



# Chapel News

A Publication of Lutheran Chapel Church

702 N. New Hope Road

Gastonia, NC 28054

Pastor Michael C. Comer

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**SEPTEMBER 2024**

## Communion and Friendship with God: Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit

Friends in Christ,

Some reflections on the Great Commandment our Lord Jesus gives us as we look to **Rally Day 2024** on **September 22**. Don't miss the gift of God's Word for you!

***You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. Mark 12:30***

◆ *Loving with all the heart*

The heart is the center of personhood and will. In Jesus, the love of God for me is made known and His will to save me is made known on the Cross. What is the focus of my will? How will I love God today?

◆ *Loving with all the soul*

The soul is our breath and being. The Holy Spirit is given to us in our baptism that we may belong to Him and abide with Him. What is the focus of my soul? How will I abide in Him today breath by breath, aware of Him in me and in the midst of His people?

◆ *Loving with all the mind*

The mind is our awareness and understanding. In Jesus, the Word of God is given that we may grow in understanding "thy Word is lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path" (re: Psalm 119:105). What is God's Word saying to me? Hearing the gift of His Word, how will I now live?

◆ *Loving with all strength*

The strength is our energy and power to act. God gave strength to David to slay Goliath and God gave the drive to Paul to share the Gospel with the Gentiles. What is the focus of my strength? What will I do now to glorify God?

**Warning:** As you explore your friendship with God beware that you do not make up a god or put god in a box to fit your own ideas. Remember Aaron, the first high priest, made the golden calf and he did this to please people (re: Exodus 32). God is free to act and will surprise you.

Peace in Christ,

**Pastor Michael**





# SEPTEMBER Worship Assistants



	September 1	September 8	September 15	September 22	September 29
<b>Acolyte</b>	Renwick Royston	Cameron Bell	Corbin Brown	Luke Hoffman	Bryson Lineberger
<b>Crucifer</b>	Olivia Berghello	Christian Mull	Maddie Potter		Jordan Hoffman
<b>Assistant Minister</b>	Sylvia Fogle		Chris Lowe		
<b>Lector</b>	Bram Comer	Ratchford Family	Katherine Sanders	Jenny Williamson	Jason Sanders
<b>First Aid/AED/CPR</b>	Peery Linkous	Gene Weaver	Matt Hoffman	Steve Clark	Crown Hoffman

**Council Members of the Month:** Drew Carpenter and Steve Ritchie

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

## ALTAR FLOWERS ~ SEPTEMBER

**September 1** ~ Given by Keith & Teresa Yarborough in honor of their 47<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

**September 8** ~ Given by Henry & Debra Hoffman in honor of their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary & Matt's Birthday.

**September 15** ~ Given by Steve & Delana Clark in honor of their 53<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary.

**September 22** ~ Given by Ken & Ann Marie Lentz in honor of September birthdays.

**September 29** ~ Given by Rick & Janie Peak in honor of their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.



Cost of flowers is \$55.00.  
Please be sure to note your payment is for Altar Flowers.

## Wednesday Evening Prayer Chapel ~ 7pm

All are invited to come for Wednesday night Vespers and fellowship at 7PM!

Starting on **September 4**, the historic Vespers liturgy will be sung. The focus in God's Word is the Psalter.

Time for prayer together using Luther's Simple Way to Pray, news on the persecuted Christian Church, and fellowship afterwards are offered too.

Come and see!



Please join us for Rally Day on Sunday, **September 22<sup>nd</sup>** at **9:00am** in the **Fellowship Hall**. Pick-up breakfast items will be provided as we gather for fellowship to "kick-off" a new Sunday School year!

*Give blood.*

Every 2 seconds someone  
in the U.S. needs blood.

**American Red Cross**



**Blood Drive**  
**Lutheran Chapel Church**

Family Life Center  
702 N New Hope Road  
Gastonia, NC 28054

**Wednesday, September 11th**  
**2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org)  
and enter: LutheranChapel to schedule an appointment.

Maximize your blood donation. Help more patients.  
If you are an eligible type O, B - or A - donor, consider making a Power Red donation.  
Red blood cells are the most commonly transfused blood component.



Come to give blood Sept. 1 to Sept. 15 for an  
**EXCLUSIVE Red Cross raglan shirt, while supplies last**



Scan to schedule  
an appointment.

1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) | Download the Blood Donor App

©2016 The American National Red Cross

## FROM THE TREASURER...

Lutheran Chapel Income Statement Actual vs Budget for 7<sup>th</sup> month of the year ending July 31 2024.

	Actual July 2024	Actual YTD	2024 Budget YTD	2024 Budget Over/(Under)
<b>Donations</b>	\$ 29,810.21	\$218,640.86	\$220,208.33	\$ 1,567.47
<b>Distributions</b>	\$ 24,074.37	\$184,814.10	\$220,166.92	\$ (34,419.48)
<b>Net Cash</b>	\$ 5,735.84	\$ 33,826.76		



**Treasurer  
Report**

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

### LUTHERAN CHAPEL CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MINUTES JULY 28, 2024

Council made decisions and discussed the following:

- A financial report as of June 30, 2024 was presented and although we were over budget \$2,400 for the month, we are still under budget for the year.
- A motion was made and unanimously passed for the \$500 scholarship to Lenoir Rhyne be continued for the upcoming school year.
- Due to the closing of the Salvation Army, council approved the gifts for the homeless bags.
- There was discussion to invite the chairpersons of our Outreach team to serve on the Emergency Family Fund for transparency around those we help. Pastor will reach out to said chairpersons.
- Rally Day was set for September 22, 2024.
- The Organist Search Committee reported to have a promising candidate that they would like to move forward with pending a meeting with Kathie and the absent committee members. A motion was made and unanimously approved to move forward.
- The Endowment Committee is in need of two members to replace Ken Obenauf and Nancy Witman.
- Church Mutual is not renewing churches over 20 years. We are getting quotes from five companies with Sovereign Insurance Group who specializes in churches and educational facilities
- Our Administrative Assistant Becky Shaw has resigned. Kim has agreed to fill in until a replacement has been found.
- James Hovis presented a list from the Property Committee of items that need to be dealt with. The furnace in the parsonage needs to be updated/replaced. Approval was given by council to repair leak in the Family Life Center. Rain gutters are currently being repaired. James advised that we have \$25,000 in the annual budget for maintenance. Payment for the flat roof will come from the Lutheran Chapel Endowment Fund.
- The Communications Committee reported that the calendar on the website has been updated. Also, Facebook no longer allows group sharing so we cannot stream to Facebook.

The next full council meeting is scheduled for September 15, 2024.



### CIRCLE NEWS

- ⇒ *Esther Circle* will be meeting on Monday, September 16 at 10:00 in the Fellowship Hall.
- ⇒ *Rebecca Circle* will meet Monday, September 9 at 7pm at the home of Ann Edwards.

### SAVE THE DATE!!!



*Women of the Church*  
*Christmas Tea*  
*December 7, 2024 at 12pm*  
*Family Life Center*

### OWLS

(Older Wiser LutheranS)

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



**The Captain's Cap**  
**(Belmont)**  
**Thursday, September 26**  
**11:00am**

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### **Over 60 Banquet** **Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup>**

After a four year hiatus, the **Over 60 Banquet** sponsored by WELCA is back!

Please join us as we celebrate our members who are "Over 60" with a luncheon on Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup> immediately following the 10:00am service in the Family Life Center.

A wonderful catered lunch will be provided. Mark your calendars and make plans to join us for a time of food and fellowship!

**MARK YOUR  
CALENDAR!**

#### **Church Picnic**

**October 15 @ 6:00 pm**

Please mark your calendars to attend a church picnic for the congregation on Tuesday evening, **October 15<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00PM** in the picnic shelter.



### ATTENTION PARENTS OF COLLEGE STUDENTS!

The Women's Circles of Lutheran Chapel kindly request that the parents of college students give their child's college address to the church office. We would like to send your child a gift but if we don't have the addresses we will be unable to do so. We would like to continue this ministry and are excited to show our college students love and care.

*Women of the Lutheran Chapel WELCA*



*The reason for loving God is God Himself. As to how He is to be loved there is only one measure: it is immeasurable!* -From **On Loving God** by St. Bernard of Clairvaux

## SEPTEMBER LOVE OFFERING ~ HOUSE OF MERCY

Our love offering for **September** will be given to the House of Mercy. The mission of House of Mercy is to provide care to persons living with advanced AIDS. This ministry cares and provides housing arrangements for those who cannot afford the costs. An environment of complete acceptance and love is provided in a home-like setting. House of Mercy provides a caring structure of regular meals, scheduled medical appointments, and medicines. The program offers individuals the opportunity to deal with spiritual issues and encourages family reconciliation when families are in disarray.

2024 marks the House of Mercy's 33rd year of service for persons living with AIDS. Nearly 350 persons have made House of Mercy their home since 1991. Without our donations, this ministry could not continue to exist because 80% of their operating budget comes from contributions.

We ask that you please remember this ministry in your prayers and monetary offerings.

Thank you,  
**Social Ministry Committee**



## MUSIC NOTES



On July 21, I walked into the Music Suite to find more water than I have ever seen inside a room. I cannot express how grateful I am that Bram Comer and Pastor Michael were there trying to get a handle on what needed to be done first.

Since that morning, there have been an army of God's soldiers who have worked diligently and with a great deal of focus to get things "put to right" – from moving things out of the water, to drying things out, to getting professionals in to take care of the bigger issues, to moving my office and the music storage cabinets.

Thank you, thank you, thank you to all who have helped with this herculean effort.

*Thank  
you* ♥

## NEWS FROM THE COURTYARD

We hope you have been able to enjoy the beauty of God's creations in our newly renovated courtyards despite the heat and the frequent rains this summer! The sun and the rain have provided much needed nourishment for our new plantings in both courtyards as well as outside of the sanctuary and fellowship hall. They have also provided ample opportunities for our volunteers to cut grass, weed and prune the bushes and trees!



**If you are interested in helping with the ongoing maintenance of the courtyards please contact Sylvia Fogle.**

*Rest in Him alone. Man knows no peace in the world, but he has no disturbance when he is with God. -From On Loving God by St. Bernard of Clairvaux*

## Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

The Social Ministry Committee would like to sincerely thank our congregational family for your generous donations to help supply children in our area with school supplies. The final total donated was \$2,226.00. The supplies were given to Woodhill Elementary School and with the help of teachers, school counselors, and social workers, children will receive needed supplies. Staff at Woodhill were very grateful for our donations to their students.

### Supplies purchased for Woodhill Elementary School

- 152 (3-ring) notebooks
- 3,250 pencils
- 120 pencil pouches
- 340 bound composition notebooks
- 1,200 pencil cap erasers
- 200 boxes of crayons
- 100 boxes of colored pencils
- 452 plastic folders
- 48 boxes of Kleenex
- 24 large hand sanitizers
- 3,000 band aids
- 70 headphones for chromebooks



We pray that this gives each child the same opportunity as other children to begin the school year, prepared and proud of their new supplies. This could be the encouragement they need to jumpstart a successful and fun school year. We know this will make a difference in the lives of these children and we are so grateful for your love and support.

Thank you again for all that you do for our community and for families in need!



### **FROM THE MAILBOX...**

Dear Friends,

On behalf of Gaston County Schools, thank you once again for your annual collection and purchase of school supplies. Every year, Delana Clark faithfully reaches out to offer this resource that blesses our teachers and children and we are grateful for the efforts of all who contribute, help shop and deliver!

Thanks to your great generosity and support, the start of school is a little brighter for some of our children most in need of some fresh supplies to make those first days more exciting. To be the first one to open a new box of crayons, or to put the first words on a notebook's white page helps rise a child's self-esteem. On these first days of school so much seems new and possible!

We appreciate your support and share our gratitude for your kindness.

Sincerely,

*Valerie Yatko*

Director of Business & Community Partnerships

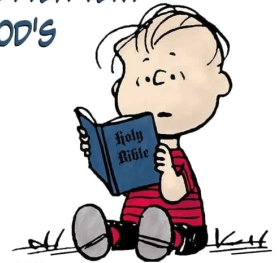
**SEND A NOTE OF ENCOURAGEMENT  
TO OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS**

**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

**THERE IS NO BETTER TEACHER  
THAN THE HOLY SPIRIT  
& NO BETTER TEXT  
THAN GOD'S  
WORD.**



YESUS IS MY ROCK

THANK YOU, PEANUTS.



## SEPTEMBER CELEBRATIONS



### BIRTHDAYS

Ervin Hoffman .....	3	Lisa Burch.....	20
Chris Lowe .....	4	Alex Berghello, Jr.....	21
Katherine Sanders .....	6	Zac Lentz .....	22
Mike Bell.....	7	Wesley Baker.....	23
Matt Hoffman.....	7	James Dean .....	23
Ben Carpenter.....	8	Craig Thornburg .....	24
Amy Lloyd .....	8	Bram Comer .....	25
Leigh Woody.....	8	Melissa Darrow.....	25
Amy Brown.....	9	Helaina Robinson .....	27
Caroline Comer .....	11	Alfred Lineberger .....	28
Stuart Hester.....	11	Morgan Carpenter McCarthy.....	28
Blair Thornburg.....	12	Margaret Hovis .....	29
Sarah Catherine Davis.....	15	Charlotte Elkin.....	30
Joe Veale .....	16	Ann Marie Lentz.....	30
Katie Moses.....	18		

### ANNIVERSARIES

Keith & Teresa Yarborough .....	1	Barry & Sandra Martin .....	26
Henry & Debra Hoffman.....	7	Jason & Katherine Sanders.....	26
Michael & Lynda Ellington.....	14	Rick & Janie Peak.....	29
Steve & Delana Clark.....	18		





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

*Real happiness will come not in gratifying our desires or in gaining transient pleasures but in accomplishing God's will for us, even as we pray everyday:*

*Thy will be done. -From **On Loving God** by St. Bernard of Clairvaux*



# September 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 8:30 Fellowship 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	<b>2</b> <i>Office Closed</i> 	<b>3</b> 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday 5:30 Chapel Ringers	<b>4</b> 8:30 Preschool 7:00 Evening Service (Ch)	<b>5</b> 8:30 Preschool 11:00 Bible Study (L)	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH)
<b>8</b> 8:30 Fellowship 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:30 Chancel Choir 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	<b>9</b> 8:30 Preschool 7:00 Rebecca Circle @ Ann Edwards Home	<b>10</b> 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday 5:30 Chapel Ringers 7:00 Cantamos Choir (FH)	<b>11</b> 8:30 Preschool 2:00 Blood Drive (FLC) 7:00 Evening Service (Ch)  	<b>12</b> 8:30 Preschool 11:00 Bible Study (L) 6:00 Chosen Mission Grp (Pav/Ch)	<b>13</b> 8:00-5:00 Private Event Set-up (FLC/Kit)	<b>14</b> 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH)
<b>15</b> 8:30 Fellowship 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:00 Council Mtg. (CR) 11:05 Luther Choir (FH) 11:40 Chancel Choir 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	<b>16</b> 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Esther Circle (FH)  Newsletter Articles Due	<b>17</b> 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday 5:30 Chapel Ringers	<b>18</b> 8:30 Preschool 7:00 Evening Service (Ch)	<b>19</b> 8:30 Preschool 11:00 Bible Study (L)	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH)
<b>22</b> <b>RALLY DAY</b> 9:00 Fellowship (FH)/ Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:30 Chancel Choir 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	<b>23</b> 8:30 Preschool	<b>24</b> 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday 5:30 Chapel Ringers 7:00 Cantamos Choir (FH)	<b>25</b> 8:30 Preschool 7:00 Evening Service (Ch)	<b>26</b> 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Bible Study (L) 11:00 OWLS @ Captain's Cap (Belmont)	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH)
<b>29</b> 8:30 Fellowship 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:05 Luther Choir 11:40 Chancel Choir 4:00 Chosen Mission Grp (Ch) 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	<b>30</b> 8:30 Preschool		  <i>First day of Fall</i> <i>September 22</i>			

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

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# Chapel News

## SEPTEMBER 2024

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.