



Chapel News

A Publication of Lutheran Chapel Church

702 N. New Hope Road

Gastonia, NC 28054

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SEPTEMBER 2023

From the Pastor...

I am thankful for all who participated in the visioning and action plan process in August. The fruit of this corporate discernment together will guide us going forward.

The Gospel of Matthew has a call to action for all of followers of Jesus too. This is the Gospel lesson Sunday by Sunday from the Revised Common Lectionary for 2023.

Consider the call in the verses below from our Lord Jesus. What a challenge! What an opportunity! Because Jesus loves us and empowers us therefore let us act.

The Great Commission to Invite all to Jesus

Go into all nations (Matthew 28:11).

The Great Commandment

Love the Lord your God. Love your neighbor. Love yourself (Matthew 22:37-40).

The Parable of the Last Judgment

Feed the hungry (Matthew 25:35).

Give drink (Matthew 25:35).

Clothe the naked (Matthew 25:36).

Shelter the homeless (Matthew 25:36).

Visit the sick (Matthew 25:36).

Visit the imprisoned (Matthew 25:36).

Bury the dead (Matthew 27:57-61 example, re: Tobit 1:17-19).

Sometimes I do well. Sometimes I really don't. Sometimes I just can't do enough. Nevertheless, I am forgiven, loved, and empowered by Jesus. He promises: I AM with you always to the end of the age (Matthew 28:20). As His church in this time and place, let us live by His Word and persevere in the right way.

Peace in Christ,
Pastor Michael





Worship Assistants ~ September



| | September 3 | September 10 Rally Day | September 17 | September 24 |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Acolyte | Jordan Hoffman | Bryson Lineberger | Elena Hoffman | Hunter Clark |
| Crucifer | Bram Comer | Olivia Berghello | Ethan Lineberger | Will Clark |
| Assistant Minister | Nancy Witman | | Sylvia Fogle | |
| Lector | Katherine Sanders | Jenny Williamson | Amy Brown | Trish Ratchford |
| First Aid/ AED/CPR | Peery Linkous | Gene Weaver | Matt Hoffman | Steve Clark |

Council Members of the Month: Dan Lineberger & Gene Weaver

**** If you have a conflict on your scheduled Sunday, please find a replacement and contact the church office. ****

SEPTEMBER ALTAR FLOWERS

Sept. 3 ~ Given by Henry & Debra Hoffman in honor of their 49th anniversary.

Sept. 10 ~ Given by Dan Lineberger in remembrance of his wedding anniversary.

Sept. 17 ~ Given by Steve & Delana Clark in honor of their 52nd anniversary.

Sept. 24 ~ Given by Ken & Ann Marie Lentz.



Cost of flowers is \$55.00.

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



ATTENTION OWLS!

(Older Wiser LutheranS)

Join us for our next *OWL-standing* time of fellowship!

**Ray Nathan's
Thursday, September 21
11:00am**

CIRCLE NEWS



⇒ *Esther Circle* will be meeting on Monday, September 11 at 10:00 in the Fellowship Hall.

⇒ *Rebecca Circle* will meet Monday, September 11 at 7pm at the home of Ann Edwards. Wanda Anthony will provide the program.



SEPTEMBER 10, 2023

ATTENTION PARENTS OF COLLEGE STUDENTS!

The Women's Circles of Lutheran Chapel kindly request that the parents of college students give their child's college address to the church office by Sunday, **October 1, 2023**. We would like to send your child a gift. If we don't have the addresses we will be unable to do so. During COVID we were not able to continue this ministry and we are excited to once again be able to show our college students love and care.

Women of the Lutheran Chapel WELCA



MUSIC NOTES

Rehearsals begin this month for all of our groups. We would love to have you join us. If you are interested, please ask one of our music ministers for more information. Any of the church leaders will gladly point you in the right direction if you need an introduction.



Chancel Choir: Sundays 11:30 – 1:00 in the Choir Loft

Luther Choir: 2nd & 4th Sundays after Worship in the Choir Room



Joyful Ringers: Tuesdays 7:00 – 8:15 in the Bell Room



Instrumental Ensemble: Sundays in December and before Easter: 1:00 – 1:45 and as needed



If you have any questions, please reach out to Kathie at music@lutheranchapelchurch.org

SEPTEMBER LOVE OFFERING ~ House of Mercy

Our love offering for September will be given to the House of Mercy. The mission of House of Mercy is to provide care to persons living with advanced AIDS. This ministry cares and provides housing arrangements for those who cannot afford the costs. An environment of complete acceptance and love is provided in a home-like setting. House of Mercy provides a caring structure of regular meals, scheduled medical appointments, and medicines. The program offers individuals the opportunity to deal with spiritual issues and encourages family reconciliation when families are in disarray.

House of Mercy has been in service for over 30 years. Without our donations, this ministry could not continue to exist because 80% of their operating budget comes from contributions.

We ask that you please remember this ministry in your prayers and monetary offerings.

Thank you!

Social Ministry Committee



Whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God.

~1 Corinthians 10:31

LUTHERAN CHAPEL COUNCIL MINUTES — JULY 23, 2023

Council made decisions and discussed the following:

- A financial report was provided and it was noted that our financial standing is good.
- Chimes are in need of repair.
- An update on the organist was provided (see below).
- The first youth event was held on June 23. Four youth attended and had a great time. More such events to be planned in the coming months.
- Roof is in need of repair.
- Skip Bradley will serve as Trustee on Cemetery Endowment.
- A suggestion was put forth to use memorial funds to hire someone to get the grounds cleaned up and back in shape.

The next full council meeting is scheduled for September 17, 2023.

An Update from the Organist Search Committee...

As you know, I am the chair of the search committee for an organist for Lutheran Chapel; the other members of the search committee include Katherine Sanders, Mark Thornburg, and give you Kathie Riebe. Crown Hoffman, as President of Council, is involved as well. I would like to keep you updated as to the search for a qualified organist.

The committee and I have posted our organist job description to the following websites and organizations:

- ⇒ Indeed
- ⇒ Linked In
- ⇒ The national chapter of the American Guild of Organists (AGO)
- ⇒ The Charlotte chapter of the AGO
- ⇒ dozens of colleges and universities in North Carolina
- ⇒ Lutheran Chapel's Facebook page and website

As a result of these postings, we received interest from a recent college graduate whose primary instrument is the saxophone and who also has some experience playing the organ. He was interviewed, including playing the organ for us, but his organ skills were not at the level needed.

We later received notice from a professional piano player with a doctorate in music. She and I spoke by phone. By the end of the conversation, she was not willing to set up an interview date. She has not been in communication with me since that time.

During this job search process, I have been told by many professors at various music departments in North Carolina, that the number of students who are showing an interest in the organ has plummeted over the last 15 years or so. I have also spoken with retired organists, and they are not interested in returning to work.

There appears to be a very small pool of qualified candidates. However, rest assured that I will continue to persevere in this search. Your prayers in this search process are much appreciated!

Nancy Witman

FROM THE TREASURER...

Lutheran Chapel Income Statement Actual vs Budget for 7 months ended 7/31/2023:

| | Actual July-23 | Actual YTD | 2023 Budget YTD | 2023 Budget Over/(Under) |
|----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Receipts | \$ 30,091.48 | \$196,477.00 | \$215,355.00 | \$ (18,878.00) |
| Distributions | \$ 22,832.96 | \$182,447.84 | \$ 216,668.08 | \$ (34,220.24) |
| Net Cash | \$ 7,258.52 | \$14,029.16 | | |



**Treasurer
Report**

With the month of July's donations exceeding the expenses by over \$7,000, the year to date has a positive balance of over \$14,000. If you have any questions, please contact Ken Obenauf, Treasurer or Terry Ratchford, Finance Committee Chair.

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!



The Social Ministry Committee would like to sincerely thank our congregational family for your generous donations to help supply children in our area with school supplies. The final total given was \$2,628.00. We were able to purchase 200 (3-ring) notebooks, 4,032 pencils, 80 pencil boxes, 310 bound composition notebooks, 681 spiral composition notebooks, 100 packages of notebook paper, 3,220 pencil cap erasers, 200

large erasers, 300 boxes of crayons, 20 boxes of colored pencils, 180 pairs of scissors, 1,200 glue sticks, 453 prong folders, 228 highlighters, 64 boxes of Kleenex, and 64 packages of disinfecting wipes. Also, a member of our church family worked with their employer to partner with us and they donated 60 sets of headphones for students to use with their Chromebooks. The supplies were given to Bessemer City Primary and Bessemer City Central and with the help of teachers, school counselors, and social workers, children will receive needed supplies.



The staff at Bessemer City schools were so very grateful for our donations to their students. We pray that this gives each child the same opportunity as other children to begin the school year prepared and proud of their new supplies. This could be the encouragement they need to jumpstart a successful and fun school year. We know this will make a difference in the lives of these children and we are so grateful for your love and support.

Thank you again for all that you do for our community and for families in need!

SEND A NOTE OF ENCOURAGEMENT TO OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

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



Betty Little
Covenant Village
1351 Robinwood Rd.
Apt. A-205
Gastonia, NC 28054



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

FROM THE MAILBOX...

I would like to thank everyone that helped with the visitation after my Mom's funeral. Everything was extremely nice. I would also like to thank everyone that sent cards to my Mom, brought her food and visited with her over the years. She loved her Church Family so much. I also appreciated the food, cards, phone calls and texts offering comfort and support.

~Nancy Rankin

Thank
You



Four Seasons Garden Club wishes to thank Lutheran Chapel for allowing us to meet at your church in recent years. We have enjoyed your hospitality but have made other arrangements for next year. Thank you again for your generosity.

~Gail Brown, FSGC member



SEPTEMBER CELEBRATIONS



BIRTHDAYS




| | | | |
|----------------------------|----|---------------------------------|----|
| Ervin Hoffman | 3 | Alex Berghello, Jr..... | 21 |
| Chris Lowe..... | 4 | Derk Beutler | 22 |
| Katherine Sanders | 6 | Zac Lentz | 22 |
| Mike Bell | 7 | Wesley Baker..... | 23 |
| Matt Hoffman..... | 7 | James Dean..... | 23 |
| Ben Carpenter | 8 | Craig Thornburg | 24 |
| Amy Lloyd..... | 8 | Larry Collins..... | 25 |
| Leigh Woody | 8 | Bram Comer | 25 |
| Amy Brown..... | 9 | Melissa Darrow | 25 |
| Caroline Comer..... | 11 | Helaina Robinson | 27 |
| Stuart Hester..... | 11 | Alfred Lineberger | 28 |
| Blair Thornburg | 12 | Morgan Carpenter McCarthy | 28 |
| Sarah Catherine Davis..... | 15 | Margaret Hovis..... | 29 |
| Joe Veale..... | 16 | Charlotte Elkin..... | 30 |
| Katie Moses | 18 | Ann Marie Lentz..... | 30 |
| Lisa Burch..... | 20 | | |

annIVERSARIES

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|----|--------------------------------|----|
| Keith & Teresa Yarborough..... | 1 | Barry & Sandra Martin..... | 26 |
| Henry & Debra Hoffman..... | 7 | Jason & Katherine Sanders..... | 26 |
| Michael & Lynda Ellington..... | 14 | Rick & Janie Peak | 29 |
| Steve & Delana Clark..... | 18 | | |

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

September 2023

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|--|--|--|----------------------------|--|
| | | |  | | 1 | 2 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH) 1:00 Private Event Set-up (FH/Kit) |
| 3 8:30 Fellowship 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:00 Private Event (FH/Kit) 11:30 Chancel Choir 8:00 Faith Group (FH) | 4 <i>Office Closed</i>  | 5 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday | 6 8:30 Preschool 5:30 Chapel Ringers 7:00 Evening Service (Ch) | 7 8:30 Preschool 11:00 Bible Study (L) | 8 | 9 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH) |
| 10 RALLY DAY 8:30 Fellowship 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:05 Luther Choir 11:35 Chancel Choir 8:00 Faith Group (FH) | 11 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Esther Circle (FH) 7:00 Rebecca Circle @ Edwards Home | 12 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday 5:15 W & M Mtg. (CR) 5:30 CBS (CR/CH/4 CIRm) | 13 8:30 Preschool 5:30 Chapel Ringers 7:00 Evening Service (Ch) | 14 8:30 Preschool 11:00 Bible Study (L) | 15 9:00 CBS (YR) | 16 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH) |
| 17 8:30 Fellowship 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:00 Confirmation (YR) 11:00 Council Mtg. (CR) 11:30 Chancel Choir 8:00 Faith Group (FH) | 18 8:30 Preschool Newsletter Articles Due | 19 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday 5:30 CBS (CR/CH/4 CIRm) | 20 8:30 Preschool 5:30 Chapel Ringers 7:00 Evening Service (Ch) | 21 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Bible Study (L) 11:00 OWLS @ Ray Nathan's | 22 9:00 CBS (YR) | 23 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH)  |
| 24 8:30 Fellowship 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:05 Luther Choir 11:35 Chancel Choir 8:00 Faith Group (FH) | 25 8:30 Preschool | 26 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday 5:30 CBS (CR/CH/4 CIRm) | 27 8:30 Preschool 5:30 Chapel Ringers 7:00 Evening Service (Ch) | 28 8:30 Preschool 11:00 Bible Study (L) | 29 9:00 CBS (YR) | 30 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH) |

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Preschool: 704-864-5136

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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.