



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

www.lutheranchapelchurch.org

AUGUST 2020

Ten Prayers that Changed the World

I am thankful for the ability to read. Thanks be to God for the capacity to read and for Mrs. Chumley, Mrs. Massey, and Mrs. Faulkner and others I can't even remember who helped me learn to read. So, I picked up a book for summertime reading entitled **Ten Prayers That Changed the World** by Jean-Pierre Isbouts. I have not finished it so it is entirely premature for me to recommend it (though I will note I got it at Ollie's for \$4 – hard to beat the price for a hardcover book) but I decided to at least share the title as an invitation for each of us to reflect. How has prayer changed your life? Are there certain prayers that have shaped the way you live?

The ten prayers listed in the book are from the Bible, Christian history, and one from Gandhi and the Hindu perspective. So, the list: Abraham's plea (Genesis 22), Jesus' prayer to Abba/Father (Matthew 6), the dream of the Roman Emperor Constantine, the revelations to Joan of Arc, the hymn of Martin Luther, President George Washington's prayer, the prayer of St. Francis, General Patton's prayer of Bastogne, Gandhi's prayer for peace, and Mother Theresa's daily prayer. Each person and event definitely changed the world! From the perspective of faith, over and over again in these prayers we see the hand of Providence moving to bring good out of bad and to accomplish His will in the ebb and flow of human history.

There are several prayers that have blessed me. I suspect you already know them but if not, they are worthy to consider in your prayer life and to contemplate.

Merciful Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what You have first given us – ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of Your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of Him who offered Himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lord God, You have called Your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that Your hand is leading us and Your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can and the wisdom to know the difference. Living one day at a time, enjoying one moment at a time, accepting hardship as a pathway to peace, taking, as Jesus did, this sinful world as it is, not as I would have it, trusting that You will make all things right, if I surrender to Your will, so that I may be reasonably happy in this life and supremely happy with You forever in the next. In the Name of Jesus our Lord.

Peace in Christ,
Pastor Michael



Guidelines for In-Person Worship

The Gathering

Main exterior entrance doors will be utilized and will be kept open during the service. Handicap entrance available on an as needed basis.

Hand sanitizer will be available in the narthex of the Sanctuary Sunday by Sunday.

Covid-19 warnings will be posted from the Center for Disease Control throughout the church campus.

Registry of attendance will be kept of all who gather with contact information for the purpose of contact tracing if someone infected unknowingly attends worship.

Printed bulletins will be distributed to pews (hymnals removed).

Social distancing seating will be marked on pews.

Ushers will assist with seating/dismissal.

Acolyte and Crucifer volunteer duties will not take place at this time.

Facemasks are required per state mandate. A group of volunteers made/distributed masks to members. If you are still in need of one, please contact the Pastor or the church office. Masks will also be on-hand for visitors.

Restrooms will be designated ONE PERSON at a time, with the exception of parents with children and disabled persons requiring assistance. Disinfectant spray will be available.

Disinfectant spray and paper towels will be available at the end of each pew. Please use this to wipe down pew seats, seat backs and kneelers.

Balcony closed for use by streaming team only.

On Singing the Service and Sacred Song

Subdued singing of the Service and sacred song is encouraged as singing has been shown to lead to the spread of COVID-19. Subdued singing includes use of the mask with singing while seated.

The Sharing of the Peace

Sharing of the peace will be **verbal** going forward between the presider and the gathered congregation.

The Offering

Tithes and offerings will be received in **the offering plates located in the Narthex** by our ushers at the end of the Service.

Administration of the Sacrament

The distribution of Holy Communion and an individual blessing for dismissal will be at the end of the Service. Receiving lines will not be held.

Presiding and assisting ministers handling communion will **publicly sanitize their hands** and wear **surgical gloves** to administer communion.

The congregation will be asked to have their hands open so that the bread can be **dropped** into their hands.

Waste baskets will be placed at the foot of both sides and at the bottom of the steps for disciples to discard their communion cups, thus keeping contamination out of the trays.

Exit the church immediately after receiving Holy Communion maintaining social distancing protocols.

Online Streaming Options

Lutheran Chapel will continue to stream the 10:30 worship service online and has multiple options for viewing:

- ⇒ Facebook Live
- ⇒ Lutheran Chapel YouTube Channel
- ⇒ lutheranchapelchurch.org

A pdf of the weekly bulletin is available on the church website and Facebook.



Lectors for August

(will also serve as Communion Assistants)

August 2 Ann Edwards

August 9 Josh Carpenter

August 16 Trish Ratchford

August 23 Brent Clark

August 30 Terry Ratchford



ALTAR FLOWERS FOR AUGUST

Aug. 2 ~ Given by Ron & Ann Behringer in honor of their 61st Anniversary.

Aug. 9 ~ Given by Steve & Ma Bell in honor of their 54th Anniversary.

Aug. 16 ~ Given by Pat Lindler in loving memory of Gary.

Aug. 23 ~ Given by Terry & Trish Ratchford in honor of their grandchildren, Alex & Olivia Berghello.

Aug. 30 ~ Given by Keith & Teresa Yarborough in honor of their 43rd Anniversary.



Cost of flowers is \$55.00.

Please be sure to note Altar Flowers on the memo line of your check.

Tithes and Offerings

Some church members have asked how they can send tithes and offerings to the church. Options include:

- ◇ Utilizing your offering envelope (or a regular envelope) to mail
- ◇ Dropping off in the locked mailbox at the educational building
- ◇ Giving on-line by going to our church website: lutheranchapelchurch.org, top right-hand corner "give" which is a link to Easy Tithe

Any questions or concerns, call our Treasurer, Ed Robinson.



HOLY COMMUNION AT HOME

It has been a long time since Holy Communion could be offered among some of us due to the on-going pandemic. It is now possible for anyone who would like to receive Holy Communion in their own home to do so.

If you or your family are interested in receiving Communion in your home, please contact Pastor Michael at 704-787-6439 to set up an agreeable time for him to visit.





Women
of the
**EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH
IN AMERICA**

Dear College Student Parents,

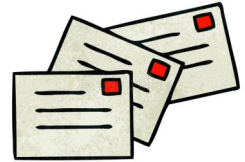
We know this is uncertain times but, the Women of the ELCA want to remember our college students with cards and treats during the year. As soon as you know your child's college address, please let the church office know. Even if your child's address has not changed, we would still like for you to give the address to the church office. We think this is an important ministry of our church and want to be sure all students are included.

Just another note, our circles send cards to our college students throughout the year and this is another reason the addresses are so important.

Thank you for your help.

Judy Anton & Suzie Ward

Co-Presidents of the Lutheran Chapel WELCA



FROM THE TREASURER...

Lutheran Chapel Income Statement Actual vs Budget for 6 months ended 6/30/2020:

	Actual	2020 Budget	Over/(Under)
Receipts	\$ 177,027.10	\$ 183,975.00	\$ (6,947.90)
Disbursements	\$ 155,027.63	\$ 178,595.50	\$ (23,567.87)
Net Cash	\$ 21,999.47	\$ 5,379.50	\$ 16,619.97



**Treasurer
Report**

Financial results have been quite positive over the last 6 months of FY 2020. Receipts as expected trended slightly downward for the month of June. Expectations of this trend will possibly continue for the next 2 months. Actual cash surplus over expenses for the year of \$21,999.47 should be considered a cushion to cover any shortfalls that may occur during the summer months.

If you have any questions, please call Ed Robinson.

From the Communications Committee...

Good News for Online Streaming!

The church council approved a recommendation from the communications committee for the purchase of high quality cameras and upgraded equipment to enhance our current streaming capabilities in the sanctuary. Funding for these purchases were made possible thanks to the generosity of the Mary Brown Robinson Memorial and the remaining funds from the church electronic sign initiative.

Thank you!





FROM THE MAILBOX...

Thank you so much for thinking of me. The graduation sign for my yard was the best! I truly appreciate everything, the gift card and painted rock.



Andrew Bell

Dear Lutheran Chapel Church,

Thank you so much for the \$25 Visa gift card! I look forward to using it for some of my college necessities. It will really help to get me on track and to make the transition a little easier. Also, thank you for helping me become the man I am today and the continuous support over the years.

Thanks again,

Mason Swindler

THANK YOU! I would like to extend a big thank you to all of the adults and youth that made the July workdays possible. I am very proud of what our Roots youth group was able to accomplish in those two days. Galatians 6:10 states, "So then, as we have the opportunity, let us do good to everyone and especially to those who are of the household of faith." - *Amy*



Roots Youth Group Service Project

The Roots Youth Group (middle and high school youth) is adopting the courtyard between the sanctuary and educational building. Starting in August, the youth group will be beautifying and maintaining this courtyard in honor of the Dirty Collar Workers and their years of dedication to our church. To kickoff this project, the Roots will be meeting on **Saturday, August 22nd from 10am-12pm** to trim bushes, weed-eat and spread mulch.

Roots and Sprouts

The church is continuing to monitor and review guidelines about when we can safely continue regularly scheduled youth activities for the fall. Parents, please continue to check your email for updates from Amy. If you are currently not receiving weekly emails from her, please contact her at amy@lutheranchapelchurch.org.

Blessing of the Backpacks

We will have the *Blessing of the Backpacks* on Sunday, **August 16th**. Amy will give a short presentation at the beginning of the church service. For any school age youth that is attending the service in the sanctuary, please bring your backpack to church. During the presentation, you will remain seated in your pew. For any school age youth that will be attending the service online, please have your backpack near you at your home.



Women's Fall Book Club

Amy would like to continue the women's book club in the fall. If you would like to be a part of this book club and feel comfortable meeting at the church picnic pavilion, please contact Amy at amy@lutheranchapelchurch.org. Once Amy gets a feel for how many are interested, she will decide whether to proceed with book club for the upcoming season.



AUGUST LOVE OFFERING -

Crisis Assistance Ministry

Our love offering for August will be for Crisis Assistance Ministry. This ministry would not be possible without the financial gifts, food donations, and volunteer hours that 43 congregations in our county provide. The participation of our congregation is essential to ensure that CAM has an adequate food supply and enough money to meet the requests for assistance that they receive each month. CAM feeds in excess of 400 people and gives approximately \$18,000 in financial assistance per month, and needs a minimum of 14 volunteers daily to adequately process requests for assistance.

It is vital to our community of neighbors that suffer under the burden of poverty and for those in financial crisis that we continue to support this ministry. CAM is continually tweaking their programs to improve the way that the needs of our community are met. The fact that CAM is very successful in meeting the needs of families and individuals is the very reason we need to continue to support them.

Please prayerfully consider your donation and help CAM to meet the essential life needs of food, rent/mortgage, utilities, and prescription medicines of people in need. Our congregation is always very generous each month to our love offerings and we appreciate the support and love that you give to ministries as they work to stop the suffering of our neighbors.

Also, if you are able to give the gift of time, CAM has many volunteer opportunities. You can call 704-867-6076.

Thank you!

The Social Ministry Committee



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 / 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.*



AUGUST CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

Ann Behringer	2
Kimberly Bell.....	2
Chris Angstadt.....	5
Rachel Carpenter	5
Drusilla Huffstickler.....	5
Steve Bell	7
Janie Peak.....	7
Susan Cooper-Cox	8
Jim Sloop.....	9
Olivia Berghello	10
Thomas Beutler	15
Jerry Carpenter	17
Steve Jackson	19
Carlton Peacock	19
Emily Carpenter	21
Ginny Comer	22
Jason Sanders	22
Charles "Four" Heilig	27
Lucinda Thornburg.....	27
Baker Sanders.....	30
Faye Ann Boyette.....	31
Barbara Robinson.....	31

anniversaries

Ron & Ann Behringer.....	1
Cody & Erin Huffstetler	3
David & Susan Lewis	7
Ed & Cathy Robinson	12
Steve & Ma Bell	15



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

Jerry Carpenter

Elmcroft
500 Cramer Mountain, D14
Cramerton, NC 28032

Helen Hoffman

Terrace Ridge
1251 E. Hudson Blvd., #403
Gastonia, NC 28054

Betty Klimek

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

Helen McCarter

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

Betty Petty

811 Ashbrook Park Road
Dallas, NC 28034

Lutheran Chapel Church
702 N. New Hope Road
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Michael C. Comer, Pastor
Amy Carpenter, Director of Youth & Family Ministries

Church Office: 704-864-6491
Preschool: 704-864-5136
Email: churchoffice@lutheranchapelchurch.org
Website: lutheranchapelchurch.org
Facebook: 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.