



April 2026 **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.

Easter and Eastertide 2026



For the Christian churches that follow the Christian year, 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, completion, etc.

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 banana pudding. Too much banana pudding 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?

Going through Eastertide, I hope to offer week by week with our weekly e-mails a feast of God's Word (the Resurrection stories of which there are many), a feast in nature (a local site or walk for the spring), a feast of good food (farmer's market time), a feast of sacred song (along with YouTube reference if possible), and a feast of laughter (or groans - you decide - with a joke or seven). Forty days we fasted during Lent. Fifty days may we feast wisely with joy in our risen Lord Jesus!

Finally, an Easter verse - "This is the day the LORD has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it" (Psalm 118:24). Let us live in the now He gives us this Easter 2026 and look forward to the forever that He promises all who believe.

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 ~ Vespers & Chosen

Church **BUSINESS**



Revenue and Expense Summary

February 2026	Actual	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Budget Over/(Under)
Receipts	\$22,660.65	\$44,618.09	\$62,000.00	(\$17,381.91)
Expenses	\$25,244.11	\$49,009.17	\$61,884.67	(\$12,876.50)
Net Gain / (Loss)	(\$2,583.46)	(\$4,391.08)	\$115.00	(\$4,276.08)

Upcoming **EVENTS**



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Maundy Thursday, April 2

6:00 PM - Seder Meal in the Family Life Center

*We remember the Passover of our spiritual mothers and fathers in the faith.
We keep the Holy Communion in obedience of the sacrificial love of our Lord Jesus.
Remember. Serve one another. Love one another.*

Good Friday, April 3

12:00 PM - Stations of the Cross in the Chapel

7:00 PM - Tenebrae Service in the Sanctuary

The death of our Lord Jesus for us and all creation is remembered this day. Why is it called good?

Here is revealed the Love to the end to save all who believe by the Cross of Christ.

Easter Sunday, April 5

7:00 AM - Sunrise Service at the Church Cemetery

Breakfast to follow

10:00 AM - Festival Service of Holy Communion

*The resurrection of our Lord Jesus, the firstborn of the dead, the faithful witness,
the true ruler of all, the Alpha and Omega, is celebrated this Day of days.*

Christ is risen. He is risen indeed!

**OWLS
(Older Wiser LutheranS)**

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

Thursday, April 16 at 11:00 am
Hillbilly's Barbeque & Steak
305 S Main St, Lowell



Women ^{of the} **ELCA**

CIRCLE MEETINGS

Esther Circle will meet on
Monday, April 13 at 10:00 am in the
Fellowship Hall.

Rebecca Circle will meet on
Monday, April 13 at 6:00 pm
In the Fellowship Hall.

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

Vespers and the Chosen Season 5 will resume on
Wednesday April 15th 6 pm
Please join us!



HICKORY CRAWDADS BASEBALL OUTING



Game Date and Time: Tuesday, May 5, 2026 at 7:00pm

Price includes ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT picnic at the game serving hamburgers, hot dogs, barbecue, baked beans, chili, slaw, chips, ice cream, Pepsi products, and water.

First pitch is at 7:00pm. Buffet begins a half hour before the game begins and lasts an hour into the game. Our group will be seated in a designated picnic pavilion area.

Cost: \$32.00 per person

*Game Location: L. P. Frans Stadium—2500 Clement Blvd. NW – Hickory, NC 28601
(Bus will leave the church at 5:00pm sharp.) Bus reservations limited to 14 people.*

People driving themselves will meet the church group In front of the ballfield entrance.

**Parking at the ballfield is free for anyone purchasing a ticket in our group.*

Make check payable to "Hickory Crawdads" — Cash or Check due by May 1st.

# of People	Names	# Riding The Bus	Amount Enclosed
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>

Helping **OTHERS**



CAM Food Drive

During the month of April, our church family will participate in our major food collection for Crisis Assistance Ministry. Crisis Assistance Ministry would not be possible without the financial gifts, food donations and volunteer hours that our congregation and other churches provide. Our participation helps ensure that CAM has an adequate food supply and enough money to meet the requests for assistance that they receive each month. They also provide utility, rent or mortgage and prescription assistance.

Food donations can be brought to church during the month of April or anytime that is convenient for you. Bags can be placed in the blue CAM food box located in back hallway of our Sunday School classrooms. Also, food can be placed in the assigned basket in the narthex. We collect food year-round for CAM, with April being our assigned month to emphasize the importance of our food donations. **Please check to make sure the use by date has not expired on your donations.** The Social Ministry Committee will deliver the food to Crisis Assistance. We are always proud of the generosity of our church family, and we know that we can count on all of you to make our food drive a successful one.

Current needs are:

- Canned Meats
- Canned Soups & Crackers
- Canned Fruit
- Rice
- Spaghetti Sauce & Noodles
- Macaroni and Cheese
- Grits & Oatmeal
- Cereal
- Canned Vegetables
- Pancake Mix & Syrup





LOVE OFFERING FOR APRIL

Our love offering ministry for April will be Lutheran Services Carolinas. It works in partnership with congregations, governmental agencies, and other human service providers to promote healing and wholeness for the Carolinas' most vulnerable people. Lutheran Services Carolinas is a faith-based health and human resources organization

serving children, families and seniors in the Carolinas.

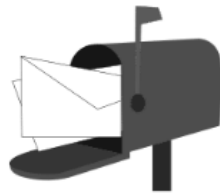
Thousands of people annually are helped through the following services:

- Adoption - regular and special needs
- Adult Residential Services
- Child and Youth Residential Services
- Disaster preparedness and response
- Family and individual counseling
- Foster care - family, therapeutic and medically fragile
- Homelessness prevention
- Refugee and resettlement and immigration
- Veteran's services

LSC serves in **Gaston County** through foster care and services to people with developmental disabilities. It partners with the Senior TLC program and Dallas High School Apartments to provide:

- Affordable housing for those 62 and older or 55 and older if disabled.
- All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE), which serves Gaston, Cleveland, and Lincoln counties. PACE is a Medicare program and Medicaid option for North Carolinians who need skilled nursing but wish to stay in their own home.
- Mountain Ridge group home in Gastonia provides a safe home for six adults with developmental disabilities.

Thank you for donating,
Social Ministry



From the
MAIL BOX

SO VERY
thankful
INCREDIBLY
grateful
UNBELIEVABLY
blessed

Many thanks to the congregation for your thoughts and prayers during these difficult past weeks.

With gratitude,
The Dean Family



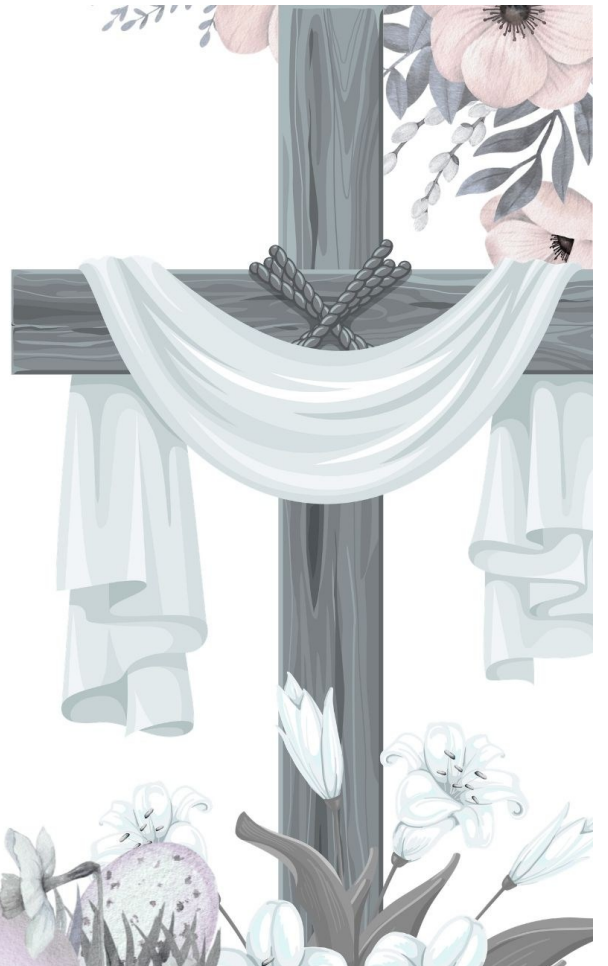
Happy Easter!

All of the members of the
Music Department wish you
many blessings as we celebrate
our Risen Lord.



Thank You

to all our musicians for your
dedication and committment
to praising our Risen Lord
through your gift of music
this Lent and Easter Season.





Celebrating
OUR MEMBERS 



Birthdays

Meredith Andrews	2	Pam Thornburg	21
Hunter Clark	3	Madison Potter	23
Robert Andrews	4	Adrian Thornburg	23
Amanda Angstadt	4	Ariel Burgoon	24
Ben Bryant	5	Heather Moretz Elkin	24
Chris Clark	5	Eula Ritchie	24
Seth Myers	9	Adam DeLuca	25
Suzie Ward	9	Rhonda Putnam	26
Hunter Angstadt	10	Kelly Stokes	26
Flay Anthony	10	Dana Bird	28
Craig Behringer	10	Logan Moore	28
Pauline Bradley	10	Beth Swindler	29
Zoe Bradley	11		
Weslee Davis	11		
Betty Little	11		
Cathy Robinson	12		
Rick Peak	13		
Trish Ratchford	13		
Jake Rhyne	13		
Dan Lineberger	14		
Elliott Anthony	16		
Nancy Rankin	16		
Gwen Lewis	18		
Nancy Homovich	20		
Isabella Mull	20		
Kathy Finch	21		
Vicki Stokes	21		
Mark Thornburg	21		

Anniversaries

Chris & Ann Lowe	8
Erin & Katie Potter	10
John & Kathie Riebe	16
Crown & Kate Hoffman	22
Steve & Susan Jackson	27
Scott & Wendy Robinson	30

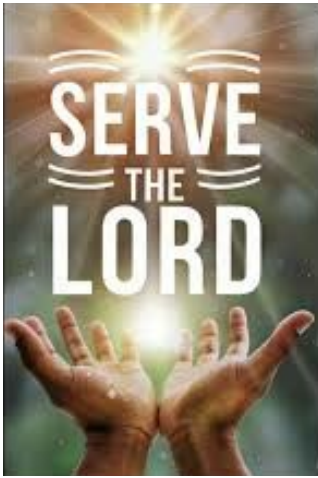
**SEND A NOTE OF
 ENCOURAGEMENT
 TO OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS**



Betty Little
 Covenant Village
 1351 Robinwood Rd.
 Apt. A-205
 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.



It is through service that we can truly express our love for God,
for His creation and for one another.

Serving the **CHURCH**



APRIL WORSHIP ASSISTANTS



	April 5	April 12	April 19	April 26
Assistant Minister	Norman Overcash	Adam DeLuca	Sylvia Fogle	Jeanette Myers
Acolyte	Luke Hoffman	Elena Hoffman	Cameron Bell	Renwick Royston
Lector	Ginny Comer	Jeanette Myers	Mary Ann Burgoon	Kailey Perkins
Crucifer	Bram Comer	Corbin Brown	Will Clark	Jordan Hoffman
First Aid/AED/CPR	Tammy Royston	Debra Hoffman	Mark Thornburg	Ervin Hoffman
Council Members of the Month: David Zibell and Jenny Williamson				

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

APRIL ALTAR FLOWERS




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

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



April 5	Given to the Glory of Our Risen Christ in memory of Mary Brown Robinson, Eddie Robinson and Jerry Fogle by Cathy Robinson and Sylvia Fogle.
April 12	Given by Bob and Jenny Williamson in honor of their 45th Wedding Anniversary.
April 19	In honor of our grandchildren, William, Skylar and Andrew, given by Keith and Teresa Yarborough.
April 26	Given by Steve and Susan Jackson for their 58th Wedding Anniversary to the Glory of God.

April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 EASTER SUNDAY 7:00 Sunrise Service 8:30 Fellowship (FH) 9:00 Sunday School/Bible Study 10:00 Worship (S) 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	 6 Office Closed	7 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday 5:30 Chapel Ringers (S) 6:00 Pickup Basketball (FLC)	1 8:30 Preschool 7:00 Vespers Lent (C)	2 MAUNDY THURSDAY 8:30 Preschool 6:00 Seder Meal (FLC)	3 GOOD FRIDAY Office Closed 9:00 Men's Community Bible Study 12:00 Stations of the Cross (C) 7:00 Tenebrae Service (S)	4 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH)
12 8:30 Fellowship (FH) 9:00 Sunday School/Bible Study 10:00 Worship 11:00 Confirmation (Y) 11:30 Chancel Choir (S) 4-6 Life in Christ (FH,C) 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	13 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Esther Circle (FH) 6:00 Rebecca Circle (FH) 	14 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday 5:30 Chapel Ringers (S) 6:00 Pickup Basketball (G)	15 8:30 Preschool 7:00 Chosen C) April Newsletter Articles Due	16 8:30 Preschool 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 Exec Council (C) 11:30 Chancel Choir (S) 4-6 Life in Christ (FH,C) 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	20 8:30 Preschool	21 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday 5:30 Chapel Ringers (S) 6:00 Pickup Basketball (FLC)	22 8:30 Preschool 7:00 Chosen (C)	23 8:30 Preschool 11:00 Bible Study	24 Office Closed 9:00 Men's Community Bible Study	25 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH)
26 8:30 Fellowship (FH) 9:00 Sunday School/Bible Study 10:00 Worship 11:00 Table Talk 11:30 Chancel Choir (S) 4-6 Life in Christ (FH,C) 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	27 8:30 Preschool	28 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday 5:30 Chapel Ringers (S) 4-9 Gaston Gators (FLC)	29 8:30 Preschool 7:00 Chosen (C)	30 8:30 Preschool 11:00 Bible Study		

**Lutheran Chapel Church
702 N. New Hope Road
Gastonia, NC 28054**

Non Profit Organization

US postage Paid

Gastonia, NC

Permit #232

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Michael C. Comer, Pastor



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April, 2026

