman, Sharon Walker, Frances Mammana, Betty Kirkpatrick, Uwe Marschewski, Nancy Jean Xander, Helen E. Nicholas, George Fox, and Dot Scholl.

CARD SHOWER: Dorothea Shaffer's family is having a card and note shower for her 100th birthday, which is on Tuesday, March 1, 2011. If you'd like to send a card, the address is:
Dorothea Ilgen Shaffer, Stratford Arms – 14F, 2600 South Ocean Blvd., Boca Raton, FL 33432.

Betty Kiefer is now in Saucon Valley Manor. Her address is:
Saucon Valley Manor Room A-81, 1050 Main Street, Hellertown, PA 18055

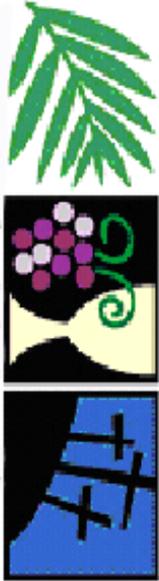


March 2011



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<i>1</i> 9 AM - 12:30 PM Care-A-Lot Preschool	<i>2</i> 9 AM - 12:30 PM Care-A-Lot Preschool 6:30 PM Choir	<i>3</i> 9 AM - 12:30 PM Care-A-Lot Preschool	<i>4</i> 5 PM Wedding Rehearsal	<i>5</i> 2 PM non-member wedding
<i>6 Transfiguration</i> 9:00 AM Spark Sunday School - Lord's Prayer 10:30 Holy Communion 1:30-5:15 PM - Upper Bucks Conference Assembly	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i> 9 AM - 12:30 PM Care-A-Lot Preschool	<i>9 ASH WEDNESDAY</i> 9 AM - 12:30 PM Care-A-Lot Preschool 1PM Communion 7:30 PM Communion	<i>10</i> 9 AM - 12:30 PM Care-A-Lot Preschool	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i> 9:30 AM WELCA Family Movie Night - details TBA
13 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS 9:00 AM Spark Sunday School - The Last Supper 10:30 Holy Communion	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i> 9 AM - 12:30 PM Care-A-Lot Preschool	<i>16</i> 9 AM - 12:30 PM Care-A-Lot Preschool 6:30 PM Choir	<i>17</i> 9 AM - 12:30 PM Care-A-Lot Preschool 6:30 PM Simple Supper & Study @ Durham	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>20 Second Sunday in Lent</i> 9:00 AM Spark Sunday School - The Last Supper 10:30 Holy Communion	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i> 9 AM - 12:30 PM Care-A-Lot Preschool	<i>23</i> 9 AM - 12:30 PM Care-A-Lot Preschool 6:30 PM Choir	<i>24</i> 9 AM - 12:30 PM Care-A-Lot Preschool 6:30 PM Simple Supper & Study @ Riegelsville	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>
<i>27 Third Sunday in Lent</i> 9:00 AM Spark Sunday School - The Last Supper 10:30 Holy Communion	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i> 9 AM - 12:30 PM Care-A-Lot Preschool	<i>30</i> 9 AM - 12:30 PM Care-A-Lot Preschool 6:30 PM Choir	<i>31</i> 9 AM - 12:30 PM Care-A-Lot Preschool 6:30 PM Simple Supper & Study @ Pleasant Valley		

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham
"The church on the hill, lighting the way to God's love"
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EVANGEL

