

AUGUST 2024

Chapel News

A Publication of Lutheran Chapel Church 702 N. New Hope Road Gastonia, NC 28054 Pastor Michael C. Comer Office: (704) 864-6491

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From the Pastor...

On Sabbath observance and the Day of Preparation

Friends in Christ,

Bible study on the Day of Preparation and Sabbath keeping today are below.

What is the Day of Preparation? It was the day before the Sabbath.

Does one need to prepare to rest? Yes, one must prepare to truly rest. As Rabbi Heschel wrote about Sabbath observance - to rest as if all one's work is complete (The Sabbath, Abraham Heschel).

How may one prepare? There is counsel from the Scriptures:

- God gives us the example to stop and behold the goodness (Genesis 1:31). Enjoy the gift of the good creation! Behold the goodness all around us.
- Six days we are to work to God's glory and the seventh day is for rest to Gods' glory (Exodus 20:9-10). Stop work. Rest is best.
- Preparations for meals are to be considered (remember the test of God's people with the manna, Exodus 16:23). Prepare meals beforehand so you can enjoy eating and drinking and not slaving in the kitchen or going out for the quick, expensive take out meal.
- True delight is not found in just doing what we want but delight in the LORD with rest and rejoicing (Isaiah 58:13-14). Rejoice in the LORD. So, here is the opportunity to play, sing, have fun, and so on.
- Offerings and tithes are to be intentionally set aside to give to God's glory and to help others (2 Corinthians 9:6-15). As an act of worship, consider what you give. As you are blessed, bless others.
- Come and worship with other believers. This is the apostolic example to receive "the apostles' teaching and the fellowship to the breaking of bread and the prayers" (Acts 2:42). Maybe it is even a good idea to spend some time on the Sunday Bible lessons to read them for oneself? God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit who is godly love and relationship

calls us to share life in community. Read (what a gift to be able to read!) the Word for yourself before weekly worship to claim the plain sense for oneself.

What does right Sabbath keeping look like? Receive the gifts of Jesus' Word and Sacrament. Worship God together in the gift of community. Rest. Play. Rejoice now and look forward to promise of the fulfillment to come (Revelation 21:5).

If I miss the Service, is that a sin? Yes. It is God's clear command to keep sabbath time. I have separated myself from God's will for me to worship. I have robbed myself of the gift of rest, Word, Sacrament, and fellowship period. Lord, have mercy.

Is missing the Service an unforgivable sin? No. There is only one unforgivable sin to blaspheme the Holy Spirit, traditionally understood as rejecting the gifts of God altogether and/or declaring the work of God as demonic (Mark 3:29).

What if I am sick? Whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets (Matthew 7:12). So, it is best to not come and spread sickness, right? Consider praying on-line. To receive the Sacrament, consider calling the Pastor to bring this gift to you towards healing.

Contemplate what keeping these days may mean in your journey. May the Holy Spirit grow us in the gift of sabbath rest in this time and place.

Peace in Christ, **Pastor Michael**





AUGUST Worship Assistants



	August 4	August 11	August 18	August 25
Acolyte	Luke Hoffman	Bryson Lineberger	Elena Hoffman	Hunter Clark
Crucifer	Bram Comer	Jordan Hoffman	Will Clark	Bram Comer
Assistant Minister	Norman Overcash	Adam DeLuca	Sylvia Fogle	Chris Lowe
Lector	Janie Peak	Beth Swindler	Josh Carpenter	Lisa Burch
First Aid/ AED/CPR	Tammy Royston	Debra Hoffman	Mark Thornburg	Ervin Hoffman

Council Members of the Month: Jenny Williamson and Gene Weaver

ALTAR FLOWERS ~ AUGUST

August 4 ~ Given by Ron & Ann Behringer

August 11 ~ Given by Pat Lindler

August 18 ~ Given by Terry & Trish Ratchford

August 25 ~ Given by Shirley Carpenter

Cost of flowers is \$55.00.

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



(Older Wiser LutheranS)

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

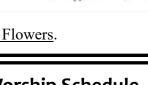


(Gastonia, NC)

<u>Thursday</u>, August 15

11:00am

Bellacino's





Worship Schedule
Sundays

8:30 am ~ Fellowship 9:00 am ~ Sunday School/Bible Study 10:00 am ~ Worship in Sanctuary

We will continue to stream the Sunday Worship Service live for those unable to attend in person.

Wednesdays

7:00 pm ~ Chapel
Simple Evening Prayer / Holy Communion
Come Worship with Us

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

FROM THE TREASURER... (JUNE'S FIGURES FROM JAMES)

Lutheran Chapel Income Statement Actual vs Budget for 6th month of the year ending June 30, 2024.

	Actual April 2024	Actual YTD	2024 Budget YTD	2024 Budget Over/(Under)
Donations	\$ 24,070.84	\$188,830.65	\$188,750.00	\$80.62
Distributions	\$26,480.26	\$160,739.79	\$188,714.50	\$ (27,974.77)
Net Cash	\$ (2,409.42)	\$28,090.92		



Treasurer Report

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



FROM THE MAILBOX...

My dearest friends in Christ,

Three spoken words that can change your life forever "You have cancer".

While going through mammograms, ultrasounds, biopsies and then surgeries, complications, and now finally healing, you were and are giving my family and me the love and support we needed. With your continued prayers, cards, meals, and texts of concern and encouragement, I am now cancer free! God has answered everyone's prayers in my favor and I thank you. May God bless each day that we are given so that His will may be done!

~Eula Ritchie



A PRAYER FOR OUR STUDENTS

DEAR GOD,
THANK YOU FOR THE GIFT OF
EDU(ATION IN EVERY FORM.
AS OUR (HILDREN PREPARE TO START A NEW YEAR
MAY (ONFIDEN(E BE THEIR FOUNDATION,
MAY GRA(E BE THEIR GUIDE AND
MAY HOPE BE THEIR (OMPASS TOWARD A BRIGHT FUTURE.
I PRAY THEY WOULD HAVE EYES TO SEE
THE NEEDS OF THOSE AROUND THEM
AND A HEART TO LOVE WELL.
MAY THEY FA(E EA(H DAY WITH POSITIVITY
KNOWING THAT NO MATTER
WHAT (OMES THEIR WAY,
THEY DO NOT HAVE TO FA(E IT ALONE.
IN JESUS' NAME, AMEN

Gastonia Salvation Army announces it is closing shelter

Excerpts from Story by Ken Lemon Courtesy of WSOC-TV

The operators of the Salvation Army announced they are closing the only shelter in Gastonia for people without a home.

The news stunned some people on the street and at the shelter, and Channel 9's Ken Lemon learned that they will stop taking new visitors on July 15...and they will shut down the shelter entirely about a month and a half later.

(Why?)...they're putting more focus on the root cause of the problem. The Salvation Army said in a statement that relying on a shelter is "not the most cost-effective, transformative way to serve those experiencing temporary homelessness."

Many people told Lemon they fear this means there will be more people back on the streets instead of in a warm bed.

AUGUST LOVE OFFERING CRISIS ASSISTANCE MINISTRY

Our love offering for **August** will be for Crisis Assistance Ministry. This ministry would not be possible without the financial gifts, food donations, and volunteer hours that 48 congregations in our county provide. The participation of our congregation is essential to ensure that CAM has an adequate food supply and enough money to meet the requests for assistance that they receive. Assistance to more than 330 families each month are provided by Crisis Assistance Ministry.

Please continue to place food donations in the blue box in our Sunday School wing. Last year our generous church family donated 213 bags of food. Social Ministry Committee will continue to deliver to CAM as donations are given.

It is vital to our community of neighbors that suffer under the burden of poverty and for those in financial crisis that we continue to support this ministry. CAM is continually tweaking their programs to improve the way that the needs of our community are met. The fact that CAM is very successful in meeting the needs of families and individuals is the very reason we need to continue to support them.

Please prayerfully consider your donation and help CAM to meet the essential life needs of food, rent/mortgage, utilities, and prescription medicines of people in need. Our congregation is always very generous each month to our love offerings, and we appreciate the support and love that you give to ministries as they work to stop the suffering of our neighbors.

Thank you, **Social Ministry Committee** Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and will be repaid in full. Proverbs 19:17

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

HOLY COMMUNION AT HOME

If you or your family are interested in receiving Communion in your home, please contact Pastor Michael at 704-787-6439 to set up an agreeable time for him to visit.



august celebrations

BIRTHDAYS

Caroline Carpenter1	Jason Sanders22
Ann Behringer2	Charles Heilig, IV
Kimberly Bell2	Lucinda Thornburg27
Chris Angstadt5	Baler Samders
Rachel Carpenter5	Faye Anne Boyette
Steve Bell7	Barbara Robinson
Janie Peak7	
Susan Cooper-Cox8	
Olivia Berghello10	
Gary Lindler16	anniversaries
Steve Jackson	
Carlton Peacock19	Ron & Ann Behringer
Emily Carpenter21	Erin & Cody Huffstetler
Ginny Comer	David & Susan Lewis







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

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Sun	Mon	Tue	PeM	Thu	E	Sat
	ACK BOOK			8:30 Preschool 11:00 Bible Study (L)	2	3 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH)
8:30 Fellowship 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:30 Chancel Choir 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	ro.	6 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday	7 8:30 Preschool 7:00 Evening Service (Ch)	8:30 Preschool (Last day) 11:00 Bible Study (L)	ത	1.0 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH)
11 8:30 Fellowship	12	13	14	15	16	17 9:30 Hundry Deens (FH)
9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 12:00-4:00 Private Event (FLC, KIT) 8:00 Faith Group (FH)		10:00 Clothing Closet Workday	7:00 Evening Service (Ch)	11:00 Bible Study (L) 11:00 OWLs Gathering (Bellacino's) 6:00-8:00 Preschool Open House		(T.I.) sclapp. A cocho (T.I.)
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
8:30 Fellowship 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:30 Chancel Choir 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	Newsletter Articles Due	10:00 Clothing Closet Workday	7:00 Evening Service (Ch)	11:00 Bible Study (L)		9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH) 9:30 –3:00 Choir Work- shop (Sanc, FH)
8:30 Fellowship 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	26 8:30 Preschool (First Day Fall Semester)	8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday	28 8:30 Preschool 7:00 Evening Service (Ch)	29 8:30 Preschool 11:00 Bible Study (L)	08	31 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH)







Bell Choir Invitation

New and experienced ringers are invited to join our Bell Choir Rehearsals: 5:30 Tuesdays beginning Aug. 27 In the Choir Room

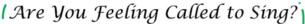
Contact Kathie if you are interested: music@lutheranchapelchurch.org

LUTHER CHOIR

Children 6 yrs old - 9th grade are welcome to learn to sing with this exciting group. Practices are 1th and 3th Sundays right after worship. Meet in the Music Suite.

Come and see how fun it is to make music in this special group.







Please consider joining the Chancel Choir. We would love to have you join us.

Rehearsals - Sundays at 11:30

Please contact Kathie for details: music@lutheranchapelchurch.org



Edward



Do you play an instrument?
We welcome you to offer that gift to God's worship.



Please contact Kathie to talk about sharing your music: music@lutheranchapelchurch.org





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

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Michael C. Comer, Pastor

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www.facebook.com/lccgastonia

MISSION STATEMENT: We at Lutheran Chapel Church are called by God to PROCLAIM Christ as Lord and Savior; to SEEK and 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.