

**Lutheran Chapel Church**  
702 N. New Hope Road  
Gastonia, NC 28054

Office Phone: (704) 864-6491

Pastor Michael Comer

Michael.comer@lutheranchapelchurch.org

Cell: 704-787-6439

Claudia Zibell: Administrative Assistant

churchoffice@lutheranchapelchurch.org

Cell: 828-275-2040

Megan Landers: Director Youth & Family Ministry

megan@lutheranchapelchurch.org

Cell: 678-446-9348

Janet McKinney: Preschool Director

Phone: 704-864-5136

Web site: lutheranchapelchurch.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/lccgastonia

## DECEMBER 2018

*Newsletter articles are due by the 15th of each month. Articles received after the 15th will be included at a later date. Thank you for your cooperation!*



**MISSION STATEMENT:** We at Lutheran Chapel Church are called by God to PROCLAIM Christ as Lord and Savior; to SEEK and INVITE the unchurched into the fellowship of faith; to SERVE God and to NURTURE one another's faith and spiritual growth by being a loving, caring and compassionate community of believers.

### CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

- The church office is generally open from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Monday thru Thursday.
- There may be occasions when we are out of the office so, it's always a good idea to call ahead to see if any schedules have been changed.
- Pastor Comer's day off is Friday of each week.

### Pastor:

The Rev. Michael C. Comer

### Administrative Assistant:

Claudia Zibell

### Director Youth & Family Ministry:

Megan Landers

### Council President:

Ken Obenauf

### WELCA Executive Board LCC:

President—Pam Overcash

### Non Profit Organization

US postage Paid

Gastonia, NC

Permit #232



# Chapel News

A Publication of Lutheran Chapel Church

702 N. New Hope Road

Gastonia, NC 28054

Office Phone: (704) 864-6491

Website: [lutheranchapelchurch.org](http://lutheranchapelchurch.org)

Pastor: Michael C. Comer

email: [churchoffice@lutheranchapelchurch.org](mailto:churchoffice@lutheranchapelchurch.org)

DECEMBER 2018

## THE EVANGELICAL CHURCH: CARE OF SOULS

God loves us. We learn this in the good news of Jesus' life, death and resurrection for us. That love is unconditional and it is His "yes" for us in all the trials and circumstances of life (re: 2 Corinthians 1:19-22). Each one of us needs constant reminding of His steadfast love and we need to be encouraged through the storms of life. The diligent care of our souls is important. How do we practice such care among us?

A card, a call, a text, a visit, a prayer lifted up for one another, a conversation to share the trials and challenges of the journey, our common Bible study and worship together are all important elements of caring for souls. Yet sometimes the pain or trial seems to shut me down. I cannot give words to the pain. I cannot talk to even the closest friend. The enemy of our souls uses such circumstances to isolate us and cut us off from Christ and Christ's people. The coldness of heart, the apathy, or the outright anger about a wrong done to us or to a loved one can rip our very souls. Is there a way to offer care for a hurt or grieving soul in such situations?

A gift still can be given! This is how God's grace works it seems. God gives constantly. God gives us being, this moment, Jesus' love, the sunrise, the sunset, the sacred song, and the list is endless. Our fellowship already gives gifts such as care packages for those of us

who are shut-in, or for those recovering from a hospital stay. In the past, we have given out care packages designed specifically to help folks we meet who are homeless and a plan is underway to resume that ministry soon. This particular grief and caregiving packet though is for those we know who are in the midst of a trial right now. It will include Scriptures that may speak to our situation, sacred music to hear, pamphlets on grief, a journal to cultivate reflection – all intended to care for our souls.

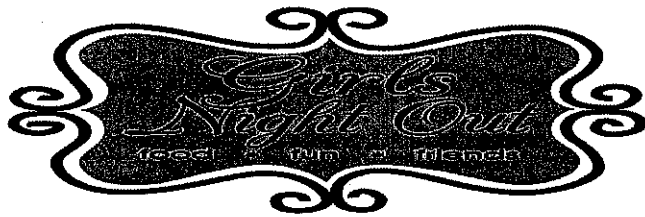
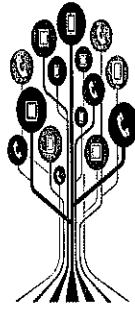
Starting in the new year, such grief and caregiving gift packets will be available by contacting the church office or pastor. Each one of us knows of situations or it may be the case that I will need one for myself. Finally, our Bishop Tim shared this a few months back in the Synod e-mail and it is good for us these days of Advent and Christmas:

Let nothing disturb you, let nothing frighten you, all things are passing away: God never changes. Patience obtains all things. Whoever has God lacks nothing; God alone suffices.  
Poem of St. Teresa of Avila

Let us be diligent in loving one another and in caring for our souls day by day.

Peace in Christ,  
Pastor Michael

**PHONE TREE:** Thank you for your patience with the Phone Tree. You may have noticed that some weekly messages are coming at strange times or not at all. We are in the process of updating the software and hope to have the Phone Tree back up and running smoothly very soon.



Girls Night Out is scheduled for Monday, December 10, 2018 at 7:00 pm at the home of Katherine Sanders, 225 W. 11th Avenue, Gastonia, NC. Please bring a dessert or appetizer to share and plan to enjoy a night of good food and fellowship. In lieu of a gift exchange as in years past, please bring travel size toiletry items to create personal care bags for distribution at the Clothing Closet. For questions, please contact Katherine at 704-616-8779 or [bakersanders@earthlink.net](mailto:bakersanders@earthlink.net)



Are you social media savvy? Do you LOVE updating websites? Do you have an interest in helping stream our Sunday services? Do you enjoy emailing and texting? Are you technologically savvy? Are you knowledgeable with AV/Video/Sound? Do you want to help our congregation better communicate the needs of the church and opportunities for involvement in our various ministries? If you answered yes to any of these questions (or even ***considered*** answering yes), then we have a ***great opportunity*** for you on the Communication Committee! To volunteer, please contact Katherine Sanders (704-616-8779 or [bakersanders@earthline.net](mailto:bakersanders@earthline.net))!

## THANK YOU

Dear Church Family,  
Thank you all for the many prayers and concerns during B.T.'s recent fall! We appreciate and thank you also for the cards, flowers, visits and food! It is wonderful to be a part of such a caring and giving church family!

Love in Christ,  
B.T. & Pauline

Dear Lutheran Chapel Church,  
Thank you for your gift of \$685.00 to Habitat for Humanity of Gaston County for the 2018 Thrivent Faith Build.

Strong community partnering and support is critical to us in achieving our goal of seeking to put God's love into action by bringing people together to build homes, communities and hope. By building decent and affordable homes we give families the strength, stability and independence they need to create a better life for themselves and their families.

Every donation gives a family an opportunity to build their future and every helping hand makes a difference.

In Christian Partnership,  
Mary Harris  
Executive Director

### **DID YOU KNOW??**

We are now live streaming the 10:30 worship service on our Lutheran Chapel Church in Gastonia, NC public group page on Facebook. If you are out of town or unable to attend a Sunday service you can still worship with us virtually. Many thanks to the volunteers helping make this possible each Sunday!

**LUTHERAN CHAPEL  
COUNCIL MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 11, 2018**

The next scheduled Council meeting is on Sunday, December 9, 2018 immediately following the 10:30 am worship service in the Conference Room.

The Council made decisions and discussed the following items:

- ◆ Rick & Brenda Falls have requested to join Lutheran Chapel. A motion was made by Ed Robinson with a second by Chris Angstadt to approve membership which passes with a unanimous vote. Rick & Janie Peak will serve as sponsors.
- ◆ Revenues as compared to expenses year to date through October 31, reflect a positive balance of \$1,797.00.
- ◆ Budget vote and election of new Council members scheduled for Sunday, December 2.
- ◆ Commitment Sunday scheduled for Sunday, December 9, prior to the Cantata.
- ◆ 10:30 Worship service is now available via live stream on the Lutheran Chapel Church in Gastonia, NC public Facebook group page.
- ◆ Ed Robinson is coordinating a meeting with church insurance provider for coverage to responsibly share the church facilities.
- ◆ Cub Scout program has not taken off as Cub Scout Master Jacob Cooper had hoped. 15 children originally signed up but only 2 have been participating. We will look into other avenues for continuing to support the Boy Scout Program.
- ◆ Lutheran Chapel Security Guidelines presented and unanimously approved by Council for adoption and presentation to the congregation.
- ◆ VBS Scheduled for June 17—20, 2019 utilizing the "Athens" curricu-

**LOVE OFFERING FOR THE MONTH OF  
DECEMBER IS  
HURRICANE FLORENCE RELIEF**

A direct connection to help with recovery efforts in Duplin County was shared by our Chapel Sunday School Class. Randi Beam, who is originally from the area, shared about the devastation there. Please mark any gifts for this effort as Hurricane Relief and they will be directed through Duplin County Schools in Kenansville, NC by social workers and guidance counselors serving those communities.

**THANK YOU**

Dear Church Family,  
Many thanks for all your loving care during Alfred's and my hospital stay. Receiving all the beautiful cards, personal calls and most of all your prayers were very comforting to us. May God continue to bless us here at Lutheran Chapel as we minister to each other and in the wider community.  
I Christ's love,  
Kay & Alfred Lineberger

Dear Lutheran Chapel,  
Thank you for your gift of \$685 to Habitat for Humanity of Gaston County for the 2018 Thrivent Faith Build. Strong community partnering and support is critical to us in achieving our goal of seeking to put God's love into action by bringing people together to build homes, communities and hope. By building decent and affordable homes we give families the strength, stability and independence they need to create a better life for themselves and their families.  
Every donation gives a family an opportunity to build their future and every helping hand makes a difference.  
In Christian Partnership  
Mary Harris  
Executive Director

**DECEMBER  
BIRTHDAYS**

Wanda Anthony.....	1
Bettina Royston.....	3
Fred Ward.....	4
Ethan Lineberger.....	5
Sloan Robinson, Jr.....	8
Gail Brown.....	11
George Cashion.....	11
Tonya Dowdy.....	11
Mason Swindler.....	12
Roger Myers.....	13
Olivia Hovis.....	15
Henry Gaines.....	16
Pete Henderson.....	16
Ryan Thornburg.....	19
Betty Barkley.....	23
Norma Morrison.....	24
Erin Potter.....	24
Patricia Lindler.....	25
Josh Baker.....	27
Jason Bradley.....	27
Harrison Swindler.....	27
Barbara Peacock.....	31

Happy Birthday to all listed above.  
If we have missed your Birthday, please let the office know so that we can enter it into the database.



**DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES**

Jerry & Sylvia Fogle.....	3
Gene & Myra Weaver.....	6
Bill & Kay Robinson.....	19
Ken & Ann Marie Lentz.....	30
Terry & Trish Ratchford.....	30
Chuck & Lisa Burch.....	31

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY**

If we have missed your anniversary, please let the church office know so that we can enter it into the database.



**DECEMBER CIRCLE MEETING**

Esther Circle Hostess (Dec.3).....	To Be Decided
Esther Circle Program (Dec. 3).....	To Be Decided
Rebecca Circle Hostess (Dec. 3).....	Kay Moretz
Rebecca Circle Program (Dec. 3).....	Kay Moretz
Rachel Circle Hostess (Dec. 3).....	Wanda Anthony
Rachel Circle Program (Dec. 3).....	Wanda Anthony

**Women of the ELCA**

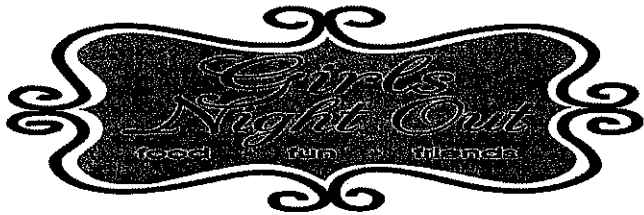
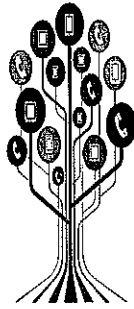
**ALTAR FLOWERS FOR DECEMBER**

- December 2**—Chrismon Trees
- December 9**—Chrismon Trees
- December 16**—Chrismon Trees
- December 23**—Chrismon Trees
- December 24**—Chrismon Trees and Poinsettias.
- December 30**—Chrismon Trees

Cost of flowers is \$55.00.  
Please be sure to note on your check that it is for flowers for the Altar.



**PHONE TREE:** Thank you for your patience with the Phone Tree. You may have noticed that some weekly messages are coming at strange times or not at all. We are in the process of updating the software and hope to have the Phone Tree back up and running smoothly very soon.



Girls Night Out is scheduled for Monday, December 10, 2018 at 7:00 pm at the home of Katherine Sanders, 225 W. 11th Avenue, Gastonia, NC. Please bring a dessert or appetizer to share and plan to enjoy a night of good food and fellowship. In lieu of a gift exchange as in years past, please bring travel size toiletry items to create personal care bags for distribution at the Clothing Closet. For questions, please contact Katherine at 704-616-8779 or [bakersanders@earthlink.net](mailto:bakersanders@earthlink.net)



Are you social media savvy? Do you LOVE updating websites? Do you have an interest in helping stream our Sunday services? Do you enjoy emailing and texting? Are you technologically savvy? Are you knowledgeable with AV/Video/Sound? Do you want to help our congregation better communicate the needs of the church and opportunities for involvement in our various ministries? If you answered yes to any of these questions (or even ***considered*** answering yes), then we have a ***great opportunity*** for you on the Communication Committee! To volunteer, please contact Katherine Sanders (704-616-8779 or [bakersanders@earthline.net](mailto:bakersanders@earthline.net))!

## THANK YOU

Dear Church Family,  
Thank you all for the many prayers and concerns during B.T.'s recent fall! We appreciate and thank you also for the cards, flowers, visits and food! It is wonderful to be a part of such a caring and giving church family!

Love in Christ,  
B.T. & Pauline

Dear Lutheran Chapel Church,  
Thank you for your gift of \$685.00 to Habitat for Humanity of Gaston County for the 2018 Thrivent Faith Build.

Strong community partnering and support is critical to us in achieving our goal of seeking to put God's love into action by bringing people together to build homes, communities and hope. By building decent and affordable homes we give families the strength, stability and independence they need to create a better life for themselves and their families.

Every donation gives a family an opportunity to build their future and every helping hand makes a difference.

In Christian Partnership,  
Mary Harris  
Executive Director

### DID YOU KNOW??

We are now live streaming the 10:30 worship service on our Lutheran Chapel Church in Gastonia, NC public group page on Facebook. If you are out of town or unable to attend a Sunday service you can still worship with us virtually. Many thanks to the volunteers helping make this possible each Sunday!

**OWLS TRIPS AND ACTIVITIES**

Mark your calendar for 2019 OWLS Trips and Activities.

**Wednesday, January 16, 2019** from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm Bingo at the Church, bring a pick up to share.

**Wednesday, February 20, 2019** at 11:30 am: Community Lunch at O'Charlies.

**March, 2019 Trip to Sims BBQ (Date TBA)**

**Tuesday, April 30, 2019** at 11:30 am: Mystery Lunch.

**May, 2019:** Trip in planning process (TBA)

**June, 2019—Grizzlies Ball Game (TBA)**

**OWLS BIBLE STUDY DATES**

All Classes are 10:00 to 11:00 am



Tuesday, December 11  
 Tuesday, January 22  
 Tuesday, February 26  
 Tuesday, March 26

**SERVING ON DECEMBER 24th, 2018**

- Assistant Minister ..... Baker Sanders
- Lector ..... Jason Sanders
- Acolyte ..... Maddie Potter
- Crucifer ..... Sarah Jamison
- Bible Bearer ..... TBA
- Banner Bearer ..... Ryan Thornburg
- Torch Bearer ..... TBA
- Torch Bearer ..... Mason Swindler
- Ushers ..... Ervin Hoffman, James Hovis, Ken Lentz, Norman Overcash
- Helping Hands ..... Rachel Anthony
- Council Members ..... Marty Lineberger & Ed Robinson
- Altar Guild ..... David & Susan Lewis
- Communion Assistants ..... Shirley Carpenter
- Communion Presenters ..... Lucinda Thornburg
- ..... Nancy Withman & Ken Obenauf

**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

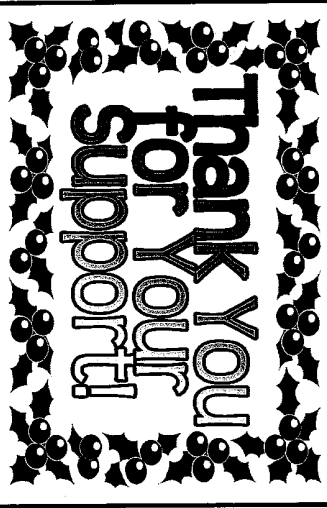
**THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!**

The Social Ministry Committee would like to sincerely thank everyone for your many gifts over the last couple of months. During the Thanksgiving holidays, we as a church family made a real difference in the lives on many families. Your generosity is overwhelming. Along with the Thanksgiving meal bags that were donated and the money for hams provided, we also received enough money to shop and fill additional bags—making a total of 144 Thanksgiving meal bags. A note was placed in each bag with a Thanksgiving blessing. We were able to supply meal bags for families at 15 schools in our area.







Also, thank you for your donation of 19 Christmas shoeboxes. Because of the delivery schedule for the boxes, this always comes at the same time we are filling our Thanksgiving meal bags. However, our church family finds the time and we are so grateful for your support. These boxes are delivered around the world to children in hopeless and desperate situations. These wonderful little boxes bring hope to these children as they receive the gifts you have chosen. The boxes are also packaged with children's literature, in their language, proclaiming Jesus Christ as God's greatest gift. What a wonderful way to share the Good News!

Our church family touches many lives through the gifts of ministries from the different committees in our church. Through these gifts, needs are met and hopefully the people know that they are loved and cared for. We pray that we are making a difference in the lives of our neighbors as we share God's love and blessings—whether it be a Thanksgiving meal or a Christmas gift to a child.

Social Ministry Committee



# WORSHIP ASSISTANTS—DECEMBER 2018

	DECEMBER 2	DECEMBER 9	DECEMBER 16	DECEMBER 23	DECEMBER 30
Acolyte Torch Bearer Torch Bearer	Lillian Robinson	Olivia Berghello	Harry Swindler	Katelyn Anthony	Will Clark
Bible Bearer Crucifer Banner Bearer	Ben Carpenter	Monica Goedl	Nolan Romero	Ryan Thornburg	Baker Sanders
Sunday Lector	Janie Peak	CANTATA	BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR JESUS	Mark Goedl	Myra Weaver
Assistant Minister	Josh Carpenter	Nancy Witman	Ann Marie Lentz	Kay Lineberger	Josh Carpenter
Communion Assistants	Kay Lineberger Debra Hoffman		Wanda Anthony Katie Potter		
Communion Presenters	Ann Edwards Charles Edwards		Janie Peak Rick Peak		
Altar Guild	Susan Lewis David Lewis	Susan Lewis David Lewis	Susan Lewis David Lewis	Susan Lewis David Lewis	Susan Lewis David Lewis
Ushers	Ervin Hoffman James Hovis Ken Lentz Norman Overcash	Ervin Hoffman James Hovis Ken Lentz Norman Overcash	Ervin Hoffman James Hovis Ken Lentz Norman Overcash	Ervin Hoffman James Hovis Ken Lentz Norman Overcash	Ervin Hoffman James Hovis Ken Lentz Norman Overcash
Council Persons	Marty Lineberger Ed Robinson	Marty Lineberger Ed Robinson	Marty Lineberger Ed Robinson	Marty Lineberger Ed Robinson	Marty Lineberger Ed Robinson
Helping Hands	Rachel Anthony	Rachel Anthony	Rachel Anthony	Rachel Anthony	Rachel Anthony