



# Chapel News

A Publication of Lutheran Chapel Church

702 N. New Hope Road

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**AUGUST 2024**

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

**Council Members of the Month:** Jenny Williamson and Gene Weaver

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

## 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.



## OWLS

(Older Wiser LutheranS)

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

**Bellacino's**  
(Gastonia, NC)

**Thursday, August 15**

**11:00am**



## 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*

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

Lutheran Chapel Income Statement Actual vs Budget for 6<sup>th</sup> 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

## 6 tips for easing into the new school year



Set out clothes and backpacks and pack lunch the night before school.



Label sweatshirts, bookbags, lunch boxes, and other items.



Ask questions that help tell a story.



Memorize important names and numbers.



Read school notices.



Communicate with your child’s teacher.

## A PRAYER FOR OUR STUDENTS

DEAR GOD,  
 THANK YOU FOR THE GIFT OF  
 EDUCATION IN EVERY FORM.  
 AS OUR CHILDREN PREPARE TO START A NEW YEAR  
 MAY CONFIDENCE BE THEIR FOUNDATION,  
 MAY GRACE BE THEIR GUIDE AND  
 MAY HOPE BE THEIR COMPASS 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 FACE EACH DAY WITH POSITIVITY  
 KNOWING THAT NO MATTER  
 WHAT COMES THEIR WAY,  
 THEY DO NOT HAVE TO FACE 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 Carpenter ..... 1  
Ann Behringer ..... 2  
Kimberly Bell ..... 2  
Chris Angstadt ..... 5  
Rachel Carpenter ..... 5  
Steve Bell ..... 7  
Janie Peak ..... 7  
Susan Cooper-Cox ..... 8  
Olivia Berghello ..... 10  
Gary Lindler ..... 16  
Steve Jackson ..... 19  
Carlton Peacock ..... 19  
Emily Carpenter ..... 21  
Ginny Comer ..... 22

Jason Sanders ..... 22  
Charles Heilig, IV ..... 27  
Lucinda Thornburg ..... 27  
Baler Samders ..... 30  
Faye Anne Boyette ..... 31  
Barbara Robinson ..... 31

**ANNIVERSARIES**

Ron & Ann Behringer ..... 1  
Erin & Cody Huffstetler ..... 3  
David & Susan Lewis ..... 7



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY  
ANNIVERSARY**



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

# AUGUST 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						
<b>4</b> 8:30 Fellowship 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:30 Chancel Choir 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday	<b>7</b> 8:30 Preschool 7:00 Evening Service (Ch)	<b>8</b> 8:30 Preschool (Last day) 11:00 Bible Study (L)	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH)
<b>11</b> 8:30 Fellowship 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 12:00-4:00 Private Event (FLC, KIT) 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday	<b>14</b> 7:00 Evening Service (Ch)	<b>15</b> 11:00 Bible Study (L) 11:00 OWLs Gathering (Bellacino's) 6:00-8:00 Preschool Open House	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH)
<b>18</b> 8:30 Fellowship 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:30 Chancel Choir 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	<b>19</b> Newsletter Articles Due	<b>20</b> 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday	<b>21</b> 7:00 Evening Service (Ch)	<b>22</b> 11:00 Bible Study (L)	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH) 9:30 - 3:00 Choir Work- shop (Sanc, FH)
<b>25</b> 8:30 Fellowship 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	<b>26</b> 8:30 Preschool (First Day Fall Semester)	<b>27</b> 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday	<b>28</b> 8:30 Preschool 7:00 Evening Service (Ch)	<b>29</b> 8:30 Preschool 11:00 Bible Study (L)	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH)







# Music MINISTRY

New



**Choir Members**  
*Welcome!*



## 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](mailto:music@lutheranchapelchurch.org)

## LUTHER CHOIR

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

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



## Are You Feeling Called to Sing?



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](mailto:music@lutheranchapelchurch.org)



## Calling all Instrumentalists

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](mailto:music@lutheranchapelchurch.org)



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**Non Profit Organization**  
US postage Paid  
Gastonia, NC  
Permit #232



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Michael C. Comer, Pastor

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Preschool: 704-864-5136

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[lutheranchapelchurch.org](http://lutheranchapelchurch.org)

[www.facebook.com/lccgastonia](http://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.