



Chapel News

A Publication of Lutheran Chapel Church

702 N. New Hope Road

Gastonia, NC 28054

Pastor Michael C. Comer

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FEBRUARY 2022

From the Pastor...

Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord, present in Thy holy Word; grace to imitate Thee now and be pure, as pure art Thou; that we might become like Thee at Thy great epiphany, and may praise Thee ever blest, God in flesh made manifest (*Songs of Thankfulness and Praise*, text by Christopher Wordsworth, music arranged by Johann Sebastian Bach).

Epiphany, the manifestation of the Light of Christ, invites us to contemplate God in flesh made manifest. From the Gospels, stories of healing, teaching, and deeds of power both point us to Jesus as Lord and to the basic needs of our human condition. These stories will be used by the Holy Spirit to speak into the stories of our lives, our journey both individually and as a community. Wholeness, illumination, and the power of God – the epiphanies of our Lord Jesus continue now and will lead to forever.

After receiving the worship surveys from December, there are several things to share as we go through this Epiphany season:

First, over ninety plus respondents said they will support the 10:00 Service “big church” time on Sundays. It is earlier for some of us, it is later for some of us but may it find a place as a weekly good habit to come together for worship. About forty plus respondents said they will support in-person Sunday School/Bible Study. A number of us continue to pray on-line and that is here to stay as some good fruit for the on-going mission despite the bad mess of the pandemic. As 2022 unfolds, the hope is that we will reconnect, renew our gatherings, and that Lutheran Church will grow closer together with our Father in Heaven and with one another after navigating a historic time of covid mess.

Second, there is interest to continue a “little church” opportunity among us. About thirty of us indicated support for a Wednesday Service at 7:00 so this will begin on Wednesday, February 2 in the Memorial Chapel. To offer a weekly Holy Communion among us, this Service will alternate as a Simple Holy Communion when that is not offered at “big church” on Sunday and a Simple Evening Prayer otherwise. What is a simple Service? It is simple, straight forward, and a bit more informal than “big church” – here there will be more opportunity to focus on thanksgiving, lament, dialogue around God’s Word, and prayers together. Come and see!



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Third, there is substantial support for “home church” and such practices are crucial to a living faith. Resources like **Our Daily Bread** are well received with thirty-seven respondents as well as fifteen for the Psalms. A clear majority like the current bulletin format as a tool for daily prayer (re: Bible in a Year readings, church prayer list) and appreciate how it helps guide through the Service with forty respondents.

Well, that summarizes the report as such. May our Father in Heaven open our eyes to His epiphanies all around us and may we grow closer to Him and one another by these worship opportunities in 2022.

Peace in Christ,
Pastor Michael



Worship Assistants

**Lectors will also serve as Communion Assistants*



	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Acolyte</u>	<u>Crucifer</u>
Feb. 6	Ken Obenauf	Hunter Clark	Lillian Robinson
Feb. 13	Ann Edwards	Jordan Hoffman	Bram Comer
Feb. 20	Josh Carpenter	Renwick Royston	Olivia Berghello
Feb. 27	Sylvia Fogle	Cameron Bell	Bram Comer

New Worship Schedule

Sundays

9:00 am ~ Sunday School/Bible Study

10:00 am ~ Worship in Sanctuary

We will continue to stream the Sunday Worship Service on Facebook, YouTube and our website, lutheranchapelchurch.org

Wednesdays

7:00 pm ~ Memorial Chapel

Simple Holy Communion/Evening Prayer



Come Worship with Us

ALTAR FLOWERS

FEBRUARY

Feb. 6 ~ In memory of Martin & Jackie Stamm.

Feb. 13 ~ Given by Buddy Carothers in memory of Phyllis M. Carothers.

Feb. 20 ~ Given by Steve & Debbie Laws.

Feb. 27 ~ Given by Sylvia Fogle.



Cost of flowers is \$55.00.
 Please be sure to note your payment is for Altar Flowers.

HOLY COMMUNION AT HOME



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.

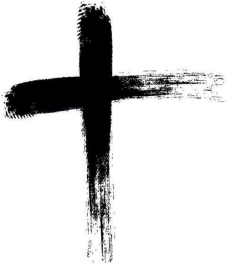
*We love because he
first loved us.*

~1 John 4:19



Worship & Music Committee Meeting

Thursday, February 24 at 6pm - Conference Room



ASH WEDNESDAY ~ March 2

7:00 pm Worship Service (Memorial Chapel)

Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion

During the Lenten Season, the Wednesday Evening Services will use the Holden Evening Prayer and focus on the parables of our Lord according to the Gospel of St. Luke.

LUTHERAN CHAPEL COUNCIL MINUTES

January 9, 2022

The Council made decisions and discussed the following at the January 9 meeting:

- The 2021 Financial Report was discussed and it was noted that November and December receipts were higher than average.
- Based on survey results, Council voted to approve a weekly Wednesday evening Simple Holy Communion/Evening Prayer service to be held at 7pm in the Chapel.
- Revisited the topic of bathroom needs for the Sanctuary. The committee that previously looked into it will look at other options.
- Council agreed to continue meeting every other month with the Executive Council meeting monthly.
- Council was asked to provide names of respective Committee Chairs and members by mid-February for the Yearbook.
- Council voted to keep security on campus on Sunday mornings and discussed the possibility of having security present at other church functions. Will discuss as needed.
- Volunteers have come forward to oversee OWLS.
- Council agreed that youth activities need to resume as soon as possible. Discussion was held on how to get more youth involved and the possibility of youth parents taking over the planning/meetings. Phone calls to parents of youth members that are not active will be made.
- The issue of decreasing attendance at Sunday worship was discussed. Council members agreed to "cold call" non-active members.

The next scheduled council meeting will be held March 13.

FROM THE TREASURER...

Lutheran Chapel Income Statement Actual vs Budget for 12 months ended 12/31/2021:

	Actual	2021 Budget	Over/(Under)
Receipts	\$ 361,953.00	\$ 367,950.00	\$ (5,997.00)
Disbursements	\$ 321,940.00	\$ 360,676.00	\$ (38,736.00)
Net Cash	\$ 40,013.00	\$ 7,274.00	\$ 32,739.00



**Treasurer
Report**

Actual receipts for the month of December exceeded budgeted projections by \$14,000. Actual receipts for the full FY 2021 exceeded all expectations and as a result the year end cash position finished with excess cash of \$40,013 after all expenses were paid.

After consideration of the above, it should be noted that our programs were not operating at capacity during 2021. This is primarily due to the COVID virus, which is still active in our community. Full activities during the year would have had an impact on the excess cash due to activity expense.

The financial support the Church has received from the congregation over the last couple of years has been a true blessing. This support has left the Church in a strong positive position to support all activities and programs that will be offered as we move forward in the new year.

If you have any questions, please call Ed Robinson at 704-860-1895.

Christian Summer Camps and Scholarship

Now is the time for all children and youth to consider the opportunity of Christian summer camps!

- ⇒ Go to **novusway.org** to explore options at Lutheridge (Arden, NC), Lutherock (Newland, NC), Luther Springs (Hawthorne, FL), and Lutheranch (Tallapoosa, GA).
- ⇒ Go to **agapekurebeach.org** for options at Camp Agape located in Fuquay-Varina, NC and Kure Beach, NC.

Camp options range from Saddle and Paddle to Model Rockets! All these camps have the common purpose of bringing children and youth closer to our Lord Jesus Christ and fun in the good creation.

Take advantage of the “early bird registration” and enroll by April 1 for \$40 off the registration fee. Through gifts given to Lutheran Chapel, scholarships are available for \$200 to further help all who want to attend.

Please contact the church office by email or phone or call/text Pastor Michael at 704-787-6439 with any questions.



Winter Clothing Giveaway

Saturday, February 12 ~ 11am to 1pm

The *Outreach Committee* will be hosting an outdoor Winter Clothing Giveaway on **Saturday, February 12** and could use your help! Many hands make light work for setting up and breaking down.

Please note that more winter clothes are needed! Clean out your closets and drop off donations in the porch of the parsonage at any time leading up to the event.

Drinks and snacks will be available for volunteers. Questions?
Contact Debora Jamison at 704-534-1390.



LUTHERAN CHAPEL CHURCH MEN'S GROUP

SPRING PINE NEEDLE SALE UPDATE

The men of the church have sponsored an annual Pine Needle Sale for over 20 years. We would like to continue this ministry for our church if we can determine if there is enough man-power to support the project. In the last few years, some in our work force have begun to age and now find it difficult to continue to work at the same intensity. Therefore, we are asking the congregation to prayerfully consider if you could help in some capacity whether it be loading/unloading trailers or offering use of your truck and/or trailer. The dates would be the mornings of Saturday, March 5th and Saturday, March 12th.

Please contact Fred Ward (cfrederickward@gmail.com / 704-813-6762) if you would like to volunteer or if you have any questions. We would like to make a decision as soon as possible. Thank you for your consideration!

2022 YEARBOOK

Attention Committee Leaders: Please contact your Council Representative to update information and membership on each committee. This is towards getting a 2022 Church Yearbook in good order.

The following is a list of committees and Council Representatives:

Christian Ed – Crown Hoffman

Communication – Matt Hoffman

Endowment – Ed Robinson

Evangelism/Outreach – Adrian Thornburg

Stewardship in Mission – Dan Lineberger

Memorial – Ed Robinson

Pre School – Rick Peak

Property – Mark Thornburg

Security – Keith Yarborough

Social Ministry – Steve Laws

Worship and Music – Mark McCauley

Youth & Family Ministries – Tammy Royston

FEBRUARY LOVE OFFERING

With Friends, Inc. - Youth Crisis Shelter

February's love offering will be sent to With Friends, Inc. – Youth Crisis Shelter. With Friends is a not-for-profit, comprehensive, community-based youth serving organization. A team of trained staff is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to assist youth and their families. Their mission is to make a positive difference in the lives of young people ages 7 – 21, who are homeless, in crisis, or at risk. With Friends provides emergency shelter, transitional housing, counseling, outreach services, skill building, spiritual enrichment, recreation, follow-up and referral services – all working to promote family involvement and working to reunite and strengthen families. The shelter has proven to be effective in preventing youth from ever entering the foster care system and juvenile justice system. Free services are available for youth in Gaston County as well as surrounding counties. Thanks to caring contributions, the shelter is able to provide services to many youth each year. Their dedicated and committed staff needs our help to continue to serve our troubled youth. We appreciate your help and donations to this organization.

Thank you,

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.

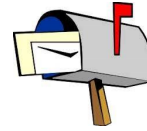
Would you join our Prayer Team in this mission as we work together to experience the power of prayer? The Prayer Team currently includes Katherine Carpenter, Ann Marie Lentz and Gail Brown.

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.*



FROM THE MAILBOX...



Dear Lutheran Chapel,

Thank you all who sent cards and the altar flowers to Mama at Terrace Ridge. She would show us all of the cards that you sent. Mama loved the attention that was given her. Thank you for being a caring and kind church family.

The Hoffman Family

Thank you for the gift from the congregation, for cards, for good food, and so many blessings over the Christmas season 2021. It is an honor to serve our Lord Jesus together in this time and place. May He guide us and strengthen us for His mission in 2022.

Peace in Christ,

Pastor Michael



Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for the generous gift and for thinking of me during this holiday season. Josh and I love our church family and hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and New Year and are able to spend it with the ones you hold most dear.

Love, *Amy*

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for remembering me this Christmas with your generous gift. May God's blessings be with each of you in the New Year.

Make a joyful noise,

Lisa



Dear congregational family.

We would love to thank you for your generous bonus given to us at Christmas. We appreciate your thoughtfulness and kindness shown to us at Christmas and throughout the year.

Soli Deo Gloria,

Roger and Jeanette

Dear Church Family,

Thank you all so much for your most generous Christmas gift. I appreciate it so much. The past year has been a challenge and I so appreciate all the prayers and support that you've given to the Preschool and staff. Continue to lift us up in prayer in the upcoming year. Thank you again for your thoughtfulness.

Love in Christ,

Ms. Janet



Dear Lutheran Chapel,

Thank you so much for the generous monetary gift as well as the other gifts received this Christmas season. I am truly grateful for the warmth and kindness you all consistently show me. Best wishes for a Happy New Year filled with peace and good health.

Fondly, **Kim Rundzieher**

FEBRUARY CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

Corbin Brown	1
Wendy Robinson.....	1
Rachel Anthony	2
Brinkley Finch	2
Jeff Stokes.....	5
Jessica Thornburg	5
Jason Lineberger	8
Mary Scott Robinson	9
Kay Robinson	10
Ron Behringer.....	11
David Mull	11
Frances Ford	13
James Hovis	13
Alexander Goedl	15
Wes Beam	17
Elyse Hoffman	22
Lynda Ellington	23
Vickie Beam	24
Katherine Heilig.....	26
Henry Hoffman	28

annIVERSARIES

Drew & Katie Carpenter	12
Ray, Jr. & Charlotte Jenkins.....	13
Robert & Kelly Andrews	17
Bob & Jenny Williamson.....	27
Wes & Vickie Beam	29



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



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

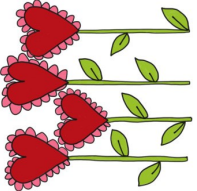

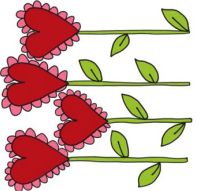
Dru Huffstickler
Morningside
2755 Union Rd., Apt. 200
Gastonia, NC 28054



H A P P Y
Valentine's Day



February 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday	2 8:30 Preschool 5:45 Handbell Choir 7:00 Evening Service (CH)	3 8:30 Preschool	4	5
6 9:00 Luther Choir 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 5:00 Crossroads 6:00 Chancel Choir 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	7 8:30 Preschool	8 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday 10:00 Four Seasons Garden Club (FH)	9 8:30 Preschool 5:45 Handbell Choir 7:00 Evening Service (CH)	10 8:30 Preschool	11	12 11:00 Clothing Closet Giveaway
13 9:00 Luther Choir 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 6:00 Chancel Choir 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	14 8:30 Preschool 	15 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday	16 8:30 Preschool 5:45 Handbell Choir 7:00 Evening Service (CH)	17 8:30 Preschool <i>Newsletter Articles Due!</i>	18	19
20 9:00 Luther Choir 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:00 Confirmation (FLC) 5:00 Crossroads 6:00 Chancel Choir 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	21 8:30 Preschool	22 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday	23 8:30 Preschool 5:45 Handbell Choir 7:00 Evening Service (CH)	24 8:30 Preschool 6:00 Worship & Music Mtg. (CR)	25	26
27 9:00 Luther Choir 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 6:00 Chancel Choir 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	28 8:30 Preschool		<div style="border: 2px dashed black; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> March 2 - Ash Wednesday </div>			

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702 N. New Hope Road
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Michael C. Comer, Pastor

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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.