



May 2025

CHAPEL NEWS

We at Lutheran Chapel Church are called by God to PROCLAIM Christ as Lord and Savior, to SEEK and to 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.

THE FIFTY DAYS OF EASTER 2025

Easter is not just a day but a fifty day season. It is the Feast of feasts and lasts seven weeks. You may note the Bible is replete with "seven" as a symbolical number representing wholeness and completion.

So how do you feast for fifty days? I mean how do you balance a faithful feasting and celebrating without becoming unhealthy? Isn't it strange how virtues and vices may tumble into one another? I love apple pie. Too much apple pie is bad for me. But the right taste, right time, right is just so right! In excess, the wrong act, the wrong time, wrong is just so wrong! Make sense? Please share some ways you keep the feast in 2025.

Consider the resurrection hope. The One who gave us life in the beginning and gives us our very existence, who sustains us heartbeat by heartbeat, this One has been made known to us and the whole world in Jesus Christ. Jesus alone is the way, the truth, and the life – eternal life, resurrection life, and He calls all of us to hear and believe. What will the resurrection of the body be like? Early Christians pointed to the caterpillar becoming the butterfly. It is hard to accept that I am a caterpillar! I am not what I should be. My understanding, my reason is limited. My capacity, my personhood is in flux. Yet God is calling us forward to become what He wills for us ultimately to be as His children now and forever.

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!...O Death, where is your sting? O Hell, where is your victory? Christ is risen and you are overthrown. Christ is risen, and the demons are fallen. Christ is risen, and the Angels rejoice. **Christ is risen, and life reigns.** Christ is risen, and not one dead remains in the grave. For Christ, being risen from the dead, has become the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. To Him be glory and dominion unto ages of ages. Amen (**Paschal Sermon**, St. John Chrysostom).

Let us keep these 50 Days from Easter Day to Ascension Day to the Day of Pentecost this June 2. Come for little church – Evening Suffrages will be prayed at 7:00 then an episode of **The Chosen** watched together at 7:15 or so with discussion and fellowship. Celebrate!

Peace in Christ,

Pastor Michael

Pastor Michael

Worship Schedule

Sundays

8:30 am ~ Fellowship

9:00 am ~ Sunday School/Bible Study

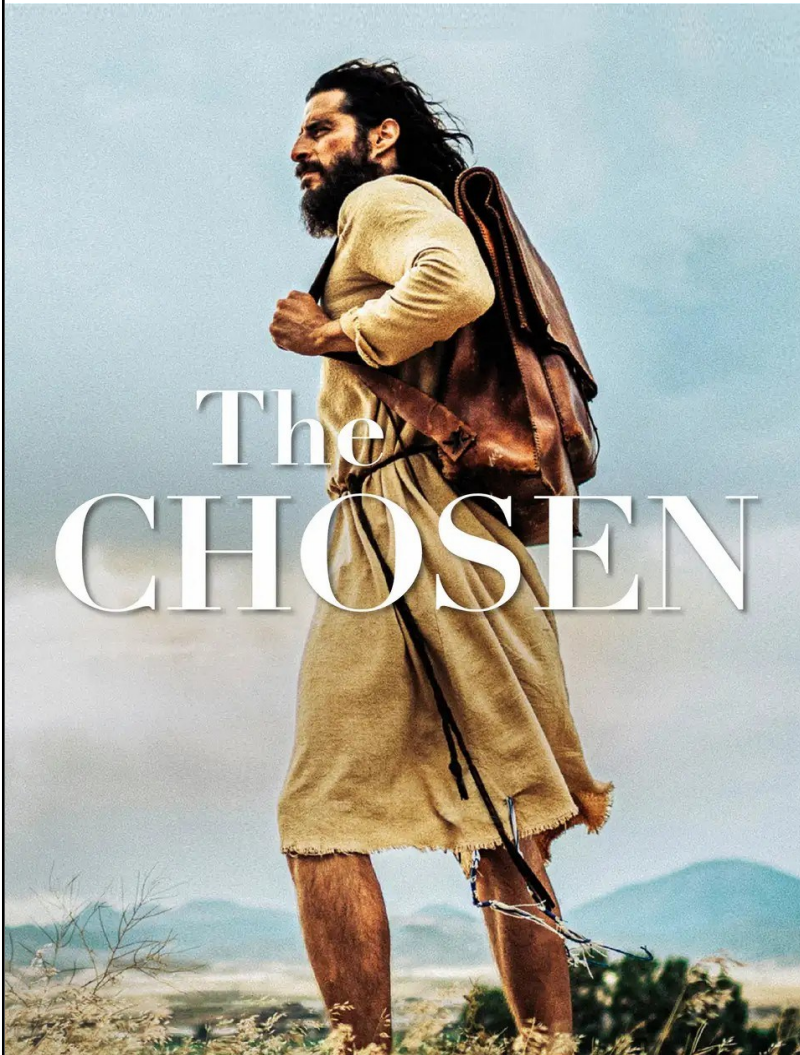
10:00 am ~ Worship in Sanctuary

*Sunday Worship Service is streamed live
for those unable to attend in person.*

Wednesdays

See page 2 for schedule

WEDNESDAY PRAYER SERVICE SCHEDULE



Wednesday, May 7

Psalm 65 *You Visit the Earth* - **The Chosen:**
Shabbat

Wednesday, May 14

Psalm 66 *Joyful Noise* - **The Chosen:**
Jesus Loves the Little Children

Wednesday, May 21

Psalm 67 *Bless Us* - **The Chosen:**
The Rock on Which it is Built

Wednesday, May 28

Psalm 68 *God is our Salvation* - **The Chosen:**
The Wedding Gift

Wednesday, June 4

Psalm 69 *Save Me O God* - **The Chosen:**
Indescribable Compassion

Wednesday, June 11

Psalm 70 *Make Haste* - **The Chosen:**
Invitations

Wednesday, June 18

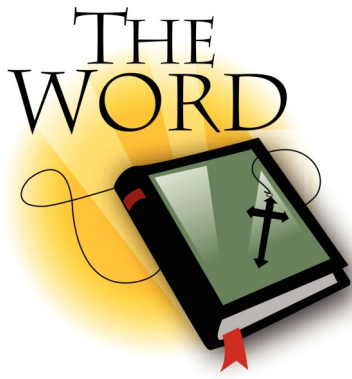
Psalm 71 *In You* - **The Chosen:**
I Am He



FROM THE TREASURER...

	Actual March 2025	Actual YTD	2025 Budget YTD	2025 Budget Over/(Under)
Donations	\$ 31,485.99	\$ 80,271.22	\$ 97,125.00	\$ (16,853.88)
Distributions	\$ 29,698.67	\$ 81,478.01	\$ 95,390.25	\$ (13,512.24)
Net Cash	\$ 1,787.32	\$ (1,206.89)		

If you have any questions, please contact James Hovis, Treasurer or Terry Ratchford, Finance Committee Chair.



***In the same way, let your light shine before others,
so that they may see your good works and
give glory to your Father in heaven.***

MATTHEW 5:16



Serving the CHURCH



May Worship Assistants

	May 4	May 11	May 18	May 25
Assistant Minister	Norman Overcash	Chris Lowe	Sylvia Fogle	Adam DeLuca
Acolyte	Luke Hoffman	Elena Hoffman	Hunter Clark	Renwick Royston
Lector	Beth Swindler	Amy Brown	Kelly Andrews	Ann Edwards
Crucifer	Jordan Hoffman	Will Clark	Bram Comer	Maddie Potter
First Aid/AED/CPR	Matt Hoffman	Steve Clark	Crown Hoffman	Tammy Royston
Council Members of the Month: Don Boyette and Perry Linkous				

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

May Altar Flowers

Cost of flowers is \$55.00.

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



May 4	Given in memory of Bill Anton by Dan Jenkins to the Glory of God.
May 11	Mothers Day
May 18	In memory of Ervin and Helen Hoffman, give by Ervin, Nancy, David, Susan, Henry and Debra.
May 25	In honor of Anna Leigh's 2nd Birthday and the 45th Wedding Anniversary of Roger and Jeanette Myers.

Upcoming EVENTS



OWLS (Older Wiser LutheranS)

We hope you'll join us for
our next
OWL-standing
time of fellowship!



Thursday, May 15 at 11:00 am

Strawberry Hill, Chesney South Carolina.

The bus will be leaving from the church at 9:45.

WORSHIP AT RANKIN LAKE

All are invited to join us for the *Rankin Lake*
Worship Service on Sunday, **June 1 at 10:00**
am.

A catered meal from
Grandma Hoyt will be
provided. Please bring
chairs and anything
needed to enjoy time
together at the park.



Women of the **ELCA** 

CIRCLE MEETINGS

Esther Circle will meet on **Monday, May 5 at**
9:00 am at Eggs Up, South New Hope Rd.

Rebecca Circle will meet
Monday, May 5 at 7:00 pm
Delana Clarks Home
2824 Colony Woods,
Gastonia

CONGREGATIONAL COOKOUT

MAY 20 @ 6:00 PM

Please plan now to attend a cookout on Tuesday evening, **May 20th at 6:00 PM** in the picnic shelter, sponsored by Men of the Church.

There will be hamburgers, hotdogs, and all the trimmings. If you desire, bring a lawn chair, and come to have a good meal, relaxation, and conversation with our church family. Hope to see you there!





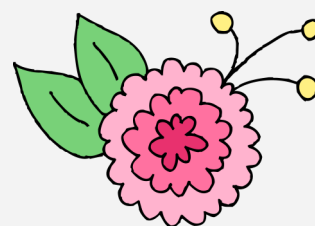
GRADUATION RECOGNITION

If there are any high school or college graduates that would like to be recognized in the *June newsletter*, please contact the Church Office by **Friday, May 16**. Thank you!

Celebrating **OUR MEMBERS**



**SEND A NOTE OF
ENCOURAGEMENT
TO OUR HOMEBOUND
MEMBERS**



BIRTHDAYS

Erin Williamson	2
Abigail Hester	4
Rebecca Hester-Salazar	4
Clayton Lewis	4
Evan Escobedo	7
Keith Yarborough	9
Josh Carpenter	10
Anna Myers	10
Zachary Beam	12
Marty Lineberger	13
Jesse Beam	15
Hannah Myers	16
Andrew Bell	17
Debi Jean Wankel	23

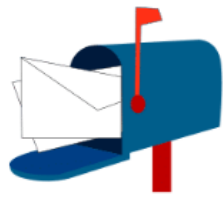
ANNIVERSARIES

Michael & Star Finch	2
Charles & Christa Heilig, III	8
Doug & Heather Nigbor	15
Carlton & Barbara Peacock	19
Jason & Lisa Bradley	22
Michael & Ginny Comer	22
Ben Bryant & Mark McCauley	25
Leon & Kay Moretz	27
Blair & Pam Thornburg	31

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

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



From the **MAIL BOX**

FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR'S DESK

Thanks you to Shirley Carpenter who stays after Bible Study and puts the inserts into the bulletin each week and the "Holy Folders" including Jenny Williamson, Shirley Carpenter, Linda Hamilton, and Alfred Lineberger who fold and label the newsletter each month. I appreciate your help!

Susan Hilsch



MUSIC NOTES

Thank you to all the members of the Music Department for all of the work they did to make our celebrations during Holy Week and Easter so very special. They worked with such dedication and focus and they sang, rang and played.

You are talented and devoted and we are blessed by your calling to share God's music with Lutheran Chapel Church.

Kathie Riebe



Thank You



A Note of Thanks

from



The Arc

Gaston County

Achieve with us.

3/2025

Dear Lutheran Chapel Church
pastors, staff, & members,

On behalf of The Arc of Gaston
County Board of Directors,
I would like to thank you
all for your generous donation
of \$355.00

These funds will help us
purchase needed items for
our specialized summer
enrichment camp this
year.

We sincerely appreciate
your contribution to
The Arc, and are very
grateful that Marty
Lineberger is serving
with us.

Blessings to all,
Sara Osborne



LOVE OFFERING FOR MAY

Our love offering for May will be sent to Habitat for Humanity – Charlotte Region. In October of 2024, Gaston County consolidated with Charlotte Habitat, serving Gaston, Iredell and Mecklenburg counties. Habitat for Humanity is a non-profit Christian-based ministry founded in 1988 that is dedicated to eliminating substandard housing.

Funds for the construction of homes are obtained through financial contributions from individuals, churches, and businesses. The homes are sold to qualified families at no profit and financed with affordable, no-interest mortgages repaid over 20 years. Mortgage money is then recycled back to build more homes for families in need. Habitat is not a give-away program. Habitat relies heavily on volunteers for construction in all homes. The work is a cooperative effort between volunteers and new home buyers who contribute labor to build their homes.

To date, Habitat for Humanity of Gaston has built over 138 homes in Gaston County and completed homes in a neighborhood in North Belmont on donated land known as Dixon Village. Of the 28 homes completed, 12 are Habitat homes. There are three other active builds currently being completed in Gaston County. Also, Habitat for Humanity is launching a critical home repair program.

Please prayerfully consider giving to this ministry so that Habitat can continue to grow and help even more families achieve the opportunity to become homeowners.

Thank you!

Social Ministry Committee



CRISIS ASSISTANCE MINISTRY

Please remember that we will continue to collect food for Crisis Assistance Ministry throughout the year. You may place food in the blue collection box in the hallway near our fellowship hall and in the CAM basket in the narthex of the sanctuary. The Social Ministry team will deliver to CAM when the box is full – so keep us busy! Thank you so much!

Social Ministry Committee



RELEVANCE: GIFT OF HOLY BAPTISM

The spiritual exercise of affirmations is to declare who and Whose you are because of the gifts received in Holy Baptism. The broken world and the enemy of our souls wants to tear us down and separate us from God and from one another. Never forget who you are in Christ! Consider the Scriptures and Catechism below.

You are marked with the Cross of Christ
in the Name of the Father, + the Son, and Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19).

Your baptism brings about forgiveness of sins (1 John 1:8-9), redeems from death and the devil (Romans 6:3-5), and gives eternal salvation to all who believe it, as the words and promise of God (Mark 16:16) declares (**Small Catechism**, Luther).

You have the promise of God the Holy Spirit working in you (Titus 3:5-8).

You are a child of God (1 John 3:1).







You belong to the holy Christian Church (Galatians 3:27-29).

Your baptism once, whether a baby or elder, is good forever because it is the gift of God and not your own action (Ephesians 4:4-5).

You have the ultimate mission –
to do the will of our Father in Heaven here and now (Matthew 6:10).



May

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						
4 8:30 Fellowship (FH) 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:30 Chancel Choir (S) 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	5 8:30 Preschool 9:00 Esther Circle - Eggs Up 7:00 Rebecca Circle-- Delana Clarks 	6 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday 5:30 Chapel Ringers (FH)	7 8:30 Preschool 7:00 Evening Suffrages, Chosen (C)	8 8:30 Preschool 11:00 Bible Study (L)	9 9:00 Men's Community Bible Study (FH)	10 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH) 6-9:30 Via De Cristo
11 MOTHER'S DAY 8:30 Fellowship (FH) 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:30 Chancel Choir (S) 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	12 8:30 Preschool	13 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday 5:30 Chapel Ringers (FH)	14 8:30 Preschool 7:00 Evening Suffrages, Chosen (C)	15 8:30 Preschool Lunch (FL) 11:00 Bible Study (L) 11:00 OWLS - Strawberry Hill 	16 9:00 Men's Community Bible Study (FH)	17 9-12 Clothing Closet Giveaway 9-12 Property Clean up 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH)
18  8:30 Fellowship (FH) 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:00 Council Mtg. (CR) 11:30 Chancel Choir (S) 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	19 8:30 Preschool Newsletter Articles Due	20 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday 5:30 Chapel Ringers (FH) 6:00 Congregational Picnic 	21 8:30 Preschool 7:00 Evening Suffrages, Chosen (C)	22 8:30 Preschool 11:00 Bible Study (L)	23 9:00 Men's Community Bible Study (FH)	24 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH)
25 8:30 Fellowship (FH) 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:00 Confirmation (FH) 11:30 Chancel Choir (S) 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	26 MEMORIAL DAY Office Closed 	27 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday 5:30 Chapel Ringers (FH)	28 8:30 Preschool 7:00 Evening Suffrages, Chosen (C)	29 8:30 Last Day of Pre-school 11:00 Bible Study (L)	30 9:00 Men's Community Bible Study (FH)	31 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH) 10:00 Preschool Graduation

Lutheran Chapel Church
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Michael C. Comer, Pastor

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