November 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.

HOW CAN YOU TELL A BIBLE-BELIEVING CHURCH?

While visiting the Billy Graham Library a while back, the great evangelist encouraged new believers in Jesus to go to a Bible-believing church. What is a Bible-believing church? How can you determine if a church is Bible-believing or not? Some thoughts that may or may not be helpful are below.

Does the church read the Bible together? Or is there an occasional Bible verse mixed in with a motivational speech?

Are foundational biblical teachings such as the Ten Commandments, the Great Commandment, the Lord's Prayer, and regular readings of the Gospels present Sunday by Sunday? Or, are such foundational teachings not present or seen only rarely?

Is there a disciplined tool (re: Bible in a Year or the Revised Common Lectionary) to read the whole Bible available to the church? Or are the biblical texts chosen only by the preacher and dictated by the preacher's choice?

As Lutheran churches, "we believe, teach and confess that the only rule and guiding principle according to which all teachings and teachers are to be evaluated and judged are the prophetic and apostolic writings of the Old and New Testament alone" (Formula of Concord, The Epitome 1:1).

Is the plain sense of Scripture "the guiding principle" among us, or does a church hierarchy such as a Pope, Patriarch, or bishop claim to have authority over the Bible and churches? Big difference between a Bible teacher being "a servant to the servants of God" (re: Gregory the Great) vs. a Pope claiming to be able to teach with infallibility on matters of faith, maybe?

Now do we all agree on what the Bible teaches? No. People of good conscience who love our Lord Jesus can disagree and do disagree. Yet how we disagree is a mark of our love for Jesus and all who call on His Name. The humble question, the gentle rebuke, the honest search for understanding, and willingness to admit error are all parts of disagreeing yet still seeing each other as children of our heavenly Father.

Is Lutheran Chapel a Bible-believing church? I hope so! Let us strive to receive the Word of the Lord and live by His Word to the best of our understanding day by day to the Last Day that is coming.

Peace in Christ,

Pastor Michael

Pastor Michael

P.S. If you are still reading this and not part of a weekly Bible study, please claim the gift of Bible study and Sunday School for yourself. Join a class on Sunday!

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sundays

8:00 am ~ Morning Prayer
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

Church BUSINESS

REVENUE AND EXPENSE SUMMARY

September 2026	Actual	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Budget Over/(Under)
Receipts	$ 23,524	$ 236,207	$ 279,000	$ 42,793
Expenses	$ 41,234	$ 267,638	$ 278,481	$ 10,843
Net Gain / (Loss)	$ (17,710)	$ (31,431)	$ 519	$ 31,950

COUNCIL MINUTES AUGUST

Council Terms

Skip Bradley (Taking Seth Myers position), along with Matt Hoffman, Drew Carpenter, and Jenny Williamson, will complete their three-year terms in December. We will need to nominate 4 new members. According to our by-laws, Skip Bradley will be eligible to serve a full term if he chooses.

Pastor's Report

Attendance at the Sunday 8 am service has ranged from 4 to 9 people. The council voted to discontinue the Sunday morning service. The Wednesday service averages 8–14 attendees.

The council discussed the importance of inviting others to church. The phrase "Each one reach one" may sound cliché, but it remains an effective approach and has been responsible for many new members and ongoing regular visitors. The church currently hosts several auxiliary ministries and groups on a weekly or monthly basis. Hosting these groups provides a gentle form of outreach and may encourage participants to visit, support the church's mission, or become involved in the wider Christian Church.

Groups currently meeting at Lutheran Chapel include:

AA/Faith Group, Hungry Peeps, Lutheran Chapel Preschool, Men's Community Bible Study, Via de Cristo Choir, and Life in Christ Mission (Missouri Synod)

Committee Reports

2026 Budget and Financial Report

August ended with a positive balance of $2,421. However, the year-to-date deficit is $13,721. Several expenses have been adjusted, including an anticipated 5% increase in utilities. A suggestion was made to organize maintenance expenses around larger projects rather than listing individual maintenance items.

Property and Building Updates

Emergency lighting repairs cost more than $1,700, the Church stairs repairs have been completed and the AED defibrillators need to be replaced at a cost of approximately $250 each. The painting has been completed.

Activities Director

The recent movie day was a great success, with approximately 65 people attending. Many friends and family members were invited.

Digital Ministry — Debra Hoffman

The streaming service switch was replaced after it failed. The Cat 5 line, which was damaged by a critter, was also replaced.

Other Business

David Zibell expressed interest in restarting the Lunch Bunch group, meeting once a month.

The council discussed whether a list of projects needing financial support should be included in the church newsletter. Members were encouraged to text Robert Andrews regarding this matter.

2026 CONTRIBUTIONS

It's time to get your 2026 pledges up-to-date! All donations must be turned in by **December 27** to be credited to your account for this year.

2027 ALTAR FLOWER CALENDAR

If you'd like to sign up for a Sunday in 2027 please contact Susan Lewis at 704-914-8451 or email sudalewi@gmail.com.

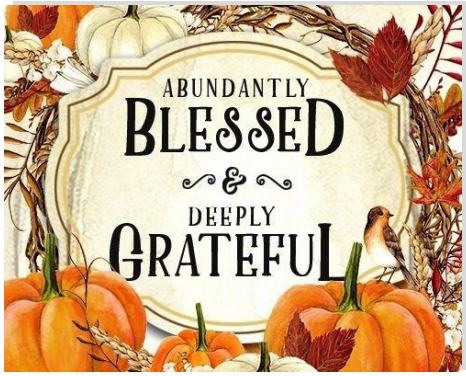
CHURCH COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

In keeping with the protocol approved by the LCC congregation regarding Church Council elections, the Council is accepting nominations for persons interested in serving a three-year term on the LCC Church Council. This is a self-nominating process. All interested members should contact:

Rob Andrews - robertandrewsncsu92@gmail.com
Zac Lentz - zaclentz@hotmail.com
Pastor Comer - pastor@lutheranchapelchurch.org
or call the church office @ 704-787-6439
Deadline for nominations is Sunday, November 8.

STAFF GIFT

Traditionally we present our dedicated Church Staff with a monetary "thank you" gift during the holiday season. If you feel so inclined to participate, You can drop your gift in the offering plate; you can mail it or drop it by the Church office. Please note "Staff Gift" with your contribution. The cut-off for contributions is **Sunday, December 13th** to allow for presentation to staff on Sunday, December 20th. Thank you for your prayerful consideration as we honor and remember our staff members who work so diligently to serve Christ and our congregation.



HAPPY THANKGIVING

Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

1 Thessalonians 5:18

UPCOMING

WELCA

Monday, November 2

Esther Circle
Monday, November 2nd
at 10:00 am
in the Fellowship Hall

Rebecca Circle
Monday, November 2nd
at 5:00 pm
in the Fellowship Hall

UPCOMING

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 7)

UPCOMING

Blessing Bags

Saturday, November 14

Let's Get Ready to Serve!
It's the season of thankfulness and giving, and LCC is putting our love into action!

This November, we'll host a **Blessing Bag Event** on a Saturday, November 14th from 1-4 pm. We're partnering with a local nonprofit that supports foster children of all ages that are in need of basic essentials. We will serve together with a light lunch and fun.

Want to help plan or serve? Join us, we would love to have you. For questions contact Brit at activities@luthernchapelchurch.org.

UPCOMING

OWLS

Thursday, November 19

(Older Wiser LutheranS)
We hope you'll join us
for our next
OWL-standing time of fellowship!
Thursday, November 19th
at 11:00 am
Georgios
202 Market St G, Cramerton, NC

SAVE THE DATE

Boys & Girls Club Party

Friday, December 11

The Outreach Committee will be hosting the annual Boys and Girls Club of Bessemer City Christmas party on **Friday, December 11th**.

(Details on page 7)

SAVE THE DATE

Christmas Dinner

Saturday, December 12

The Christmas Dinner will be held on **Saturday, December 13** at 6:00 pm. This is an event not to be missed with dinner, vocalist Marty Sale and door prizes. Tickets available from Steve Clark, Rick Peak, Terry Ratchford or Charles Edwards. Sponsored by the men of the church.

SAVE THE DATE

Cantata & Jesus's Birthday

Sunday, December 13

Musical Service
"A Child is Born"

Jesus Birthday
Luncheon

Immediately following the service

WELCA SEAKER

Speaker Caitlin Reese Killian delivers inspirational speech on God's presence in her Breast Cancer Journey.

Thank you so much for inviting me to spend time with you! You created such a welcoming space and I really enjoyed it. It's an honor to share what God is doing in my life - even more special when I get to reconnect with people I love! Thank you for your generous donation to Still Good Co. It helps me continue to encourage others and fundraise for Stage IV Breast Cancer Research. Hugs! Caitlan

Helping OTHERS

SAMARITANS PURSE CHRISTMAS SHOEBOXES

We are collecting shoeboxes again for Samaritan's purse. By filling ordinary shoeboxes full of toys and other fun items, you can be part of giving boys and girls what may be their first gift ever! Each box bursting with items such as a soccer ball, doll, or stuffed animal becomes a tangible expression of God's love to the child, their family, and their community.

Shoe boxes are available now. **Boxes must be returned to the church by Sunday, November 22** 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. <u>Please fill a box if you can or choose a different way to help families in need during this time.</u> As always, thank you for your generosity!

SOUP LUNCHEON FOR THANKSGIVING MEALS

The Social Ministry Committee invites 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 delicious desserts. This will also be a chance for you to express gratitude for the many blessings we share. Let's support our neighbors in need this Thanksgiving by helping provide meals for their families with a $25.00 Food Lion gift card. If you would like to contribute to this ministry, donations are welcome at any time or may be brought to the upcoming Soup Luncheon. Contributions can be made via cash or check payable to Lutheran Chapel, with "Thanksgiving meals" designated in the memo line. Please note that our committee uses these donations to purchase gift cards, ensuring that funds cannot be used for alcohol or tobacco products. 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. We look forward to seeing everyone for fellowship and a great meal! We look forward to this delicious and fun fellowship with our church family!

BE A BLESSING, ADOPT AN ANGEL

Bessemer City Boys & Girls Club

The Outreach Committee will be hosting the annual Boys and Girls Club of Bessemer City Christmas party on **Friday, December 11th**. The angel tree will be in the Narthex beginning Sunday, November 1. Please take an angel(s) and sign the sheet. If you would rather donate funds instead of shopping, please designate the club party on your check/giving. Please drop off your gifts at the church by Sunday, December 7th, placed in a bag with its angel tag securely attached. We will do the wrapping. Thank you for being a part of our outreach for the Boys and Girls Club!

This Month's Recipient: Crisis Pregnancy Center

November's Love Offering will be donated to the Crisis Pregnancy Center. They have served thousands of women, men, and their families. Their mission is to affirm the value of life by compassionately sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ and providing the following services: pregnancy counseling, abstinence education, limited ultrasounds and various other medical services, adolescent parenting programs, abortion education- procedures, risks, and alternatives, post abortion counseling to women, men, and families affected by crisis pregnancy situations, with the hope of changing lives. Each year, more than 300 clients accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior of their lives – praise be to God! In addition, the center provides things such as material assistance for babies (diapers, clothing, blankets), material assistance for moms (pregnancy tests, maternity clothes, necessities for nursing), car seats for infants provided by Speedway Charities and local fire departments, referrals for adoption to Lifeline and other Christian agencies.

We hope you will prayerfully consider supporting this ministry.

Thank you!

Social Ministry Committee

CRISIS PREGNANCY CENTER
OF GASTON COUNTY, INC.

Serving the CHURCH

NOVEMBER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	Assistant Minister	Acolyte	Lector	Crucifer	First Aid
November 1	Sylvia Fogle	Cameron Bell	Rob Andrews	Bram Comer	Perry Linkous
November 8	Norman Overcash	Renwick Royston		Corbin Brown	Gene Weaver
November 15	Adam DeLuca	Luke Hoffman	Katherine Sanders	Will Clark	Matt Hoffman
November 22	Chris Lowe	Elena Hoffman	Pam Overcash	Jordan Hoffman	Steve Clark
November 29	Noah Comer	Cameron Bell	Norman Overcash	Maddie Potter	Crown 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.***

NOVEMBER ALTAR FLOWERS

Cost of flowers is **$58.50.**

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

November 1	Given to the Glory of God in honor of Doug and Marion Rhyne's 70th Wedding Anniversary.
November 8	To the Glory of God for the Anniversary of Steve and Eula Ritchie.
November 15	Given to the Glory of God by Josh and Amy Baker for their 23rd Wedding Anniversary.
November 22	Given to the Glory of God by Pauline Bradley in memory of BT Bradley.
November 29	Poinsettias

From the MAIL BOX

Thank you for a wonderful time of worship and love with our Lutheran Chapel Church Family. Angie, Brittany and I were deeply touched by the worship service, the beautiful pot luck, fellowship and the gift given in my honor to LTSS. Please share with everyone involved how much we appreciated their hard work and support for our time together at Homecoming!

God Bless you and Your Ministry,

Dennis and Angie

Celebrating our MEMBERS

BIRTHDAYS — NOVEMBER

Peter Homovich	11/2
Charlotte Jenkins	11/2
Katie Potter	11/3
Kaitlyn Anthony	11/7
Ray Jenkins, Jr.	11/7
Renwick Royston	11/7
Mayada Besancon	11/8
Ann Lowe	11/8
Norman Overcash	11/14
Terry Ratchford	11/15
Scott Swindler	11/15
Kay Moretz	11/17
Pat Robinson	11/18
Chrystal Davis	11/20
Elizabeth Lagos	11/20
Sandra Martin	11/21
Bryson Lineberger	11/22
Drew Carpenter	11/24
David Comer	11/24
Charlotte Carpenter	11/25
Don Wankel	11/25
Heather Nigbor	11/26
David Harrill	11/30

ANNIVERSARIES — NOVEMBER

Peter & Nancy Homovich	11/10
Fred & Suzie Ward	11/13
Doug & Marion Rhyne	11/17

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 you 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 the office know so that we can enter it into the database.

News from Brit!

I'm excited about the opportunity to plan LCC churchwide events that bring us together to grow in Christ, as a congregation, and serve the community. I'm also here to support our individual committee leaders by helping add value to the wonderful events and activities already taking place at LCC.

Committee Leaders: Please feel free to contact me about your 2026–2027 events! I look forward to hearing your history and vision. This will help us complete an LCC Events calendar.

What's Coming Up?

Here are a few things I'm currently working on as we close out 2026:

· **LCC Blessing Bag Event** – Saturday November 14th from 1-4 pm.

· **LCC Events Calendar** – Helping organize and promote upcoming church activities.

· **Individual Committee Events** – Connecting with committee leaders to support their upcoming plans.

I'm looking forward to all that we can accomplish together as we continue growing in Christ, serving others, and building a stronger church family! **Let's connect!**

Email: activities@lutheranchapelchurch.org
Phone: 980-348-4831

Blessings,

Brit - *Activities Director*

Poinsettias

If you would like to place a poinsettia in the church for the Christmas season, please fill out the form below and return it to the church office by Sunday, November 22. Make your check payable to Lutheran Chapel, and note for Poinsettias on the check. Please pick up your flowers after the Christmas Eve Service.

Quantity:_____ @ 12.00 each=Total $ _____

In Honor of:_____

In Memory of: _____

Placed by: _____

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:00 Morning Prayer 8:30 Fellowship (FH) 9:00 Sunday School/Bible Study 10:00 Worship (S) 11:30 Chancel Choir (S) 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	**2** 8:30 Preschool **10:00 Esther Circle (FH)** **5:00 Rebecca Circle (FH)** 7-9 Cantamos Choir	**3** 8:30 Preschool	**4** 8:30 Preschool 5:30 Chapel Ringers (S) 6:00 Suffrages & Chosen (C)	**5** 8:30 Preschool	**6** Office Closed 9:00 Men's Community Bible Study	**7** 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH)
8 8:00 Morning Prayer 8:30 Fellowship (FH) 9:00 Sunday School/Bible Study 10:00 Worship (S) **11:00 Soup Luncheon (FLC)** **11:00 Confirmation (L)** 11:30 Chancel Choir (S) 4-6 Life in Christ (FH,C) 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	**9** 8:30 Preschool	**10** 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Work-day	**11** 8:30 Preschool 5:30 Chapel Ringers (S) 6:00 Suffrages & Chosen (C)	**12** 8:30 Preschool	**13** Office Closed 9:00 Men's Community Bible Study	**14** 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH) **1-4 Blessing Bag Event (FLC)**
15 8:00 Morning Prayer 8:30 Fellowship (FH) 9:00 Sunday School/Bible Study 10:00 Worship (S) **11:00 Council (FH)** 11:30 Chancel Choir (S) 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	**16** 8:30 Preschool 7-9 Cantamus Choir (FH)	**17** 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Work-day	**18** 8:30 Preschool 5:30 Chapel Ringers (S) 6:00 Suffrages & Chosen (C)	**19** 8:30 Preschool **11:00 OWL's**	**20** Office Closed 9:00 Men's Community Bible Study	**21** 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH)
22 8:00 Morning Prayer 8:30 Fellowship (FH) 9:00 Sunday School/Bible Study 10:00 Worship (S) 11:30 Chancel Choir (S) 4-6 Life in Christ (FH,C) 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	**23** 8:30 Preschool	**24** 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Work-day	**25**	**26 THANKSGIVING** Office Closed	**27** Office Closed 9:00 Men's Community Bible Study	**28** 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH)
29 8:00 Morning Prayer 8:30 Fellowship (FH) 9:00 Sunday School/Bible Study 10:00 Worship (S) 11:30 Chancel Choir (S) 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	**30** 8:30 Preschool 7-9 Cantamus Choir (FH)					

CHAPEL NEWS
November 2026

Michael C. Comer, Pastor

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

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