



October 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.

OPENING THE GIFT OF GOD'S WORD - REFORMATION 2026

There are several tools for us as we study the gift of God's Word using the Lutheran Confessions. Try these exercises out as we celebrate Reformation. By grace alone. By faith alone. By Christ alone!

Gift of the Word – Scripture in the Light of Christ

Of Jesus Christ – The Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms speak of Jesus and are rightly understood in Him (re: Luke 24:44-45, John 1:45, 5:39). Does our Lord Jesus say anything about this Scripture? Do the Apostles or church fathers say anything? How is Christ present or not present in this Scripture? "The Bible is the cradle that holds the Christ" (**Preface to the Old Testament**, Martin Luther).

Gift of the Word – Training in Righteousness

LAW is an aspect of God's Word that reveals our sin and leads us to the gift of repentance (re: Psalm 19, Mark 1:14-15, Galatians 3:21-22, **Smalcald Articles** 3:2). The law or command of God breaks us and destroys our selfishness and sin sickness. We are spiritually dead and cannot save ourselves (Ephesians 2:1-8).

GOSPEL is an aspect of God's Word that reveals the good news of what our Lord Jesus has done, is doing, and promises to do to forgive and save us (re: Psalm 16, Mark 1:14-15, Galatians 3:21-22, **Smalcald Articles** 3:4). The promise is that Jesus forgives and ultimately will put us right! "The law says: "Do this!" and it is never done. Grace says: "Believe in this One!" and forthwith everything is done" (**Heidelberg Disputation** #26, Martin Luther).

Gift of the Word – Plain Sense/So What?

What is the Word of God saying to you? How then will you live? All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work (re: 2 Timothy 3:16-17, **Formula of Concord, Solid Declaration** #1, 3).

Gift of the Word – Pray, Meditate, and Trials

Finally, studying Psalm 119 at little church on Wednesday nights, I ran across Luther's three steps for Bible study in his **Preface to German Writings**.

Pray (Latin *oratio*) for the Holy Spirit to instruct your study. This is such a prayer from the **Evangelical Lutheran Worship**: Blessed Lord God, You have caused the holy Scriptures to be written for the nourishment of Your people. Grant that we may hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that comforted by Your promises, we may embrace and forever hold fast to the hope of eternal life, which You have given us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Meditate (Latin *meditatio*) on the Word. Here is a simple ABC way to meditate. **A**sk Christ to help. **B**e still. **C**lear your mind. **D**well in the gift of God's Word – a verse, a story, a teaching – for a set time. **E**nd with the Lord's Prayer.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE



Sundays

8:30 am ~ Fellowship & Coffee

9:00 am ~ Sunday School
& 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

Nothing is more effective in combating the devil, the world, the flesh, and all evil thoughts than devoting oneself to God’s Word—speaking about it and meditating on it day and night. (**The Large Catechism**, Martin Luther).

Trials (Latin *tentatio*) are present in the Word. This is an exercise in the theology of the cross – where do you see conflict within the Word for doing the Father’s will? Where is the temptation and trial in your journey as you study?

Friends in Christ, let us be diligent together in listening to God’s Word.

Peace in Christ,

Pastor Michael
Pastor Michael

Church
BUSINESS

REVENUE AND EXPENSE SUMMARY

August 2026	Actual	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Budget Over/(Under)
Receipts	\$32,863.00	\$212,746.00	\$248,000.00	\$ 35,254.00
Expenses	\$30,422.00	\$226,467.00	\$247,539.00	\$ 21,072.00
Net Gain / (Loss)	\$ 2,441.00	\$ (13,721.00)	\$ 461.00	\$ 14,182.00

Upcoming
EVENTS



SOUP LUNCHEON FOT THANKSGIVING MEALS

The Social Ministry Committee is excited to invite you to our annual **Soup Luncheon on Sunday, November 8th following our 10:00 worship service**. We will serve a variety of wonderful soups, sandwiches and, of course, delicious desserts. 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 purchases the gift cards so that allow alcohol or tobacco products can not 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 for fellowship and a great meal! We always look forward to this delicious and fun fellowship with our church family!

UPCOMING



WELCA

Monday, October 5



Circles Guest Speaker

REESE KILLIAN

Shares her inspiring cancer journey of faith, hope and perseverance. Join us on **Monday, October 5th at 10:00 am** in the Fellowship Hall

UPCOMING



OWLS

Thursday, October 15

(Older Wiser LutheranS)

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

Thursday, October 15th at 11:00 am

Eagles Nest

507 N Main St, Clover, SC



UPCOMING



Fall Cookout

Thursday, October 22

Come enjoy good food and great conversation with your church family. The men of the church are sponsoring the fall congregational hamburger and hotdog cookout on **Thursday, October 22 at 6:00 pm** in the Family Life Center.



SAVE THE DATE



All Saints Day

Sunday, November 1

Fill out form in the newsletter or bulletin and submit no later than Monday, October 19th to have your loved ones included in our booklet and prayers.



SAVE THE DATE



Soup Luncheon

Sunday, November 8



Purchasing \$25 Food Lion Gift cards for local families.

Cash and check donations are accepted. Write checks to Lutheran Chapel and mark for Thanksgiving meals.

(Details on page 2)

SAVE THE DATE



Christmas Dinner

Saturday, December 12

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTMAS DINNER

More details to follow





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*

DO NOT 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!



This Month's Recipient: With Friends

October's love offering will be donated to With Friends. With Friends is a community-based, non-profit organization that was established in 1990 to meet the needs of homeless, in crisis, and at-risk youth. Their Mission is to make a positive difference in the lives of young people ages 10-21 that are homeless, in crisis, or at-risk. They provide residential shelter care, food, counseling, education, skill building, case management, outreach, follow-up and referral services that focus on positive youth development. They offer:

- 24-hour emergency shelter for 9 youth male and female ages 10-17 FREE for up to 21 days.
- A transitional Living Program for 8 young men ages 16-21 for up to 24 months.
- A National Safe Place where they can have access to immediate help and safety for all young people in crisis.
- A network of Safe Place locations including schools, fire stations, libraries, grocery and convenience stores, public transit, YMCAs and other appropriate public buildings – that display the yellow and black diamond-shaped Safe Place sign.

The shelter has proven to be effective in preventing youth from ever entering the foster care system and juvenile justice system. 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.

Social Ministry Committee



On All Saints' Day, we celebrate the lives of our loved ones who have entered eternal life. Please share the names of those you wish to remember. We will give thanks to God for their lives during our service.

*Please fill out the form below and return it by **Monday, October 19th** to the church office or email requests to churchoffice@lutheranchapelchurch.org.*



***Jesus Loves Me! This I know, For the Bible tells me so;
Little ones to Him belong, They are weak, but He is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves, The Bible tells me so.***

Anna and Susan Warner lived in a lovely townhouse in New York City where their father, Henry Whiting Warner, was a successful lawyer. But the “Panic of 1837” wrecked the family’s finances, forcing them to move into a ramshackle Revolutionary War-era home on Constitution Island on the Hudson, right across from the Military Academy at West Point.

Needing to contribute to the family income, Anna and Susan began writing poems and stories for publication. Anna wrote “Robinson Crusoe’s Farmyard,” and Susan wrote, “The Wide, Wide World.” The girls thus launched parallel literary careers which resulted in 106 publications, eighteen of them co-authored.

One of their most successful joint projects was a novel titled *Say and Seal* in which a little boy named Johnny Fox is dying. His Sunday School teacher, John Linden, comforts him by taking him in his arms, rocking him, and making up a little song: “Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so”

The novel became a best-seller, . . . and when hymnwriter William Bradbury read the words of John Linden’s little song (written by Anna), he composed a childlike musical score to go along with them. “Jesus Loves Me,” soon became the best-known children’s hymn on earth.

Once, when asked to summarize the essential truths of the Christian faith, the great Swiss theologian Karl Barth gave this simple answer: “Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so.”

Despite their success, the Warner sisters never seemed able to recover from the staggering financial reverses of 1836. Years later a friend wrote, “One day when sitting with Miss Anna in the old living room she took from one of the cases a shell so delicate that it looked like lace work and holding it in her hand, with eyes dimmed with tears, she said, “There was a time when I was very perplexed, bills were unpaid, necessities must be had, and someone sent me this exquisite thing. As I held it I realized that if God could make this beautiful home for a little creature, He would take care of me.”

For forty years, Susan and Anna conducted Bible class for cadets at West Point, and both were buried with full military honors. They are the only civilians buried in the military cemetery at West Point. To this day, their home on Constitution Island is maintained by West Point as a museum to their memory.

** Information from “Then Sings My Soul”, Robert J. Morgan, Thomas Nelson Publisher and “The One Year Book of Hymns”, Tyndale House Publishers, Inc.



OCTOBER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS



	Assistant Minister	Acolyte	Lector	Crucifer	First Aid
October 4	Chris Lowe	Cameron Bell	Kailey Perkins	Will Clark	Tammy Royston
October 11	Adam DeLuca	Renwick Royston	Sylvia Fogle	Jordan Hoffman	Debra Hoffman
October 18	Noah Comer	Luke Hoffman	Ann Lowe	Maddie Potter	Mark Thornburg
October 25	Norman Overcash	Elena Hoffman	Marty Lineberger	Hunter Clark	Ervin Hoffman
Council Members of the Month: Drew Carpenter and Mike Bell					

*** If you have a conflict with 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 4	Given to the Glory of God in honor of Doug and Marion Rhyne's 70th Wedding Anniversary.
October 11	To the Glory of God for the Anniversary of Steve and Eula Ritchie.
October 18	Given to the Glory of God by Josh and Amy Baker for their 23rd Wedding Anniversary.
October 25	Given to the Glory of God by Pauline Bradley in memory of BT Bradley.



Contribution amount: \$390.00

Thank you for your great generosity! Everyone at Crisis Pregnancy Center of Gaston County greatly appreciates your donations during the 2nd Quarter of 2026. Your continued support helps to further our mission and is invaluable to us. We're saving babies - 14 year to date. God is saving souls - 105 year to date. We value your partnership with us and your continued support to CPC and to our moms, dads, and babies.



Celebrating our MEMBERS



BIRTHDAYS

OCTOBER

Susan Jackson	2
Chuck Burch	3
Renee Dockery	5
Skip 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

OCTOBER

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

God's Blessings on Your Birthday

Numbers 6:24-26

"The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace."

As you celebrate your special day, remember that God's presence is a continual source of light in your life. His blessings are like rays of sunshine, bringing peace and grace into every new year you face.



SEND A NOTE OF ENCOURAGEMENT TO OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS



George Cashion

515 S. Generals Blvd.
Room # 506
Lincolnton, NC 28093

Shirley Carpenter

Brookdale Senior Living
1680 South New Hope Rd, Apt 44
Gastonia NC 28054

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

October

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4 8:30 Fellowship (FH) 9:00 Sunday School/Bible Study 10:00 Worship (S) 11:00 Confirmation 11:30 Chancel Choir (S) 4-6 Life in Christ (FH,C) 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	5 8:30 Preschool	6 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday 5:30 Chapel Ringers (S) 6:00 Pickup Basketball (FLC)	7 8:30 Preschool 6:00 Suffrages & Chosen (C)	8 8:30 Preschool	9 Office Closed 9:00 Men's Community Bible Study	10 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH)
11 8:30 Fellowship (FH) 9:00 Sunday School/Bible Study 11:30 Chancel Choir (S) 10:00 Worship (S) 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	12 8:30 Preschool 7-9 Cantamus Choir (FH)	13 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday 5:30 Chapel Ringers (S) 6:00 Pickup Basketball (FLC) November Newsletter Articles Due	14 8:30 Preschool 6:00 Suffrages & Chosen (C)	15 8:30 Preschool 11:00 OWL's	16 Office Closed 9:00 Men's Community Bible Study	17 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH)
18 8:30 Fellowship (FH) 9:00 Sunday School/Bible Study 10:00 Worship (S) 11:00 Council (C) 11:30 Chancel Choir (S) 4-6 Life in Christ (FH,C) 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	19 8:30 Preschool	20 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday 5:30 Chapel Ringers (S) 6:00 Pickup Basketball (FLC)	21 8:30 Preschool 6:00 Suffrages & Chosen (C)	22 8:30 Preschool 6:00 Fall Cookout (FLC)	23 Office Closed 9:00 Men's Community Bible Study	24 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH)
25 8:30 Fellowship (FH) 9:00 Sunday School/Bible Study 10:00 Worship (S) HOMECOMING/REFORMATION 11:30 Chancel Choir (S) 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	26 8:30 Preschool 7-9 Cantamus Choir (FH)	27 8:30 Preschool 5:30 Chapel Ringers (S) 6:00 Pickup Basketball (FLC)	28 8:30 Preschool 6:00 Suffrages & Chosen (C)	30 8:30 Preschool	31 HAPPY HALLOWEEN Office Closed 9:00 Men's Community Bible Study	

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

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Church Office: 704-864-6491
Preschool: 704-864-5136
churchoffice@lutheranchapelchurch.org
lutheranchapelchurch.org
www.facebook.com/lccgastonia

Michael C. Comer, Pastor



CHAPEL NEWS

October 2026

