



CELC Newsletter

Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Church Website: www.celcstanley.com

Peace be with you?

Possible Question From a Visitor to Any Lutheran Church (or any church that maintains the ancient Liturgy) : One thing that I find really strange at Worship is the "Sharing of Peace". Why do you do this?

Answer: There is no better way to describe the custom of exchanging the greeting of peace at Worship than the words of St. Augustine in the 4th century: *"Before the Holy Communion, say 'Peace be with you.' Christians then embrace one another with a holy kiss [2 Corinthians 13.11-12]. This is the sign of peace."*

In the primitive church at Rome and in the Eastern Church, the Kiss of Peace was the gesture used to share the peace of Christ and was offered after the first part of the Divine Service (after the preaching of the Word) and before the Eucharistic Prayer. Early baptismal documents also indicate that the exchange of peace was reserved only for the 'faithful,'—that is, the baptized, confirmed and communing members, and so the catechumens who were studying the Faith were dismissed before the Prayers of the Faithful, which was followed by the Kiss of Peace.

In the Western Church, very early on, the sign of peace was moved in the Service to where it is as Augustine described it and where it is today. The Western Church saw a close link between peace and Holy Communion [Matthew 5.23]--there is the necessity to be at peace with one another before receiving the Prince of Peace.

Custom dictates how the kiss of peace is exchanged in each place: a handshake, an embrace, words of peace, or other actions. In Japan, for example, the celebrant bows deeply to the congregation who in turn bow towards him and then bow respectfully to one another. It is a sign that works well in their culture. During flu season we offer the sign of peace in various appropriate ways. How the sign of peace is given will vary, but its meaning remains the same: To forgive our sister or brother before we approach the Altar and receive the Body and Blood of the Savior so that we do not eat or drink unworthily. The sharing of the peace aides the faithful in "discerning the body of Christ (the Church). St. Paul talks about participating in the Holy Communion without "discerning the body of Christ" for further study re-read 1Corinthians 11.26ff.

--Hope this helps when one of your friends asks you why you do this. The Peace of God which surpasses all understanding guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

+Pastor Frye

Prayer Concerns

Immediate Care Concerns: Lillian Chronister, Hubert Abernathy, Bertie Billups, Tyree Bost, Lindy Hawley, Christine Wallace, Gaynelle Moore, Pearl Summey, Libby Michael, Jimmy Harrison, Richard Smith, Susan Wyatt, Eddie Wyatt

Home-bound Members: Ruth Cloninger, Gaynelle Moore, Phyllis Hawley, Pearl Summey, Lindy Hawley

Members in Nursing Homes Edna Lineberger (502 B), is in Stanley Total Living Center, Christine Wallace is at Huntersville Health & Rehabilitation Ctr., 13835 Boren St. Huntersville, Sarah Lewis is at Carillon Cramer Mountain (Room C-2).

Friends and Relatives:

Everette Lineberger	Jewel West	Cindy Turry	Bob Stewart	Chris Davidson
Ann Lineberger	Eddie Rhyne	Jennifer Champagne	Gail Conner	Harry Murphy
Karen Scrivani	Joe Canipe	Tom Hodge	Steve McAlister	Eleanor Flowers
Ron Ritchie	Tom Olls	Wanda Murphy	Amy Blythe	Robert Caskaddon
Bob Hilton	Rod Rudisill	Vivian Lineberger		

April Birthday's

6 Connie Dixon
12 Bud Abernathy
17 Gabe Price
27 Whitney Clark
27 Nicholas Price
29 Sherry Helms



A BIG Thank you to Brian Robinson catching the Raccoon that was in our ceilings. Thank you, Brian.

Anniversary

6 Maurice & Martha Jean McIntosh
26 Neal & Pat Ritchie

Baptism Anniversary

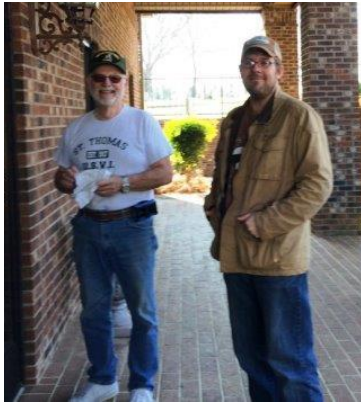
1 Rick Chapman	14 Lisa Cloninger
1 David Lewis	14 Martha Jean McIntosh
4 Judy Abernathy	14 Eddie Wyatt
4 David Clark	20 Eleanor Abernathy
10 Donnie Clippard	28 Lindy Hawley
10 Larry Cloninger	28 Steve Hawley
11 Doug Hawkins	29 Sherry Helms
13 Rene' Clippard	



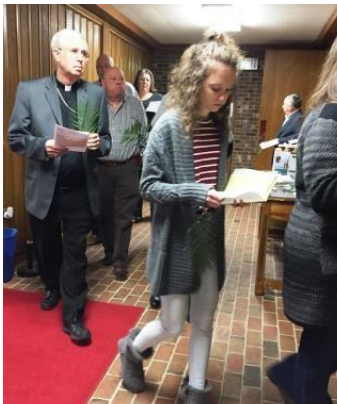
Thank you to Rick & Ann Chapman, Bitsy Medlin, Anne Fields, Gil Harris & Judy & Bud Abernathy, for decorating the church for Easter.



Workday 2018



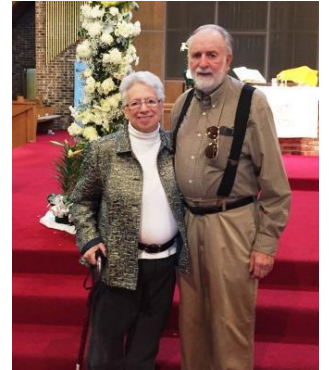
Palm Sunday



On this rainy and cold Palm Sunday we walked into the church with celebration of our Jesus. The journey to begin Holy Week.



EASTER 2018



A beautiful day to celebrate the
Resurrection of our Lord and
Savior.
The wonderful gift of eternal
life for us all.
Enjoy pictures from breakfast
and the church service.
Hallelujah He is Risen ... He Is
Risen Indeed!!!

Making decorations for the Fiesta



Evening "South of the Border"







A grand celebration in honor of our Pastor Frye! We pulled this big secret off after five weeks of planning and he was SURPRISED! The Fiesta party was so colorful, food was delicious and the roasting of Pastor Frye was so much fun! Thanks to "ALL" members for helping with this party and sharing your time and talents in so many ways! This is truly a party to remember... we got you Pastor! And we do appreciate you!!

Upcoming Events

Toilet Tissue Drive

The Women of the Church are starting a toilet paper drive for the food pantry. Please bring toilet tissue and put on the table in the memorial corridor.

Thanks

Church Council Meeting

There will be a church council meeting on April 8th at 6:00pm. All church council members please plan to attend.

Women's Bible Study

The next Women's Bible Study will be on April 10th at 10am in the Fellowship Hall. Please

Cemetery Clean-up Day

There will be a cemetery clean-up day for Saturday, April 28th beginning at 8am. There will be a lunch for all who participate.

Website

If you have the chance, please go into www.celcstanley , and look at our new website. We are still adding things but it is up and running.

Attention: All Graduates. Please email me, your information so I can get it into the May or June's newsletter. Also, upcoming, I will need your children's awards and accomplishments.

Protection sought for Stanley Cemetery



Bob Mahovsky and Tommy Deese in historic Stanley Cemetery.

[BILL POTEAT/THE GAZETTE]

Efforts are underway to ensure that the historic Stanley Cemetery, home to the graves of dozens of veterans and with burial sites going back to the early 1800s, will be cared for both in the immediate future and in the decades beyond.

The cemetery, located adjacent to Christ's Lutheran Church on N.C. 27, just east of the Stanley Town Hall, is neither a municipal cemetery nor a church cemetery, a situation which has placed its future upkeep in doubt.

Town government decided to stop using municipal funds to maintain the cemetery last year, citing the fact that Stanley does not own the property.

"We just think this historic cemetery is a community responsibility which we all need to step up to and help preserve," said Bob Mahovsky, chairman of the organizing group which is seeking to establish a tax-exempt, 501c3 foundation to handle the fundraising for the preservation effort. The incorporated foundation will be named the Stanley Cemetery Ancestry Fund.

"Will this historic cemetery, final resting place for hundreds of our ancestors and veterans of virtually every war this country has fought, become a patch of overgrown weeds?" Mahovsky asked. "Will it become an embarrassment to the town, lying as it does along Stanley's main thoroughfare and a single block from its targeted downtown revitalization area?"

Helping Mahovsky in the preservation efforts for the cemetery, which spreads across eight acres and is home to more than 1,000 graves, are the Rev. Wesley Frye, the Rev. Dan King, and community resident Tommy Deese, who will serve on the foundation's initial board of directors.

Also working with the group is Doris Cope, who is spearheading efforts to have the cemetery placed on the National Register of Historic Places and to repair aging gravestones that have been broken or fallen into disrepair.

"The focus of this effort has shifted from legal responsibility to moral responsibility," Mahovsky said. "We believe the moral responsibility for the care of this historic cemetery lies with our entire community."

Mahovsky said he is hopeful that the community's churches, civic leaders, and families who have members buried in the cemetery will rally to help ensure its continued upkeep and maintenance.

The group's immediate goal, Mahovsky said, is to organize a nonprofit fund to pay for the maintenance of the low growing vegetation in the cemetery as the spring mowing season begins. Looking toward the long term, the group hopes to create and endow a perpetual care fund as a permanent solution to the cemetery's maintenance needs.

"Our goal is not to just come up with a short-term solution," Mahovsky emphasized. "Our goal is to establish a perpetual care fund which will ensure this cemetery is always maintained."

More information about the cemetery preservation effort may be obtained by contacting Mahovsky at scancestryfund@gmail.com.

Donations may be mailed to The Stanley Cemetery Ancestry Fund, c/o T. Deese, Treasurer, P.O. Box 722, Stanley, NC, 28614.

Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church Cemetery Committee Report

ATTENTION ALL FAMILIES WITH RELATIVES IN THE STANLEY

CEMETERY! We are planning a new program of remembrance for this Memorial Day and every Memorial Day henceforth. Let us call your attention to a very important question and some very important information.

WHO IS TAKING CARE OF YOUR ANCESTOR'S CEMETERY PLOT?

Many years ago when your ancestors, great ancestors, great great ancestors passed away there was a belief that the loved ones would never leave them and would take care of the burial site. So a perpetual care fund was never created because it was felt there was no need for it.

For a long time, family members and friends did take care of the grave sites of those they loved and respected. Sadly, for those in the cemetery as our society became more mobile some people moved away, or other family issues came about, therefore the burial sites were left unattended.

For the last few decades the Town of Stanley was the primary organization to maintain the grounds in the historic Stanley Cemetery. In the year 2017 that came to an end. The Town of Stanley elected to cease all care for the Stanley Cemetery. They said it is up to those who own the land to do the maintenance. Denying the reality that those who are buried in the cemetery own the land in which they are buried.

So, who now will care for those who went before us?

A new non-profit private charity, led by people like you who have relatives buried in the Stanley Cemetery, is trying to step up to show love and respect for our ancestors. But this small group cannot do it alone. Your financial help is needed if the STANLEY CEMETERY ANCESTRY FUND is going to be able to take on this important and very urgent responsibility.

Please communicate this important work to all your family members so that they may also choose to show love and respect for their relatives by supporting the nonprofit group that will fund the work to maintain the Stanley Cemetery

Please read the following donation information page, enter the requested information and either place it in the offering plate or mail it to The Stanley Cemetery Ancestry Fund, at this church address.

We are requesting family members and friends of those buried in the Stanley Cemetery honor and respect their friends and relatives through new designated fund annual donations into the Stanley Cemetery Ancestry Fund in the months of April and May (before Memorial Day). These funds are critical for us to begin maintaining the Stanley Cemetery. Without these donations the cemetery maintenance will have no operating funds and sadly become overgrown, leaving us susceptible to receiving a nuisance citation from the Town of Stanley

What does it cost to maintain a double cemetery plot?

Based on a similar existing program in Donalsonville, Georgia, that has been acting as a perpetual care fund for over 25 years, the cost of maintaining a plot for two individuals has been calculated to cost \$75.00 per year. Larger plots take more time to maintain and cost more. A family plot for 4 would cost \$150.00 per year. To create reserves and exist as a perpetual care fund, the Donalsonville program received multi-thousand-dollar donations from some donor's bequeaths, some from qualified charitable donations (that reduce taxable income), and just generally large donations from those who saw the need and accepted the moral responsibility to build a perpetual care fund. The Town of Stanley said it cost them \$13,000.00 per year to maintain the cemetery. So your generosity is greatly needed.

Can these donations come from general fund contributions?

No. Please remember that we are asking that these contributions be a new additional responsibility donation for each person/family, and donations into the Church general offering not be affected by the funding of this new designated fund. The administration and oversight of the Stanley Cemetery Ancestry Fund will evolve into a group separate from our church and its administration will contract for mowing the low growing vegetation and pay expenses for the cemetery maintenance with the oversight of its own administration and board of directors. This new group will take some time to process the necessary N.C. State forms to become a not-for-profit corporation and our church is assisting in collecting donations so that maintenance crews can be contracted and paid as soon as possible to avoid the cemetery becoming overgrown with tall grass and weeds.

For more information, or to volunteer your time and talent, you may contact one of the individuals listed below (all of whom are working to solve this problem):

Pastor Frye, Judy Abernathy, or Bob Mahovsky

Please tear off the form below and place it in your regular offering envelope, or in a generic offering envelope available in each pew where you sit in the church. Please remember to write "For Ancestry Fund" on your check. Donations may also be mailed to: **The Stanley Cemetery Ancestry Fund, c/o T. Deese, Treasurer, P.O. Box 772, Stanley, NC 28164.**

STANLEY CEMETERY ANCESTRY FUND DONATION FORM

Donation from: _____ To honor: _____

Donation amount: \$ _____

Is a donation receipt requested? ____no ____yes. If yes please complete the following:

Name: _____ Email address/Phone no: _____

Street Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Note from the Church Council President

Many thanks to all who helped with the Lenten Meals and Lenten Services. The food and fellowship, as well as the inspirational Lenten Sermons were wonderful. I also want to thank the many planners, helpers, and contributors who made the Mexican Celebration honoring our Pastor such a huge success. We had an awesome turnout. Thank you to those who helped plan and prepare the wonderful Easter breakfast. Everyone certainly enjoyed it.

Special thanks to those who helped decorate our church for Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. It always looks so very beautiful. Also, thanks to our choir, organist and pianist for the beautiful music during this Holy Season.

This is a season of growing. Let us continue to help our church grow by your regular attendance, participation and giving.

Blessing to All,

Judy Abernathy

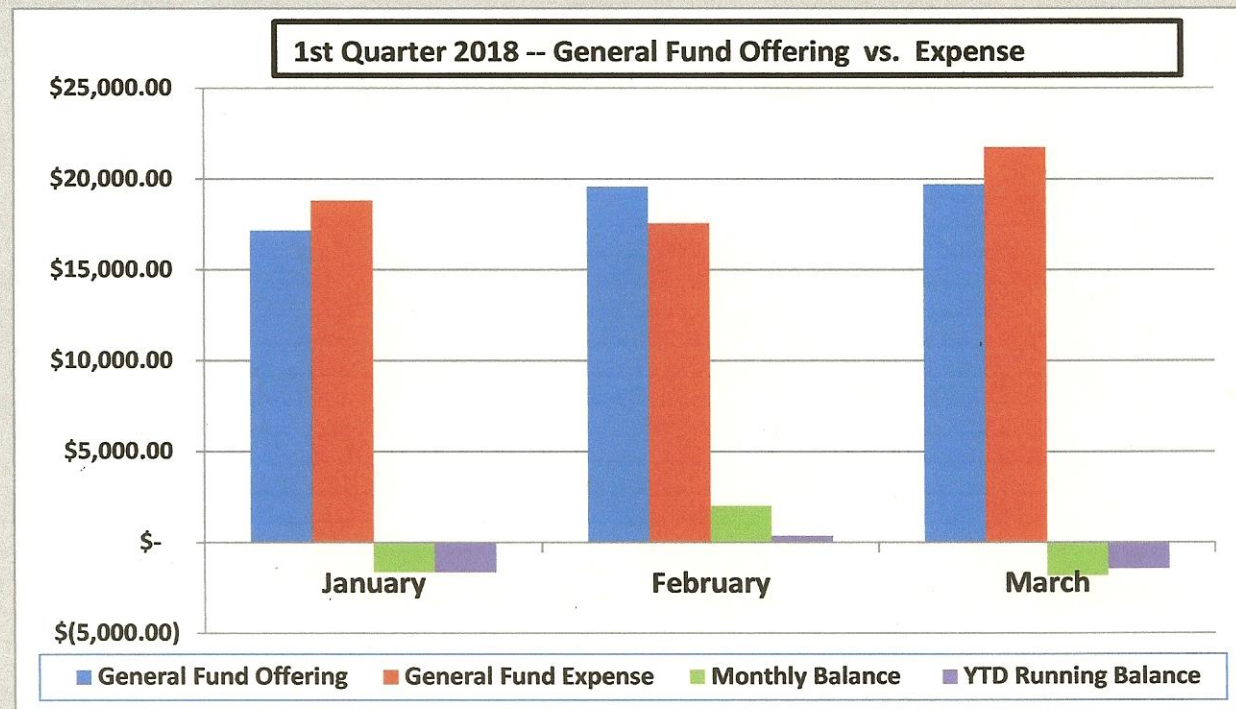
Council President



A very special thank you to Mr. Johnson's class at East Gaston for collecting and donating over 800 can goods for our Food Pantry. This is such a blessing for our community. Also, thank you to James Bodenheimer and Charles Ray for picking up the can goods from East Gaston.

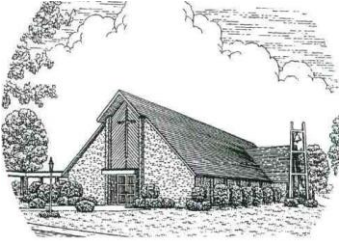
1st Quarter 2018 -- All Funds Received			
	January	February	March
General Fund - Unrestricted *	\$ 16,521.00	\$ 17,665.00	\$ 18,857.00
Other Income	\$ 631.00	\$ 1,918.00	\$ 848.00
Total General Fund Offering	\$ 17,152.00	\$ 19,583.00	\$ 19,705.00
Designated Gifts	\$ 1,264.55	\$ 1,891.11	\$ 4,980.26
Capital Fund Offering (Bldg & Memorials)	\$ 1,575.00	\$ 421.36	\$ 911.00
Total Offering	\$ 19,991.55	\$ 21,895.47	\$ 25,596.26
* 3.5 % Benevolence to NALC			
* 5 % Given for Local Benevolence (CELC Social Ministry Programs)			

1st Quarter 2017 -- General Fund Offering vs. Expense			
	January	February	March
General Fund Offering	\$ 17,152.00	\$ 19,583.00	\$ 19,705.00
Designated Funds (Budget)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 228.00
Designated Fund Disbursements	\$ 435.00	\$ 415.00	\$ 7,044.46
Transfers to Capital Fund	\$ 1,575.00	\$ 421.36	\$ 911.00
EXTENSION - Benevolence	\$ 1,404.29	\$ 1,501.53	\$ 1,602.85
EXPANSION - Mission in Community	\$ 55.00	\$ 55.00	\$ 219.95
GUIDANCE - Mission in Staff	\$ 10,960.64	\$ 11,599.52	\$ 11,064.61
MINISTRY - Worship & Word	\$ 330.54	\$ 452.96	\$ 815.93
DEVELOPMENT - Admin & Property	\$ 6,054.44	\$ 3,956.03	\$ 4,021.45
OTHER EXPENSES - Insurance, etc.	\$ -		\$ 4,031.50
General Fund Expense	\$ 18,804.91	\$ 17,565.04	\$ 21,756.29
All Expenses (Including DF & Transfers)	\$ 20,814.91	\$ 18,401.40	\$ 29,711.75
Monthly Balance	\$ (1,652.91)	\$ 2,017.96	\$ (1,823.29)
YTD Running Balance	\$ (1,652.91)	\$ 365.05	\$ (1,458.24)
Note --			



April 2018

Sunday	Mon	Tuesday	Wed	Thursday	Fri.	Sat.
1 Sunday School 9:30am The Divine Service 10:30am	2 Office closed	3	4	5	6	7
8 Sunday School 9:30am The Divine Service 10:30am Church Council Meeting 6PM	9	10 Women's Bible Study 10:00am	11 Bible Study 5:30pm Choir 7:00pm	12 Food Pantry 11am-12:30pm Service of Confession & Absolution 12:30 - 1:30pm	13	14
15 Sunday School 9:30am The Divine Service 10:30am	16	17	18 Bible Study 5:30pm Choir 7:00pm	19 Food Pantry 11am-12:30pm Service of Confession & Absolution 12:30 - 1:30pm	20	21
22 Sunday School 9:30am The Divine Service 10:30am	23	24	25 Bible Study 5:30pm Choir 7:00pm	26 Food Pantry 11am-12:30pm Service of Confession & Absolution 12:30 - 1:30pm	27	28 Cemetery Work Day 8:00am
29 Sunday School 9:30am The Divine Service 10:30am	30					



Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church

203 S. Main St. Stanley, NC 28164

CELC Newsletter March 2018



Pastor: Rev. Wesley R. Frye, STS
Administrative Assistant: Julie Bodenheimer
Facilities: Rick Chapman

Schedule:

Sunday

9:30am Sunday School
10:30am Worship Service

Wednesday

5:30pm Bible Study
7:00pm Choir Practice

Church Office Hours:

Monday—Friday 8:30am until 1:00pm