



***APRIL 2020***

# Chapel News

A Publication of Lutheran Chapel Church

702 N. New Hope Road

Gastonia, NC 28054

Pastor Michael C. Comer

Office: (704) 864-6491

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

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

Friends in Christ,

The coronavirus shutdown continues to stop and change daily routines among us all. From Spanish flu to polio to swine flu to now, pandemics happen. We live in a good but broken world period. Hopefully in a few months we can look back and see that these extreme measures have helped our society and limited illness and death among us. Let us be patient, encouraging, and loving to one another as we look to better days (Romans 12:9-21) and never forget that none of us are alone (Matthew 28:20) – Christ will see us through always!

Holy Week and Easter 2020 is coming and, thanks to tremendous work of disciples among us, we can still stream prayers on-line together. Please find the schedule on the next page.

As the shutdown continues, again thanks to tremendous work of disciples among us, there will be an offering of increased communications. The **weekly phone tree** and now a **weekly email blast** will be shared. On the church Facebook page, a **weekly devotion** will be offered. I am thankful to God for the work of Steve Laws providing **weekly Bible Study** via Zoom on Sundays at 9:30. Email Steve to be a part of this study together. I am thankful to God for the work of our Director of Youth and Family Ministry, Amy Carpenter, offering **Zoom meetings for our children and youth**. As you call and message and send notes to encourage family and friends, these are all to the glory of God. We are a priesthood of all believers (1 Peter 2:9-10), let us each do the work God would have us do during these days to love and help one another.

Most ministries are shut down among us in obedience to our local and state governments and in hopes of not spreading the contagion. So, no church office hours, Dirty Collar Workers, Preschool, AA group, Clothes Closet, and church committees can function now. A few do continue with texting and Zoom meetings. However, there are two ministries that are continuing. First, our Outreach team continues to distribute **backpacks to Robinson Elementary** to help the families we were assigned there. Second, our Social Ministry continues to collect **canned food and non-perishable items to support Crisis Assistance Ministry**. If each of us can share some food and place in the blue box located outside the entrance to the Education Building when you do your household grocery shopping, then hopefully we can support this local effort to help our neighbors in crisis.

Finally, if there are any needs for conversation, prayer, or medical emergencies, please call or text me at 704 -787-6439. May our LORD give each of us perseverance as we do the best we can each day He gives us.

Peace in Christ,

***Pastor Michael***

# *HOLY WEEK at Lutheran Chapel*

*All services will be streamed on Facebook Live  
(Group page Lutheran Chapel Church in Gastonia, NC )*

## *Palm/Passion Sunday*

**April 5 at 10:30AM**

We remember the triumphal entry of our Lord Jesus into Jerusalem. We read and contemplate the Passion of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew in 2020. God has chosen to make Himself known to us in suffering and death that we may ultimately be saved.



## *Maundy Thursday*

**April 9 at 7PM**



As Jesus has loved and served us, so we are to love and serve one another and all the world in His Name. The Lord's Supper is established for all His disciples. Sadly, we cannot share this great means of grace this year but we still remember and look forward to the fulfillment.

## *Good Friday*

**April 10 at 7PM**

The Stations of the Cross are a meditation on Jesus' last words and actions. Jesus dies for us.



## *Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday*

**April 11 at 8PM**

From the stories of the Law, the Prophets, the Psalms, the Epistles, to the glorious good news, **Jesus Christ is Lord**. This is the story of our salvation. This is the time when we affirm our baptisms and dedication to the great mission of Christ to save all who will believe.



## *Easter Sunday*

**April 12 at 10:30AM**

This is the feast of feasts. Let us celebrate with great joy in Christ who has conquered sin, death and devil that we may be with Him forever. Now the time to sing Hallelujah has come!

## *Holy Humor Sunday ☺*

**April 19 at 10:30AM**

Easter is actually 50 days in the Christian year. The stories of the risen Christ continue with doubting Thomas. Can doubt be part of faith? Or is doubt even an integral part of a growing faith? **Please share good jokes for this day!!** A cheerful heart is always good medicine (Proverbs 15:13).



### **A note from the Executive Team**

During this time of uncertainty, Lutheran Chapel remains committed to serving our church family and community. The executive committee has had several conversations over the past weeks to discuss the various ministries of our church and how we can support in light of governmental orders to stay at home. For the foreseeable future, our services will be online. We are lucky to have staff and volunteer support willing to ensure our church family has virtual worship opportunities. Most of our staff will work from home, but there will be people in and out of the building to video, set up for services, etc. within the confines of social distancing. ZOOM meetings have been set up as a way to stay in touch for Sunday School and Youth. Unfortunately, we did have to comply with the difficult decision to discontinue the Mother's Morning Out program and AA/Faith groups due to gatherings over 10. We hope that these gatherings will be able to start back soon enough, following CDC guidelines.

As information is released to us, the executive team will continue to meet and reassess and keep you in the loop either through phone tree or the new weekly email blast. If you haven't received and would like to, please send an email to [churchoffice@lutheranchapelchurch.org](mailto:churchoffice@lutheranchapelchurch.org).

Stay safe; stay home; stay connected.

From,

***Sherrie Angstadt***  
**Council President**

---

### **A note from the Communications Committee**

During our time apart due to COVID-19, the Communications Committee is working with our LCC team to provide MORE ways for our congregation to stay connected. Several recent enhancements:

1. Streaming of all available services via Facebook Live on our group page Lutheran Chapel Church in Gastonia, NC (also accessible via website [www.lutheranchapelchurch.org](http://www.lutheranchapelchurch.org) ).
2. Increased posting and information share on Facebook
3. Love and Prayer Volunteer phone tree created to allow member to member contact via phone, email, text
4. Email blast for weekly news and notes (if you haven't received an email from the church office, please reach out to Kim at [churchoffice@lutheranchapelchurch.org](mailto:churchoffice@lutheranchapelchurch.org))
5. Multiple enhancements to our website ([www.lutheranchapelchurch.org](http://www.lutheranchapelchurch.org)) . Please check it out!

We look forward to the day we can all gather again for worship!

### **Tithes and Offerings**

Some church members have asked how they can send tithes and offerings to church since we are not meeting in person. Options include: utilizing offering envelopes to mail (or a regular envelope) or giving on-line through our church website: [lutheranchapelchurch.org](http://lutheranchapelchurch.org), top right-hand corner "give" which is a link to Easy Tithe. Any questions or concerns call our Treasurer, Ed Robinson.



**LUTHERAN CHAPEL  
COUNCIL MINUTES  
MARCH 8, 2020**

The council made decisions and discussed the following:

- \$32,443.73 has been received toward electronic sign to date. Approximate installation date April 23 or 24 with electrical work and permitting to take place prior to installation.
- A motion unanimously passed to purchase a new desk top computer and monitor for the office and laptop for Pastor utilizing recommended memorial funds.
- A committee has been formed to explore ideas for Chapel improvements.
- A motion unanimously passed for a new color copier for the church office and continued use of existing copier in the conference room.
- Accessibility needs continue to be addressed with Ken Obenauf and Ed Robinson chairing a new committee which includes 7 members. Two local contractors have been contacted for this.
- Lutheran Chapel is in need of a church historian to preserve our stories that are part of life together, including pictures of youth and elderly. Council suggested several members to serve in this role. Pastor will contact.
- Council discussed options and suggestions to block sides of stage when family life center while pulled out for use. These ideas will be taken to property committee for additional investigation.
- Revenues as compared to expenses year to date through February 29, 2020 reflect a negative balance of \$1264.35.

The next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, May 3, 2020 from 5:00pm – 6:30pm. This is a combined April/May meeting due to Easter and Mother's Day.

**APRIL LOVE OFFERING ~  
*Lutheran Services Carolinas***

Our love offering ministry for April will be Lutheran Services Carolinas. Lutheran Services is an agency of the North and South Carolina Synods of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and is one of the largest non-profit child and family service agency in the Carolinas, serving thousands of people annually through the following services.

- ◇ Adoption - regular and special needs
- ◇ Adult Residential Services
- ◇ Child and Youth Residential Services
- ◇ Disaster preparedness and response
- ◇ Family and individual counseling
- ◇ Foster care - family, therapeutic and medically fragile
- ◇ Homelessness prevention
- ◇ Refugee and resettlement and immigration
- ◇ Veterans services

Lutheran Services Carolinas works in partnership with congregations, governmental agencies and other human service providers to promote healing and wholeness for the Carolinas' most vulnerable people.

Please consider contributing a love offering to support Lutheran Services Carolinas so that they may continue their ministry and strengthen their outreach to people in need.

Thank you,

***The Social Ministry Committee***





## **ATTENTION ROOTS AND SPROUTS PARENTS**

Due to our current situation, all April youth meetings will be held online via Zoom at our normal meeting times (see schedule below). Mrs. Amy will send out the link via email for each meeting. Depending on what device your youth is using, he or she may need to download the Zoom app. Please email any questions to [amy@lutheranchapelchurch.org](mailto:amy@lutheranchapelchurch.org)

## **YOUTH SUNDAY**

Due to our current situation, the Youth will not be leading worship on Sunday, May 17th. We still hope to recognize our high school and college graduating seniors during the 10:30 worship service.

## **APRIL DATES TO REMEMBER**

***The Easter Egg Hunt scheduled for Sunday, April 5 is cancelled.***

### **Wednesday, April 1st**

⇒ Sprouts Youth Group via Zoom @ 6 pm

### **Sunday, April 5th**

⇒ Roots Youth Group and Sunday School via Zoom ~ 5-6 pm

### **Sunday, April 12th**

⇒ *HAPPY EASTER!*

### **Sunday, April 19th**

⇒ Roots Youth Group and Sunday School via Zoom ~ 5-6 pm

### **Wednesday, April 22**

⇒ Sprouts Youth Group via Zoom @ 6 pm

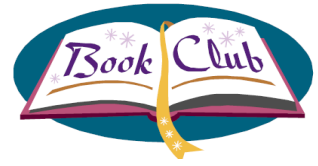
### **Sunday, April 26th**

⇒ Roots Youth Group and Sunday School via Zoom ~ 5-6 pm

**FROM SOCIAL MINISTRY** ~ During this difficult time, as we try to continue to meet the needs of each other and our community, ministries such as **Crisis Assistance Ministry** continue to help our neighbors in need of food. We have placed the blue CAM box under the drive through outside the office. If you are able, please continue to place non-perishable items in this box and it will be checked every couple days and delivered to Crisis Assistance Ministry. Some items in need are – pancake mix and syrup, cereal, canned fruits, meat, soup and vegetables (no green beans or corn), spaghetti and sauce, grits, oatmeal, rice, crackers and personal care items. We realize that shopping can be complicated at this time, however, if you are able to pick up (or order if you are having your groceries delivered) a few extra items to place in our donation box, it would be greatly appreciated as CAM struggles to meet the needs of those who do not have the money to grocery shop. Thank you so much!



## Women's Book Club



In the months of May and June we will study the life of Esther through two novels. The first biblical fiction novel, *Esther: Royal Beauty* by Angela Hunt, tells an enhanced biblical tale of the life of Esther. The second historical fiction novel, *For Such a Time* by Kate Breslin, recounts the story of Esther through a powerful retelling about the Holocaust. All women of the church are welcome. The schedule is below.

- ♦Thursday, April 23rd: Introduction to the book of Esther with Pastor Michael
- ♦Thursday, May 21st: Discussion of *Esther: Royal Beauty* by Angela Hunt
- ♦Thursday, June 18th: Discussion of *For Such a Time* by Kate Breslin

*Due to our current situation, the April meeting on Esther will be held **online via Zoom** on Thursday, April 23rd at 6 pm. Amy will send out the meeting link via email. Depending on what device you plan to use, you may need to download the Zoom app. Please confirm your participation in the women's book club by contacting Amy at [amy@lutheranchapelchurch.org](mailto:amy@lutheranchapelchurch.org) so she can email you the meeting link. Amy can also send you a video tutorial on how to use Zoom if needed.*

## Prayer Ministry Team Mission Statement

We are called by God through prayer and meditation to **SURRENDER** ourselves to God's wondrous Love, Power and Way of Life that we may live in His presence every day; **SEARCH** for guidance through The Living Word; **HUMBLE** ourselves to God's will for our church and the world, and **ASK** for the courage to boldly carry it out; **CONFESS** and **SEEK** forgiveness for our sins; and **GLORIFY** His name through daily praise and worship. The mission of the Prayer Ministry Team of Lutheran Chapel Church is to encourage and provide opportunities for our church and community to strengthen our prayer lives and grow spiritually that we may better seek God's will for our church and the world and glorify His name.

Our goal for this Ministry is that all would experience the power of the Holy Spirit working in our lives and fostering a more intimate relationship with God. We have been working since last fall to turn the old Scout Hut into our new Prayer Ministry cottage.

Would you join our Prayer Team in this mission as we work together to experience the power of prayer? The Prayer Team currently includes Katherine Carpenter, Ann Marie Lentz and Gail Brown.

*During this time of separation, please send prayer requests to Katherine Carpenter. Email, text or call anytime (please leave VM if no answer). [katherinecarpenter@yahoo.com](mailto:katherinecarpenter@yahoo.com) / 704-214-2493*

**James 5:16** *Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much.*





## **APRIL BIRTHDAYS**



Meredith Andrews.....	2
Hunter Clark .....	3
Robert Andrews .....	4
Amanda Angstadt.....	4
Ben Bryant .....	5
Chris Clark.....	5
Sue Beutler.....	8
Mary Stone.....	8
Seth Myers .....	9
Suzie Ward.....	9
Hunter Angstadt .....	10
Flay Anthony .....	10
Craig Behringer.....	10
Pauline Bradley .....	10
Zoe Bradley.....	11
Weslee Davis .....	11
Betty Little .....	11
Cathy Robinson.....	12
Richard Peak .....	13
Trish Ratchford .....	13
Jake Rhyne.....	13
Dan Lineberger .....	14
Elliott Anthony.....	16

Nancy Rankin.....	16
Gwen Lewis .....	18
Sara McArver Halfhill .....	19
Nancy Homovich.....	20
Isabella Mull .....	20
Kathy Finch.....	21
Laura Lilly .....	21
Vicki Stokes .....	21
Mark Thornburg .....	21
Pam Thornburg.....	21
Madison Potter .....	23
Adrian Thornburg.....	23
Ariel Burgoon .....	24
Heather Moretz Elkin .....	24
Jennifer Tamberella .....	24
Carolyn Lineberger.....	26
Rhonda Putnam .....	26
Kelly Stokes .....	26
Dana Bird.....	28
Beth Swindler.....	29

## **MARCH ANNIVERSARIES**

Chris & Ann Lowe.....	8
Crown & Kate Hoffman.....	22
Steve & Susan Jackson.....	27
Scott & Wendy Robinson.....	30



*If we missed your birthday or anniversary,  
please let the office know so that we can enter it  
into the database.*

## **PLEASE WRITE OR CALL OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS**

### **Betty Barkley**

1711 Fairfield Drive  
Gastonia, NC 28054

### **Jerry Carpenter**

Elmcroft  
500 Cramer Mountain  
D14  
Cramerton, NC 28032

### **Betty Petty**

811 Ashbrook Park Road  
Dallas, NC 28034

### **Betty Klimek**

Brookdale  
3050 Chesbrough Blvd.  
Rm 510  
Rock Hill, SC 29732

### **Helen McCarter**

ARP Manor  
2900 Union Road  
Apt. 114  
Gastonia, NC 28054



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

**Non Profit Organization**

US postage Paid  
Gastonia, NC  
Permit #232



# Chapel News

## APRIL 2020

Michael C. Comer, Pastor  
Amy Carpenter, Interim Director of Youth & Family Ministries

Church Office: 704-864-6491  
Preschool: 704-864-5136  
Email: [churchoffice@lutheranchapelchurch.org](mailto:churchoffice@lutheranchapelchurch.org)  
Website: [lutheranchapelchurch.org](http://lutheranchapelchurch.org)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/lccgastonia](http://www.facebook.com/lccgastonia)

**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.