



October 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.

REFORMATION 2025



A little over five hundred years ago, Martin Luther posted the **95 Theses** on the door of Wittenberg Chapel to debate, to protest abuses and false teaching in the Christian Church of his day. Luther did not get a debate or a parade or a celebration for posting these **95 Theses**. Instead, he was condemned. He was excommunicated from what we now call the Roman Catholic Church. Then the Pope and Holy Roman Emperor tried their best to have Luther murdered. If they were successful, there probably would not be any Protestant churches and especially any Lutheran churches, such as Lutheran Chapel. However, according to God's Providence, Martin Luther lived and the Protestant movement continues to this very day.

How dare you read the Bible for yourself! How dare you trust in Christ alone, by faith alone, by grace alone and not the infallible Pope or edicts of empire or any of the corrupt powers of this broken world!

The truth will set us free ultimately (John 8:32)! The reformation of the Christian Church is still very much needed. Reformation is needed in the Roman Catholic Church, the Baptist churches, the Pentecostal churches, and, yes, most resoundingly in the Lutheran churches. **True reformation is about turning again and again to Jesus Christ together.** This is not just once but it is the right way to turn to Christ day by day. Let us turn to Jesus Christ anew and trust in Him alone and not in the ways of this world, which will not last (Psalm 118:8). Our hope is not in ourselves, our hope is in Jesus Christ and His Word to guide us, comfort us, challenge us and ultimately to save us now and forever.

By grace alone! By faith alone! By Jesus Christ alone! This is what "we believe, teach and confess" (**Formula of Concord**) or as Luther put it in the **Small Catechism** – **this is most certainly true.** Let us celebrate this on Reformation Sunday, October 26, 2025. Wear red. Let us celebrate our heritage.

Peace in Christ,

Pastor Michael
Pastor Michael

WORSHIP SCHEDULE



Sundays

8:30 am ~ Fellowship & Coffee

9:00 am ~ Sunday School

9:00 am ~ Bible Study

10:00 am ~ Worship

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

Wednesdays

6:00 ~ Suffrages & The Chosen

Church BUSINESS



FROM THE TREASURER...

	Actual August 2025	Actual YTD	2025 Budget YTD	2025 Budget Over/(Under)
Donations	\$21,228.82	\$230,227.06	\$259,000.00	\$(28,772.94)
Distributions	\$25,821.84	\$215,666.48	\$254,374.00	\$(38,707.52)
Net Cash	\$(4,593.02)	\$14,560.58		

If you have any questions, please contact Gene Weaver (Interim Treasurer)

LUTHERAN CHAPEL CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MINUTES

SEPTEMBER, 2024

Financial Report

- Offerings were down almost \$12,000 from July to August. The same was true last year during this same period. We are still ahead YTD with a surplus of \$14,560. Rob Andrews suggested that we ask the congregation to pledge realistically this November. He will review historical data on annual donations to help determine how giving has been running for the past 5 years.

Pastor's Report

- The Pastor asks that the council person of the month attend with the confirmation class for safety reasons.
- Discussions were held about moving the confirmation to the church basement. For now, they will continue to meet in Fellowship Hall.
- The council agreed to move forward with an adult catechism class once a month on a pilot basis, starting in October, immediately following church. A temple talk will be done to see who is interested.

Old Business

- We have a volunteer to lead the committee to search for an Activities Director. The job description is currently being developed.
- Jason Sanders will submit a draft and set up a QR code to survey the congregation for potential changes to the worship schedule.

New Business

- Jenny Williamson and Gene Weaver are working with South State to get the banking signatures updated since James Hovis has passed away.
- Debra Hoffman discussed issues with our network, computers, etc. A company came in and did a site survey of immediate and future items that need to be addressed. There is a need to have one place to call when an issue arises.
- Life of Christ Lutheran Mission church, which currently meets at LCC, has asked if they could put a banner out before their service and take it down immediately after their service. An e-mail vote will take place once the design has been determined.
- Church council nominations for 2026 will be discussed at the October meeting.
- The Property committee is getting bids for lawn mowing.
- Renumbering offering envelopes is being considered to reduce waste and the expense of ordering envelopes that are not used. A suggestion was made that we omit putting numbers on the envelopes and put plain the envelopes in the pews for offerings.

Upcoming EVENTS



OWLS (Older Wiser LutheranS)

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

Thursday, October 16
at 11:00 am
R.O's Barbeque
1318 Gaston Ave., Gastonia



Women ^{of the} **ELCA** 

CIRCLE MEETINGS

Esther Circle will meet on
Monday, October 6 at 10:00 am in the Fel-
lowship Hall.

Rebecca Circle will meet on
Monday, October 6 at 7:00 pm
Gwen Lewis
104 Wood Fox Court.
Gastonia

SOUP LUNCHEON



The Social Ministry Committee is excited to invite you to our annual **Soup Luncheon on November 9th following our 10:00 worship service**. We will serve a variety of wonderful soups, sandwiches and, of course, delicious deserts. This will also be your opportunity to give thanks for our many blessings. We want to remember those in our community who are less fortunate, by providing them with help for their Thanksgiving meal. We are providing families with a \$25.00 Food Lion gift card again this year.

If you would like to contribute to this ministry, you may donate at any time or bring your monetary donations with you to the Soup Luncheon. **You may make a cash donation or write a check to Lutheran Chapel – be sure to mark Thanksgiving meals in the memo section of our check. Our committee will purchase the gift cards – we like to purchase the cards that do not allow alcohol or tobacco products to be purchased with the card.**

We place each card in an envelope with a Thanksgiving blessing from our church. The envelopes are delivered to the Social Workers at each school by our Social Ministry team. Last year, we were able to help families at 14 Gaston County schools have a blessed Thanksgiving. We look forward to seeing everyone at our Soup Luncheon for fellowship and a great meal! We always look forward to this delicious and fun fellowship with our church family!



SIP AND SEE BABY SHOWER FOR HELEN VEVERKA

All are invited to a Sip and See Baby Shower honoring Helen Veverka on **Sunday, October 19th** immediately following the 10:00 am service in the Family Life Center. Helen was born on June 5, 2025. Proud parents are Nick and Izzy Veverka and big sister is Evvy (age 3). For those wishing to shower Helen with a gift, diapers (size 1) and wipes or a gift of your choice are appreciated but not expected.

CHURCH PICNIC



The men of the church will be sponsoring a fall congregational hamburger and hotdog cook out on **Thursday, October 23 at 6:00 pm** in the Family Life Center. We look forward to this event as it enables us to

enjoy good food as well as share good conversation with each other. For the last cookout we had 104 in attendance, let's break that record this year. Hope to see you there!

**SAVE
THE
DATE**

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTMAS DINNER

Saturday, December 13 at 6:00 pm



SAMARITANS PURSE CHRISTMAS SHOEBOXES



Just an early reminder that collection week for Christmas shoeboxes will be **November 17 – 24**. We will have boxes available beginning October 12, so that you can fill your boxes early and get ahead of the Christmas rush.

Boxes must be returned to the church by Sunday, November 23 so that we can deliver them to the drop-off location for Gaston County.

GIFT SUGGESTIONS ARE:

- *School supplies: pens, pencils, crayons, markers, writing pads, coloring and picture books*
- *Toys: small cars, balls, dolls stuffed animals, kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yos, jump ropes*
- *Hygiene items: toothbrush, mild bar soap (in plastic bag), comb, brush, washcloth*
- *Other: t-shirt, socks, ball caps, sunglasses, hairclips, toy jewelry, flashlights (with extra batteries), plastic cups or storage containers*



INCLUDE:

- *Used or damaged items*
- *Scary or war-related items such as toy guns, knives or military figures*
- *Candy, gum, chocolate or food; seeds, fruit rolls or other fruit snacks or drink mixes (powdered or liquid)*
- *Liquids or lotions, toothpaste, medications or vitamins*
- *Breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers or aerosol cans*

We realize that the Christmas season is a busy time and our church family has many commitments during this time. Please know that we are only offering this opportunity because there are families that want to continue this ministry. Please fill a box if you can or choose a different way to help families in need during this time. As always, thank you for your generosity!

Music NEWS



“He who sings,
prays twice”

Much can be found in books, magazines and on the internet about music. And we have daily opportunities to praise our Lord with song. No matter the quality of voice (remember that it was God who gave you that voice), God loves to hear us lift our voice to Him. We are to pray unceasingly. Add a little music to that prayer and we are all lifted up. Who knows, someone may hear you and because you are singing they stop and listen.

More on this thought next month.

Helping OTHERS



This Month's Recipient: With Friends

With Friends is a Youth Crisis Shelter that has been serving our community since 1990. It 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. The shelter provides 24 hour emergency shelter for up to 21 days for 9 youth – male and female – ages 10-17. A transitional living program provides supportive service for up to 24 months to 8 young men – ages 16-21. Their mission is to make a positive difference in the lives of young people who are homeless, in crisis or at risk. With Friends also provides 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.

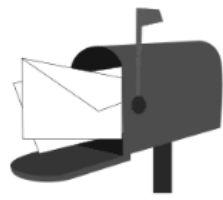
Thank you,

Social Ministry Committee

WITH FRIENDS, INC.



Don't be alone when you can be "With Friends"



From the
MAIL BOX



Dear Members of Lutheran Chapel Church,

On behalf of Gaston County Schools, thank you once again for your annual collection and purchase of school supplies.

Thank you to your great generosity and support, the start of the school this year has offered some very specific help to students. Thank you for including so many headphones which are utilized in classrooms for specialized learning. The bright pink, green and purple colorful headphones will make so many children feel special! We appreciate your support and share our gratitude for your kindness. It is always wonderful to hear from Delana Clark who is usually one of the first ones to reach out to say the Church will be coordinating the supply drive for the new school year. This year many students at Woodhill were the beneficiaries of your generosity. Many thanks to Delana and her team and to everyone involved in this wonderful ministry for blessing our children with your generosity and kindness!

Sincerely,

Valerie Yatko, Director of Business and Community Partnerships

ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY

November 2nd is **All Saints Sunday**, the day we celebrate the lives of loved ones who have passed from this life into the next. To honor them, we list the names of those we want to remember, such as relatives and friends that are close to you. We will give thanks to God for their lives during our service.

Please fill out the form below and return it to the church office or email requests to churchoffice@lutheranchapelchurch.org by **Monday, October 20th**. Thank you!



The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

NUMBERS 6:24-26



October

Celebrating
OUR MEMBERS



BIRTHDAYS

Susan Jackson	2
Chuck Burch	3
Renee Dockery	5
Terry Bradley	8
Pam Overcash	9
Paulette Hale	10
Ben Nigbor	14
Doug Rhyne	16
Erin Huffstetler	18
Kelly Andrews	19
Sharon Carpenter	19
Jon Berghello, Sr.	22
Nancy Hoffman	25
Noah Comer	26
Katelyn Baker	27
Lily Baker	27
Elizabeth Seabrook	28
Michael Finch	30
Jordan Hoffman	30

ANNIVERSARIES

Jason & Carolyn Lineberger	6
Scott & Beth Swindler	7
Don & Debi Jean Wankel	9
Josh & Amy Carpenter	12
Flay & Susan Anthony	14
Sean & McKenzie Rankin	14
Steve & Eula Ritchie	15
Craig & Adrian Thornburg	17
Josh & Anna Baker	18
Seth & Hannah Myers	31



SEND A NOTE OF ENCOURAGEMENT TO OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS



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

Barbara & Carlton Peacock
151 E Dallas Hwy
Apt. 616
Stanley, NC 28164

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

Serving the *CHURCH*



OCTOBER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS



	October 5	October 12	October 19	October 26
Assistant Minister	Jeanette Myers	Adam DeLuca	Sylvia Fogle	Noah Comer
Acolyte	Cameron Bell	Corbin Brown	Luke Hoffman	Elena Hoffman
Lector	Ann Edwards	Sudonna Handy	Debra Hoffman	Jason Sanders
Crucifer	Bram Comer	Maddie Potter	Christian Mull	Jordan Hoffman
First Aid/AED/CPR	Debra Hoffman	Mark Thornburg	Ervin Hoffman	Perry Linkous
Council Members of the Month: David Zibell and Perry Linkous				

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

OCTOBER ALTAR FLOWERS





Cost of flowers is **\$58.50**.

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



October 5	Given by Dan Lineberger in honor of his and Gloria's Wedding Anniversary
October 12	To the Glory of God given by Steve and Delana Clark in honor or their 54th Wedding Anniversary
October 19	To the Glory of God given by Wanda Anthony
October 26	Given by Terry and Trish Ratchford in honor of our beloved grandchildren, Alex and Olivia Berghello

OCTOBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 8:30 Preschool 7:00 Evening Service (C)	2 8:30 Preschool 11:00 Bible Study (L)	3 Office Closed 9:00 Men's Community Bible Study	4 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH)
5 8:30 Fellowship (FH) 9:00 Sunday School/Bible Study 10:00 Worship (S) 11:30 Chancel Choir (S) 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	6 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Esther Circle 7:00 Rebecca Circle 	7 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday 5:30 Chapel Ringers	8 8:30 Preschool 7:00 Evening Service (C)	0 8:30 Preschool 11:00 Bible Study (L)	10 Office Closed 9:00 Men's Community Bible Study	11 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH) 11:00 Funeral James Hovis
12 8:30 Fellowship (FH) 9:00 Sunday School/Bible Study 10:00 Worship 11:30 Chancel Choir (S) 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	13 8:30 Preschool 7-9 Cantamus Choir	14 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday 5:30 Chapel Ringers	15 8:30 Preschool 7:00 Evening Service (C)	16 8:30 Preschool 11:00 Bible Study (L) 11:00 OWLS 	17 Office Closed 9:00 Men's Community Bible Study	18 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH)
19 8:30 Fellowship (FH) 9:00 Sunday School/Bible Study 10:00 Worship 11:00 Full Council (OO) 11:00 Sip & See (FLC) 11:30 Chancel Choir (S) 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	20 8:30 Preschool	21 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday 5:30 Chapel Ringers	22 8:30 Preschool 7:00 Evening Service (C)	23 8:30 Preschool 11:00 Bible Study (L) 6:00 Cookout (FLC)	24 Office Closed 9:00 Men's Community Bible Study	25 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH) 9-12 Clothing Closet Giveaway
26 8:30 Fellowship (FH) 9:00 Sunday School/Bible Study 10:00 Worship 11:00 Confirmation 11:30 Chancel Choir (S) 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	27 8:30 Preschool 7-9 Cantamus Choir	28 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday 5:30 Chapel Ringers	29 8:30 Preschool 7:00 Evening Service (C)	30 8:30 Preschool 11:00 Bible Study (L)	31 Office Closed 9:00 Men's Community Bible Study 	

Lutheran Chapel Church
702 N. New Hope Road
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Non Profit Organization

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Preschool: 704-864-5136
churchoffice@lutheranchapelchurch.org
lutheranchapelchurch.org
www.facebook.com/lccgastonia

Michael C. Comer, Pastor

CHAPEL NEWS ***October 2025***

