



Chapel News

A Publication of Lutheran Chapel Church

702 N. New Hope Road

Gastonia, NC 28054

Pastor Michael C. Comer

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JANUARY 2024

From the Pastor...

God's Word is given that we may pray the Word back to God (**Psalms: Prayerbook of the Bible**, Dietrich Bonhoeffer). Daily prayers, Holy Communion for millennia the Christian Church have used these Scriptures morning and evening, Sunday by Sunday. What does this Word say for us in 2024? How will the Holy Spirit grow us as we pray God's Word together?

Psalms 95:1-8 the *Venite* is the traditional morning Psalm to recite or sing. Others are 3, 5, 62, 63, 67, 100 and 102. Since the death of my Dad, the poetry and reverence of the New King James Version has been a blessing to me and a translation I am trying to put in my own heart. Consider the gift of God's Word below with some commentary to share.

Oh come, let us sing to the LORD! Let us shout joyfully to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving; let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms.

For the LORD is the great God, and the great King above all gods. In His hand are the deep places of the earth; the heights of the hills are His also. The sea is His, for He made it; and His hands formed the dry land.

Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD our Maker. For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand.

Today, if you will hear His voice: Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

- o Oh come – Make the LORD your focus each morning He gives!
- o Shout – We will shout for the Panthers. Shout for a sports game. Will we shout for God's goodness to us given day by day?
- o In His hand – God is the maker of all that is and He reveals in His very Name, the I AM, that He is Present as He chooses from the depths of the earth to all the cosmos
- o We are...the sheep of His hand – May we be led by our Good Shepherd in our families, work, this church, the community and in all things we do.
- o Do not harden your hearts – This is a warning not to rebel and be hard hearted. Let us be tender hearted loving God and one another.

Let us put the Word in us abiding in Jesus by the power of the Holy Spirit to the glory of our Father in Heaven.

Peace in Christ,
Pastor Michael



Worship Assistants ~ JANUARY



| | January 7 | January 14 | January 21 | January 28 |
|---------------------------|--|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| Acolyte | Elena Hoffman | Hunter Clark | Renwick Royston | Cameron Bell |
| Crucifer | Bram Comer | Will Clark | Ethan Lineberger | Christian Mull |
| Lector | Pam Livingston | Drew Carpenter | Tammy Royston | Fred Ward |
| Assistant Minister | <i>Contact Pastor Michael if you are available to serve.</i> | | | |
| First Aid/AED/CPR | Steve Clark | Crown Hoffman | Tammy Royston | Debra Hoffman |

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

ALTAR FLOWERS JANUARY

Jan. 7 ~ Poinsettias

Jan. 14 ~ Given by Keith & Teresa Yarborough in honor of their grandchildren.

Jan. 21 ~ Given by Sylvia Fogle in honor of Myra and Becky's birthday.

Jan. 28 ~ Given by Scott & Beth Swindler.



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

Worship Schedule

Sundays

8:30 am ~ Fellowship

9:00 am ~ Sunday School/Bible Study

10:00 am ~ Worship in Sanctuary

We will continue to stream the Sunday Worship Service live for those unable to attend in person.

Wednesdays

(Resumes January 10)

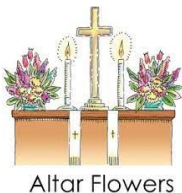
7:00 pm ~ Chapel

Simple Evening Prayer / Holy Communion



Come Worship with Us

2024 ALTAR FLOWER CALENDAR



If you'd like to donate altar flowers in 2024 the following Sundays are still available: April 7 & 14, July 7, September 29, and October 20. Please call or text Susan Lewis at 704-914-8451 to sign up.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

May he grant you your heart's desire, and fulfill all your plans.

~Psalm 20:4

LUTHERAN CHAPEL
CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MINUTES
DECEMBER 17, 2023

Council made decisions and discussed the following:

- As of 12/31 we will no longer be able to pay the Sunday Security police officer directly. It will need to be handled by a third party. Details are forthcoming.
- New Council members were welcomed - Drew Carpenter, Peery Linkous, Seth Myers and Jenny Williamson.
- Council voted unanimously to not tithe the beneficiary money received from two different estates at this time.
- A motion was unanimously passed to receive Linda Hamilton into membership at Lutheran Chapel.
- Leadership was passed to Jason Sanders as Council President for 2024. Vice president will be decided in January. Crown Hoffman will serve as Past President, Debra Hoffman will serve as Secretary, and Ken Obenauf as Treasurer.
- Full Council meetings will continue to meet every other month with Executive Council meetings on the off months.

The next full council meeting, including new council members, is scheduled for January 21, 2024.

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR SUNDAY
February 11, 2024

Sunday February 11th, the Outreach Committee will sponsor *"Love Your Neighbor Sunday."* Every member of the congregation is encouraged to pray for our congregation, your neighbors, friends, family and those you may meet at the grocery store, mall, restaurant or just on the street.

Next, everyone is challenged to invite these neighbors to church on **Sunday, February 11th**.

"God's Love is Free" cards will be given to members to share as you are out. Using these gives you the perfect opportunity to share your faith and an invitation to join us on February 11th for worship.

God has commanded all of us to "Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost (Matthew 28:19)."



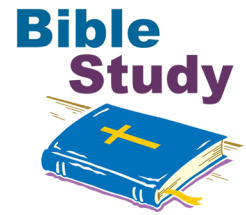
2024 CONGREGATIONAL BIBLE STUDY

All are invited to take up the Story of Salvation Bible Study as gift and discipline in 2024.

This will cover major biblical stories from Genesis to Revelation using traditional Lutheran Bible study tools such as the plain sense of Scripture, Law and Gospel, meditation, etc.

In-person studies will be on Sundays at 9AM in Sunday School beginning January 7, Thursdays at 11AM beginning January 11, on-line at lutheranchapelchurch.org in the Daily Prayer section, and as printed copies in the prayer racks located in the narthex and educational building.

Claim the gift of God's Word for yourself.



CIRCLE NEWS

- ⇒ **Esther Circle** will be meeting on Monday, January 8 at 10:00 in the **Fellowship Hall**.
- ⇒ **Rebecca Circle** will gather at **Hickory Tavern** on Monday, January 8 at 6pm.



ATTENTION OWLS!

(Older Wiser LutheranS)

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

Eagle's Nest

(507 N. Main St., Clover, SC)

Thursday, January 25th

(4th Thursday of month!)

11:00am

2024 OFFERING ENVELOPES

2024 offering envelopes for members of the church are available and can be found in the Narthex. For those who regularly give online or through a financial institution, please contact Kim in the church office if you still would like your envelopes.



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.



MUSIC NOTES

Thank you to all who made our Advent and Christmas celebrations so special:

Our children, youth and young adults

The Luther Choir

The Instrument Ensemble

The Chapel Ringers

The Chapel Choir

We really appreciate all of your hard work in making our worship so special.



JANUARY LOVE OFFERING ~ Cancer Services

Our Love Offerings for the month of January will be given to Cancer Services of Gaston County. This agency has been an active presence in our community for 46 years. Cancer Services provides education about cancer prevention and detection, assists cancer patients, and funds cancer research. The mission of Cancer Services is to serve the community by actively promoting healthy lifestyles and to provide support and services needed by people living with cancer. They provide cancer patients with limited financial and medication assistance and medical equipment is loaned free of charge. Also, they provide transportation assistance, nutritional supplements, wigs, diapers, bed pads, etc. to cancer patients. Educational programs and free cancer screening clinics are provided to promote public awareness of cancer.

Everyone is personally affected by cancer at some time in their life. By supporting agencies such as Cancer Services, you are helping people who are suffering with this disease. Your donation can help make a difference in their battle against cancer.

Thank you,

Social Ministry Committee



FROM THE MAILBOX...

I would like to thank everyone for all the visits, cards, phone calls and most of all the prayers for me as a result of my recent surgery. I cannot express enough how much I have appreciated it all. I still have a ways to go for full recovery but I seem to get a little better as time moves on. Again, thank you all so very much.

Steve Bell

I want to express my gratitude to the congregation of Lutheran Chapel Church for the generous Christmas gift. For me It is a joy to contribute with my music during Sunday services, and I look forward to keep doing so during the upcoming year.

Juan Vizcarra

Dear Lutheran Chapel,

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

Peace,

Kim Rundzieher



Thank you for your generous Christmas gift. You filled my heart with love. It is special gift to be able to serve you through music. I pray that you had a joy-filled Christmas Season.

Kathie Riebe

Friends in Christ,

Tremendous thanks to the fellowship for the gifts, cards, good food, and kindness shown this Advent and Christmas season. It is a mean world. So such generosity and kindness encourage and are indeed a reflection of God's eternal love shining through.

Peace in Christ,

Michael Comer, Pastor

Dear Lutheran Chapel,

Thank you so incredibly much for the wonderful Food Lion gift card donations to our families here at Grier Middle School. This donation put a big smile on our parents' faces. They were truly grateful for their gift card. We are thankful for your continued support during the holiday season!

From your friends at Grier Middle School

Go Knights!

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

JANUARY CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

| | | | |
|------------------------|----|------------------------|----|
| Christian Mull | 1 | Ken Obenauf..... | 16 |
| Nathaniel White | 2 | Bill Robinson..... | 17 |
| Marion Rhyne..... | 3 | Tim Henderson..... | 18 |
| Robert Wonyetye | 4 | David Myers | 24 |
| Anna Escobedo..... | 5 | Christine Andrews..... | 25 |
| Gabriella Lagos | 9 | Barry Martin..... | 25 |
| Shirley Bradley..... | 10 | Darby Shaw Nigbor..... | 29 |
| Myra Weaver..... | 10 | Kirk Nigbor | 29 |
| Teresa Yarborough..... | 10 | Ann Edwards | 30 |
| Matthew Carpenter..... | 13 | Catherine McArver..... | 30 |
| Luke Hoffman | 13 | Todd Carpenter..... | 31 |
| Miles Carpenter..... | 14 | | |

ANNIVERSARIES

Leon & Susan Cooper-Cox.....19

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



Let's Celebrate!

2024 Dates to Remember






Rankin Lake Worship
June 2

Homecoming
100th Anniversary of Sanctuary
June 9



Epiphany - January 6

January 2024

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|---|---|---|---|--|
| | 1  | 2 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday 5:30 CBS (CR/CH/4 CIRm) | 3 5:30 Chapel Ringers | 4 | 5 9:00 CBS (FH) 3:30 Set-up for Chancel Choir Luncheon (K/FH) | 6 <i>Epiphany</i> 9:30 Hungry Peeps (Ch) 12:00 Chancel Choir Luncheon (K/FH)  |
| 7 8:30 Fellowship 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:30 Chancel Choir 8:00 Faith Group (FH) | 8 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Esther Circle (FH) 6:00 Rebecca Circle @ Hickory Tavern 6:00 Via de Cristo (FH) | 9 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday 5:15 W&M Mtg. (YH) 5:30 CBS (CR/CH/4 CIRm) | 10 8:30 Preschool 5:30 Chapel Ringers 7:00 Evening Service (Ch) | 11 8:30 Preschool 11:00 Bible Study (L) | 12 9:00 CBS (FH) | 13 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH) |
| 14 8:30 Fellowship 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:05 Luther Choir 11:35 Chancel Choir 8:00 Faith Group (FH) | 15 8:30 Preschool | 16 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday 5:30 CBS (CR/CH/4 CIRm) | 17 8:30 Preschool 5:30 Chapel Ringers 7:00 Evening Service (Ch) | 18 8:30 Preschool 11:00 Bible Study (L) | 19 9:00 CBS (FH) | 20 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH) |
| 21 8:30 Fellowship 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:00 Council Mtg. (CR) 11:30 Chancel Choir 8:00 Faith Group (FH) | 22 8:30 Preschool <i>Newsletter Articles Due</i> | 23 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday 5:30 CBS (CR/CH/4 CIRm) | 24 8:30 Preschool 5:30 Chapel Ringers 7:00 Evening Service (Ch) | 25 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Bible Study (L) 11:00 OWLS @ Eagle's Nest (Clover, SC) | 26 9:00 CBS (FH) | 27 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH) |
| 28 8:30 Fellowship 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:00 Confirmation (YR) 11:05 Luther Choir 11:35 Chancel Choir 8:00 Faith Group (FH) | 29 8:30 Preschool | 30 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday 5:30 CBS (CR/CH/4 CIRm) | 31 8:30 Preschool 5:30 Chapel Ringers 7:00 Evening Service (Ch) |  | | |

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Michael C. Comer, Pastor

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Preschool: 704-864-5136

churchoffice@lutheranchapelchurch.org

lutheranchapelchurch.org

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.