



Chapel News

A Publication of Lutheran Chapel Church

702 N. New Hope Road

Gastonia, NC 28054

Pastor Michael C. Comer

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www.lutheranchapelchurch.org

AUGUST 2021

Sunday School: Some Gifts as an Adult Disciple

Bible study and small group fellowship = Sunday School! This has been missing among us during the days of the covid-19 pandemic and the plan is to restart this crucial ministry for all ages. Last month I shared some gifts from my youth and here are some gifts I've gotten from Bible study as an adult disciple of Jesus Christ.

Make me to know Your ways, O LORD; teach me Your paths. Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation; for You I wait all day long. (Psalm 25:4-5)

I studied this and began praying this Psalm regularly as I went through Clinical Pastoral Education at Broad River Correctional Institute. Here I realized I need God to **make me and teach me** directly. The self-improvement books, my pitifully weak will, my short-sighted resolutions for action just cannot do it. I need God to make me and He has and He has guided me and He continues to do this as I turn to Him over and over again. To this day may God make me follow His way and may I wait for Him!

My God, my God, why have You forsaken me? (Mark 15:33)

During Lent at Christus Victor Lutheran Church in Columbia, my teacher Dr. Sigel taught on the passion story in St. Mark. God made known to us in suffering and death. The words of Psalms on the lips of our Lord Jesus at His death for me, for us. Jesus went through this for me, for us? I have felt forsaken at times. But our Lord knows my heart and my hurt so I learned how to vent, to cry out, and to take my hurt to His Cross confession by confession, Sunday by Sunday. There are many things I can only share fully with Jesus.

There is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it...For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains. (1 Timothy 6:6-7, 10)

While preparing to teach on the missionary journeys of Paul at Ebenezer Lutheran Church in China Grove, I ran across the gift and opportunity of contentment. The rich person desires nothing is what St. John Chrysostom counseled on this verse. So, it is in the desire. When content with who we are and what we have there are the true riches for all who abide in Christ.

The borrower is the slave of the lender. (Proverbs 22:7)

This verse came to my attention from the Financial Peace class that has been offered from time to time here at Lutheran Chapel. Essentially this class goes through the book of Proverbs and hits on a number of areas connecting personal finances and biblical counsel. The debt problem is immense and, reflecting on the matter, this is one of the

Continued on next page ➔

major causes of divorce, failed businesses, distress, and mess for so many. As a nation, both under Democratic and Republican leaders, we continue to amass trillions of dollars in debt. Here is wisdom and a warning – get out of debt, stay out of debt and build strong.

Please consider coming to the Sunday School restart on Sunday, **September 12** at 9:30. This is an invitation to all adults both those who have been involved in the past and those for whom regular Bible study may be brand new. Come receive the gift of God's Word and fellowship!

Peace in Christ,
Pastor Michael



Lectors for August

(will also serve as Communion Assistants)

August 1 Josh Carpenter

August 8 Norman Overcash

August 15 Pam Overcash

August 22 Crown Hoffman

August 29 Lucinda Thornburg



ALTAR FLOWERS **AUGUST**

Aug. 1 ~ Given by Ron & Ann Behringer in honor of their 62nd Anniversary.

Aug. 8 ~ Given by Steve & Ma Bell in honor of their 56th Anniversary.

Aug. 15 ~ Given by Pat Lindler in memory of Gary.

Aug. 22 ~ Given by Terry & Trish Ratchford in honor of their grandchildren, Alex & Olivia Berghello.

Aug. 29 ~ Given by Keith & Teresa Yarborough in honor of their 44th Anniversary.



Cost of flowers is \$55.00.

Please be sure to note your payment is for Altar Flowers.

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.



Come Worship with Us

Hymn Sing & Ice Cream Social

Saturday, August 21 @ 6:00pm

Family Life Center

*Sponsored by
the Worship & Music Committee*

A hot dog supper will be provided.

Contact Debra Hoffman if you plan to attend.

We hope you'll join us!



LUTHERAN CHAPEL COUNCIL MINUTES

JULY 11, 2021

The Council made decisions and discussed the following:

- Council approved the purchase of new Sunday School material for the youth, covering the Fall, Winter and Spring quarters (Summer not included).
- Council authorized James Dean to work an additional 5 hours/week, at least through “growing” season in order to maintain the grounds.
- Committee is looking into a possible Chapel renovation. Lighting company is visiting at a date TBD to provide suggestions to meet our needs. Ultimately, the committee will present options to Council for consideration regarding renovation.
- Council approved paying \$7941.00 for a new AC unit in the kitchen via GSM. Purchase includes a 5-year total parts and labor warranty.
- Remaining COVID-19 protocols will go away on Sept. 12, including choir processional/recessional, return of acolytes/crucifers, offering, communion, etc.
- Luther Choir will start rehearsing on Sunday Mornings beginning in September before Sunday School.
- Worship & Music Committee is sponsoring an ice cream social/hymn sing on Saturday, Aug. 21 in the Family Life Center.
- Church Council will sponsor a Wednesday night speaker dinner sometime in October for all church members. Date TBD.

The next Council meeting will be held in Sept. 12.

FROM THE TREASURER...

Lutheran Chapel Income Statement Actual vs Budget for 6 months ended 06/30/2021:

	Actual	2021 Budget	Over/(Under)
Receipts	\$ 166,292.00	\$ 183,975.00	\$ (17,683.00)
Disbursements	\$ 157,573.00	\$ 180,338.00	\$ (22,765.00)
Net Cash	\$ 8,719.00	\$ 3,637.00	\$ 5,082.00



**Treasurer
Report**

Actual cash and contributions decreased slightly in the month of June. These decreases are a reflection of the summer months normal financial activity. Due to slightly lower attendance in June, contributions and deficits in excess cash are seen. These trends tend to run through August and sometimes into the beginning of September however, financial activities typically return to their normal levels in September-October time frame. The Finance Committee will continue to observe month to month results.

We have been truly blessed at Lutheran Chapel for the faithfulness of our church family and their gifts to our church.

If you have any questions, please call Ed Robinson.

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 48 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. CAM feeds 330 families each month and gives financial assistance to families in need. During the past year of the pandemic, our church family has continued to generously give bags of food to CAM. Last year we delivered 1,051 bags of food and they have been so grateful for our contributions because they have not received as much support during this time. Thank you to all who have placed food in our food collection box outside the office door. Social Ministry Committee will continue to deliver to CAM as donations are given.

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.

Thank you!

Social Ministry Committee



Annual Christmas Choir Retreat at Lutheran Chapel



Please join us...

Friday, September 17, 7PM to 10PM

Saturday, September 18, 10AM to 2PM

Supper will be provided Friday evening at 6PM



A Psalm for giving thanks.

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! Serve the Lord with gladness!

Come into his presence with singing! -Psalm 100:1-2

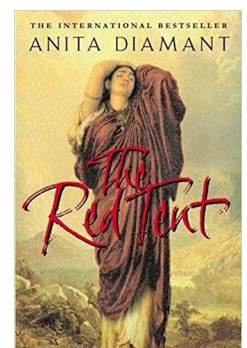
Women's Book Club

October 14 ~ 6pm

Our Women's Book Club will meet again on Thursday, October 14 at 6pm in the Chapel.

We will be discussing *The Red Tent* by Anita Diamant.

Please let Amy know if you plan to attend so she can send you the discussion questions.





NOTE: If you are not receiving Amy's emails, please contact her at amy@lutheranchapelchurch.org.

Blessing of the Backpacks

We will have the Blessing of the Backpacks on Sunday, August 22nd. 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 home.



ROOTS Pool Party



Members of the Roots youth group (grades 6-12) are invited to a pool party at the home of Scott and Wendy Robinson on Saturday, **August 28th** at 4 pm. Amy will share more details in the Roots weekly emails.

SPROUTS Youth Group

The Sprouts Youth Group will have their first in-person meeting of the church year on Wednesday, **September 1st from 6-7 pm**. Parents will drop their Sprout youth off in the Fellowship Hall. Dinner will be provided.

Youth Sunday School

In-person Sunday School will begin for *both* the Roots and the Sprouts on Sunday, **September 12th**. Youth parents, please continue to check your inbox for additional information that Amy will share in the coming weeks.



Girls' Night Out **August 10 ~ 5:00 pm**

Women of the church, please join Amy for dinner and fellowship at Terra Mia in McAdenville at 5:00 pm on Tuesday, August 10.

Please let her know if you are able to come by Friday, August 6.

Hope to see you there!



OWLS **August 5 ~ 6:00 pm**

Please join Amy & Josh for dinner and fellowship at *Pita Wheel* in downtown Gastonia on Thursday, August 5 at 6 pm.

Please let Amy know if you are able to attend by Monday, August 2.



ATTENTION LADIES!

The Circles of Lutheran Chapel are sponsoring a special dinner for all women of the church. As we work to get our Circles active again, please join us in the **Fellowship Hall** on **Monday, September 13 at 6 PM** for dinner.

The dress for this occasion will be black, white and a splash of red. Please be creative in choosing your outfit. Wear your flashy shoes, most beautiful white and black clothing and don't forget your splash of red. Prizes will be given for most colorful, best outfit etc.

We look forward to sharing food, fun, and fellowship. The Executive Committee of the WELCA will prepare and serve the food.

WELCA Executive Board:

Judy Anton & Suzie Ward, Co-Presidents
Trish Ratchford, Vice President
Cathy Robinson, Treasurer
Janie Peak, Secretary



Please RSVP to Judy Anton 704-867-1309 (H) or Janie Peak 704-460-2064 (C) by Saturday, September 11.

The Lutheran Chapel Fellowship is invited to a...

Summer Picnic, Ice Cream Social, and Vesper Service

August 29th at Baker's Buffalo Creek Winery

Sponsored by Lutheran Men in Mission

We will hold the annual Lutheran Men in Mission Annual Family Picnic and Vesper Service at Baker's Buffalo Creek Winery on Sunday, August 29th.

You may arrive any time after 5:00pm.

The Tasting Room will be open and we will have hot dogs and the fixings with Knob Creek ice cream being served about 5:30pm.

Pastor Christina Auch will lead our Vesper Service in the Chapel area overlooking the South Mountains and the fields of the Baker farm at 6:30pm.

This is a family event. We will have corn hole boards and some children's games planned before the Vesper Service.

Charles and Ann Edwards will provide the wine from Baker's for our communion.

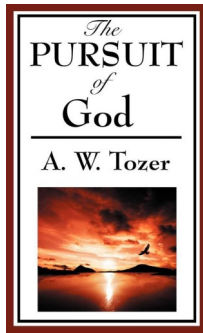
We hope you will join us!

If you plan to attend, please contact the church office (phone or email) by August 22 with your name and number of people in your group attending. We will forward this information to the organizers.

A NEW BOOK STUDY

The Pursuit of God by A. W. Tozer

The Prayer team would like to sponsor a Bible Study beginning in the Fall using the book "The Pursuit of God" from A.W. Tozer. Please see below for a brief description:



The Pursuit of God is the enduring Christian classic written by renowned pastor and theologian A.W. Tozer. More than 65 years later, the words Tozer penned on a train from Illinois to Texas echo across the decades to resonate with power in the heart of anyone longing for a deeper experience with God. This devotional masterpiece is at once thought-provoking and spirit-enlivening, an invitation to think deeply about your faith even as you come alive to God's presence surrounding, sustaining and--yes--pursuing you. "This book is a modest attempt," Tozer wrote, "to aid God's hungry children so to find Him." If you are hungry, *The Pursuit of God* will lead you to the only One who can satisfy the soul.

Based on your schedule and availability, we could meet Wednesdays or Thursdays , daytime, nighttime or if there is enough interest, both. Please contact me and let me know your thoughts or if you have any questions.

We look forward to spending time together in God's word and growing in His knowledge.

In Christ,

Katherine Carpenter,

Lutheran Chapel Prayer Team

katherinecarpenter@yahoo.com / 704-214-2493

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.*



Healthy Lifestyle Community

Being Healthy. Many of us spend our lives on the quest to be the healthiest version of our selves. Others of us have no idea (or interest) in being healthy. And then there are those of us in the middle who have great intentions...and not so great execution.

Genesis 1:27 proclaims: "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created them, male and female he created them." 1 Corinthians 6:19 continues to state that: "Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own."

In the book of Daniel, the Israelite exiles refused to eat the rich (and forbidden) food of their captives in Babylon. They do this for a number of reasons, and most specifically because they did not want to defile themselves or their traditions.

As we can see, the Bible is full of examples that make it clear that our bodies are very important. What we do with our bodies and how we choose to take care of them is important as well. Obviously, we get only one body while in this world! Would it not be in our best interest to do all that we can to take care of our bodies to the best of our abilities?

Being healthy isn't a simple task. In fact, it is almost impossible! We are each surrounded by mis-information, temptations, social pressures and opinions, government expectations, and most of all, our own sinful nature. We (all of us) need help.

Having witnessed the COVID-19 pandemic, we can all surely agree, the time is now to work on our health. Throughout the pandemic (as well as before and after), people who choose a healthier lifestyle often fared much better than those who were already in a battle with other diseases, lifestyle choices, and health issues.

In order to assist in meeting this massive challenge, Lutheran Chapel is forming a "*Healthy Lifestyle Community*." The vision for this community is to help guide the physical health of our congregation in a constructive direction. As a community focused on healthy living and educated healthy decisions, we can hope, with God's guidance, to improve the health of our congregation and our surrounding community.

Our first challenges will be our biggest. Pastor Comer has asked me to lead the vision on this task and I am here today to ask for your help, assistance, and guidance. If you would like to be part of the "Healthy Living Community" at Lutheran Chapel and contribute in any way, please reach out to me at drcrowndc@gmail.com or 704.689.8623.

There will be a covered dish or meal sometime in the near future. I think that this would be a great opportunity for each of us to showcase a healthy (but awesome and satisfying) recipe that we love. I think we will all be surprised at how wonderful this event could be.

Ralph Keeney of Duke University in a 2008 paper titled, "Personal Decisions Are the Leading Cause of Death," stated that more effort directed toward improving personal choices regarding life risks may be an effective and economical way to save lives.

We are called to act.

- Dr. Crown Hoffman



FROM THE MAILBOX...

To my Lutheran Chapel Family,

Thank you from the bottom of my heart. The amount of support the church has given over the years is something I don't think I could ever repay. Thank you to the church and all who have helped along this voyage.

Sincerely,

Ryan Thornburg



ROOTS CAR WASH FUNDRAISER

Thank you to everyone who supported the Roots Car Wash Fundraiser last month.

We raised \$1,333 for the Backpack Ministry!

Here are some pictures from the day...



Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

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 KEEP IN TOUCH WITH OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Jerry Carpenter
Peak Resources
2780 X-Ray Dr., #302
Gastonia, NC 28054

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





Betty Klimek
Park Pointe Village
3025 Chesbrough Blvd.
Rm 510
Rock Hill, SC 29732

Betty Petty
811 Ashbrook Park Road
Dallas, NC 28034

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

Dru Huffstickler
Morningside
2755 Union Rd., Apt. 200
Gastonia, NC 28054

August 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:30 Early Worship 9:30 Sunday School (C) 10:30 Worship 6:00 Chancel Choir 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	2	3 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday	4 8:30 Preschool	5 8:30 Preschool — End of Summer Session 6:00 OWLS	6	7
8 8:30 Early Worship 9:30 Sunday School (C) 10:30 Worship 12:00 Private Event (FLC) 6:00 Chancel Choir 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	9	10 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday 5:00 Girls' Night Out	11	12 6:00 OWLS	13	14
15 8:30 Early Worship 9:30 Sunday School (C) 10:30 Worship 6:00 Chancel Choir 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	16	17 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday	18	19 6:00 Preschool — Open House Newsletter Articles Due	20	21 1:00 Via de Cristo 6:00 Hymn Sing (FLC) 
22 8:30 Early Worship 9:30 Sunday School (C) 10:30 Worship <i>Blessing of Backpacks</i> 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	23 8:30 Preschool — Fall Session Starts 	24 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday	25 8:30 Preschool	26 8:30 Preschool 5:00 Girls' Night Out	27	28 4:00 Roots Pool Party 
29 8:30 Early Worship 9:30 Sunday School (C) 10:30 Worship 6:00 Chancel Choir 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	30 8:30 Preschool	31 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday				

Lutheran Chapel Church
702 N. New Hope Road
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AUGUST 2021

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.