

# CELC Newsletter

Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Church Website: [www.celcstanley.com](http://www.celcstanley.com)

## HOLY WEEK AT CHRIST'S LUTHERAN

Please plan on attending these most holy services this week.

**Maundy Thursday - March 29<sup>th</sup> .....7:00 PM**

*Come hear the new commandment (Latin "mandatum") and celebrate the Lord's institution of his Holy Supper. Also, this night we hear the Absolution pronounced over us that was withheld after the confession of sin on Ash Wednesday.*

**Good Friday – March 30<sup>th</sup> .....7:00 PM**

*The Good Friday Tenebrae Service is a descent into the darkness and agony of Calvary as we hear how our Lord suffered for us.*

**The Festival of the Resurrection –April 1.....10:30 AM**

*Come celebrate the death of Death and the life of Life and the victory that's been given to us through our Lord Jesus Christ!*

## Pastor's Message:

### On the Soul and Losing it

Grace, peace and mercy from God our Father and his Son, Jesus. About the most serious question a person will ask themselves is not an enjoyable question nor does it really lend itself to lighthearted superficiality: ***For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? For what can a man give in return for his soul?*** (Matt. 16.26) This is a question most appropriate to the season of Lent. If you have not considered these questions of the Lord's asking, take some time to do it now. There are at least three crucial things that can be said regarding the 'losing of one's soul'.

The first thing that can be said is that it's a difficult question to even ask today. Ours is a culture and age that is really the first in which there is widespread disbelief that the soul exists. We live in a time when many people demand empirical data to support the existence of the soul. This new and peculiar state of things is strange to say the least. In former times, the existence of the human soul was considered to be a self-evident truth. That there is widespread suspicion about the biblical claims concerning the existence of the soul is not because the truth of the matter is any less clear today than it was in ages past, rather it's because the minds of men and women today are sorely sidetracked and amused by strange theories of materialism-- and honestly there are some cool theories out there: black holes, dark matter, and particle collision.

Many of our friends and neighbors have been somewhat misdirected into seeing everything in existence as purely material, and as such, they have lost touch with their spirit. Such people as this imagine that human thought, memory, joy, melancholy, love and the like, are all just mechanical processes of the brain and nothing more. But I will at the very least assert this much about the loss of one's soul-- namely, the ones who are most likely to lose their soul, are those who begin by denying that they in fact even have one! Leave it up to a Pastor to "say something" that should go without saying!

Secondly, there are a great number of people, other than the aforementioned group, who, while not altogether losing their soul, tend instead to *lose track of it*. Even though these people would likely admit to the existence of the soul, they've got almost no experience of themselves as spiritual creatures. This is to say that they are so entirely sidetracked by various kinds of noise-- and I mean not only noise that is external, but also internal-- that they never, or almost never, communicate with their inner selves. Our heads can be so full of junk-- music, television, politics, white noise, books even, what's going on at work, school, etc. that we can easily walk around completely oblivious as to who we truly are in the eyes of God, where we came from, and where we're going.

There can be no objection to this claim: Contemporary culture (including that of much of what we call "education") discourages and distracts us from getting in touch with our souls. We have largely lost the long-established meaning of education in especially this respect. There was a time, and it wasn't all that long ago, when art, music and literature were the normal academic paths in the discovery of one's soul. Nowadays every so often I hear on the news that another public school has been forced to take art or music out of its curriculum--an absolute tragedy when it comes to the discovery of the soul at such a young and formational age. It may sound somewhat old fashioned to argue such things, however there really is a reliable canon of standard disciplines that have stood the test of time with regard to the discovery of one's soul. It's a great detriment to humanity, individually and collectively, to simply dispose of that canon.

Thirdly, in order to 'get in touch with our souls' (to put it colloquially), one must do the work. One must take a journey inward to purge our interior from its sinful passions, from distractions, and things that cause vice. This is where Lent helps in our journey in discovering our souls. We fast not to please God but so that we might know our weaknesses and how tied we are to them, both externally and internally. We must delve inward in order to better know who we are and then more easily purge our inner recesses of all things that lead away from God. ***For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? For what can a man give in return for his soul?*** The gaining of the entire world with all of its riches and treasures does not even come close to comparing to the possession of one's soul. The loss of one's soul is Hell, nothing less.

Nurture and feed your soul my brothers and sisters. This is why God has chosen chiefly the Apostolic preaching of his Word and the Sacrament of the Altar to strengthen you with--because he knows how important it is for your *soul* to be constantly fed and built up. The humble tax-collector in Luke who wouldn't even dare lift his eyes up to heaven, beats his chest in his passionate prayer of penitence. Throughout our history, Christians have done the same. For example, in the Confession at the Compline Service-- *...by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault....* it is a common practice to beat the chest in penitence. One of the things I believe we're trying to do in this, is to help summon up our inner selves; our souls. We beat our chests over our hearts so as to say, "Wake up!" and "Be on guard!". Always be knocking on that door my brothers and sisters, especially in Lent, so that you might not lose nor lose track of your soul.

+Pastor

For the Month of March we will be taking up funds to help support the King's Daughters Ministry. This is a great cause right here in our community.



You can help transform lives  
and shape generations by  
pledging at least \$15 a month.

**2018 Goal — \$84,000**

Your contribution helps provide a safe and loving  
environment that fosters spiritual growth,  
emotional healing, and practical education to  
hurting women and their children.

704-263-4204 | PO Box 476 Stanley, NC 28164  
www.kdmonline.org

2018 **84K**  
*Pledge Drive*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**I WANT TO TRANSFORM LIVES & SHAPE GENERATIONS!**

I commit to: ☐ \$15 Per Month ☐ \$50 One Time Donation  
☐ \$50 Per Month ☐ \$100 One Time Donation  
☐ \_\_\_\_ Per Month ☐ \_\_\_\_ One Time Donation

Method of payment: ☐ Cash ☐ Check ☐ PayPal ☐ Auto Draft



*"I will be a Father to you,  
and you shall be My sons and daughters,"  
says the Lord Almighty."*  
—Isaiah 64:18

### Quotes from Residents



*"I haven't had that many life changing experiences...but I feel like my life has already changed since I've been here. Emotionally, I feel stronger and my relationship with God has filled that empty space in my heart. The counseling has helped me hear my thoughts out loud and see everything differently. Between praying and asking God for patience and the boundaries class, I have been less stressed about my child's behavior and can discipline her more appropriately. I can make better decisions for me and my children."*

*"When I arrived at KDM, I was so nervous because I didn't want anyone to know where I was. . . I don't know where I would be without this program. . . I felt like the Holy Spirit told me 'this is your purpose.' I feel like I am called to share my story with other women and be able to be completely honest with them so they don't feel alone in their struggles."*



### *Needs List*

- HP 61XL Black & Color Ink
- HP 933XL and 932XL Ink
- Laundry Detergent Free & Clear
- Medium Size Trash Bags
- Tall Kitchen Trash Bags
- Amazon Gift Cards
- Size 1 Diapers
- Paper Towels & Toilet Paper
- White Copy Paper
- Clorox Wipes
- Cleaning Supplies
- Walmart Gift Cards

## 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

Grieving: The Lenore Lay Family, The Bodenheimer family (James' Aunt Dot, Julie's Aunt Eloise)

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 Champange	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		

## March Birthday's

4 Nancy Olls  
18 Judy Cloninger  
24 Joe Keefer  
25 John Clark  
25 Will Clark  
28 Abigail Price  
30 Ann Lineberger

## Anniversary

2 Charles & Judy Ray  
31 Tim & Brenda Cloninger

## Baptism Anniversary

3 Nancy Olls  
9 Om Carter  
19 Pat Ritchie  
21 Julie Robinson  
24 Cindy Keefer  
27 Joe Keefer  
28 Hubert Abernathy  
28 Ron Abernathy  
29 Teresa Davis



Thanks for the nearly 300 Valentine Cards, that you, the CELC members shared with each other this special day in February!

I know that it sure made me feel great and wasn't it fun! The seven cupids enjoyed sorting and mailing them too.





Twenty-Two CELC Prime Timers enjoyed a delicious meal of BBQ, Chicken, Salads and other tasty foods and Red Velvet Cake to finish up our meal at the Midwood Smokehouse in Charlotte. We were so full. Played a game of "What's on your phone" and Emma won with 112 points and Teresa coming in right behind her. These ladies know how to use that phone! We always learn something on our trips and the "Two Letter Words" game started up the competition and conversion. A great time together!



## PRIME TIMER'S



Prime Timers Invite "YOU" to an "Evening South Of The Border"

Saturday - March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 6pm --- Family Life Center

**A Sizzlin' Good Time ... Hold onto Your Sombrero ... It's a Mexican Fiesta!**

**This party is going to be Hot! Hot! Hot!**

**Signup NOW Amigos! We have to make plans for the hot peppers (food that is), ha!**

**Let Senorita Mary or Kathey know ASAP!!**

# Upcoming Events

## Toilet Paper Drive

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

## Church Council Meeting

There will be a church council meeting on March 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm. All church council members please plan to attend.

## Women's Bible Study

The next Women's Bible Study will be on March 13<sup>th</sup> at 10am in the Fellowship Hall. Please remember to bring toilet paper.

## Clean-up day

There will be a clean-up day at the church on Saturday, March 17<sup>th</sup> starting at 8am. Please try to be here to help with the beautification of our church grounds.



Thank you so much for the Valentine's Day Cards. You are such a loving & caring church family. This added much joy to our day along with the good news we received from Levine. Dr. Kim said the tumors in Eddie's lungs have not grown since November. He said he was going to give him a 2 month break. He said he would then do another CT Scan. Thank you for your love, support, cards & words of encouragement. We hope to see you after this flu season subsides. We miss seeing you & attending church.

Love,

Eddie & Susan Wyatt

Thanks for all the blessings, kind words, and prayers and the blessing from our good Lord. Hope to be better soon.

Thanks,

Pearl Summey

I miss everyone.



### Lenten Services at Christ's Lutheran

The Lenten services will begin with a meal at 5:45-6:30pm and the service will be at 7pm on March 14, and March 21. Please plan to attend for a wonderful time of fellowship.

#### **Calling all Children:**

We need the children to be here by 10:15am on Easter Morning to help with the Easter Lilies and flowers for the Easter Worship Service. Please plan to attend this wonderful day to celebrate our Lord Jesus Christ's Resurrection

### **United in Action of Stanley Churches, Inc. 2018**

\* Noon Day Lenten Service, Wednesday, March 14, 2018, 12:00 noon,  
First Presbyterian Church, 512 Old Mt Holly Road, Stanley, N.C. 28164,  
Reverend Steve Jessen, Assistant Pastor / Host Pastor  
Guest Evangelist: Pastor Dusty Smith, DEPOT Church,  
311 East College Street, Stanley, N.C. 28164

\* Noon Day Lenten Service, Wednesday, March 21, 2018, 12:00 noon,  
Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church, 2717 Dallas-Stanley Highway, Stanley, N.C. 28164,  
Reverend Albert Mills / Host Pastor  
Guest Evangelist: Dr. Tom Kinman,  
Hickory Grove Baptist Church, 3717 Hickory Grove Road, Gastonia, N.C. 28056

\*\* Palm Sunday Evening Service, March 25, 2018, 6:00 p.m.,  
Community Pentecostal Center, Inc., 320 Ralph Handsel Boulevard, Stanley, N.C. 28164,  
Pastor Eddie McGinnis / Host Pastor  
Guest Evangelist: Reverend Wesley R. Frye, Pastor,  
Christ's Lutheran Church, 203 S. Main Street, Stanley, N.C. 28164



## Note from the Church Council President

### Worry vs. Trust

I admit I am a worrier! I recently read an article about how we need to replace worry with trust. Why worry? Worry never works. Luke 12:25 - Jesus said "Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life."

Worry wastes life. It never solves problems and it dissolves our energy and time.

Worry never hurries answers. It gives us a feeling we are "doing" something, yet it never does.

We must learn to trust God. His word, not worry must reign in our hearts.

We need to trust God more than feelings. God never leads us wrong. Jesus said, "you then, though you are evil, know how to give gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!"

We should stop worrying and instead start praying and obey.

We need to unconditionally trust and love God. God never changes. He loves us and plans what is best for us.

We should love God and others without fear of rejection. John 4:18 tells us "there is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear".

Worry never wins. Trusting God never fails!

Blessing to All,  
Judy Abernathy  
Council President



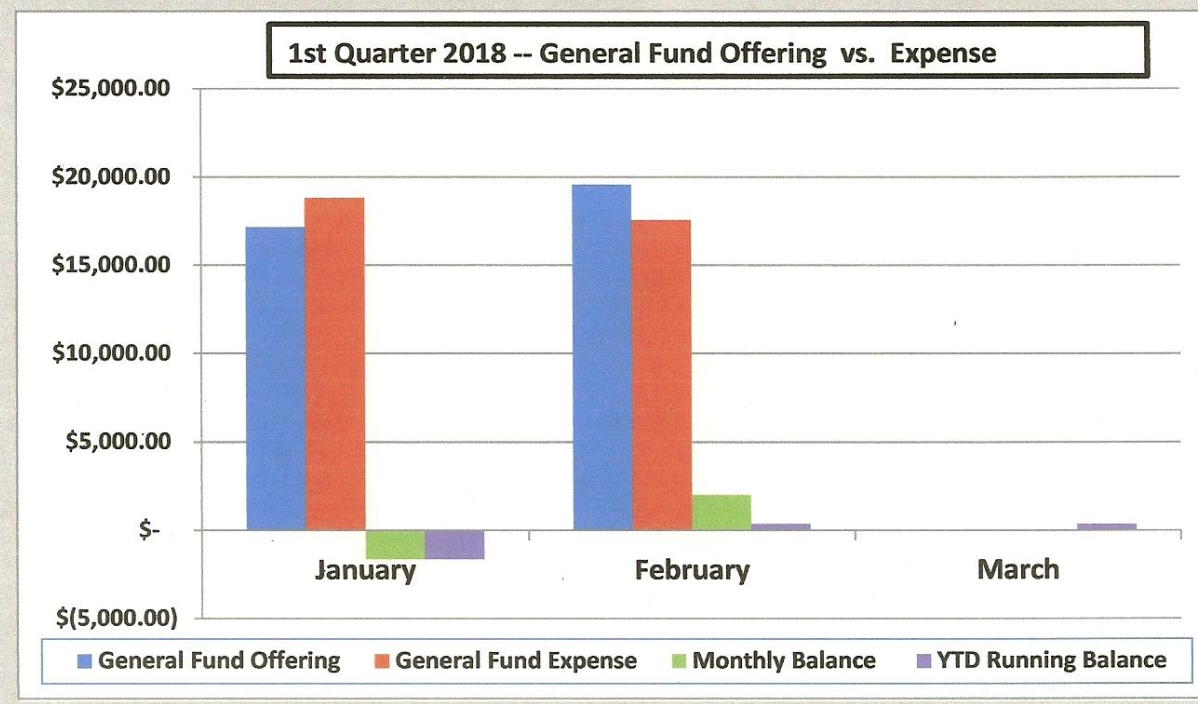
### Heifer Fund

We have met our goal of \$5000.00 to purchase an Ark for the Heifer International Project. The goal of the Heifer Project is to alleviate world hunger and poverty and care for the Earth. The Heifer Project helps families achieve self reliance with an animals fund providing reliable income as agricultural products such as milk, eggs and honey can be traded or sold at market.



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

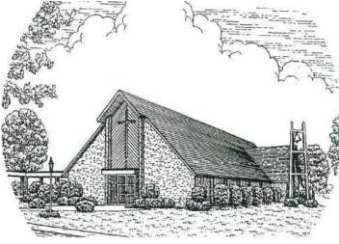
1st Quarter 2017 -- General Fund Offering vs. Expense			
	January	February	March
<b>General Fund Offering</b>	<b>\$ 17,152.00</b>	<b>\$ 19,583.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>Designated Funds (Budget)</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>Designated Fund Disbursements</b>	<b>\$ 435.00</b>	<b>\$ 415.00</b>	
<b>Transfers to Capital Fund</b>	<b>\$ 1,575.00</b>	<b>\$ 421.36</b>	
EXTENSION - Benevolence	\$ 1,404.29	\$ 1,501.53	
EXPANSION - Mission in Community	\$ 55.00	\$ 55.00	
GUIDANCE - Mission in Staff	\$ 10,960.64	\$ 11,599.52	
MINISTRY - Worship & Word	\$ 330.54	\$ 452.96	
DEVELOPMENT - Admin & Property	\$ 6,054.44	\$ 3,956.03	
OTHER EXPENSES - Insurance, etc.	\$ -		
<b>General Fund Expense</b>	<b>\$ 18,804.91</b>	<b>\$ 17,565.04</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
All Expenses (Including DF & Transfers)	\$ 20,814.91	\$ 18,401.40	\$ -
Monthly Balance	\$ (1,652.91)	\$ 2,017.96	\$ -
<b>YTD Running Balance</b>	<b>\$ (1,652.91)</b>	<b>\$ 365.05</b>	<b>\$ 365.05</b>
Note --			



# March 2018

Sunday	Mon	Tuesday	Wed	Thursday	Fri.	Sat.
				1 Food Pantry 11am-12:30pm	2	3
4 Sunday School 9:30am  The Divine Service 10:30am	5	6	7 Meal 5:45-6:30pm Lenten Service 7pm	8 Food Pantry 11am-12:30pm  Cemetery Meeting 6:30pm	9	10
11 Sunday School 9:30am  The Divine Service 10:30am  Church Council Meeting 6:30pm  Daylight Savings time	12	13 Women's Bible Study 10am	14 Meal 5:45-6:30pm Lenten Service 7pm	15 Food Pantry 11am-12:30pm  Service of Confession & Absolution 12:30 - 1:30pm	16	17 Clean- up day at the church 8AM- 12:00pm
18 Sunday School 9:30am  The Divine Service 10:30am	19	20	21 Meal 5:45-6:30pm Lenten Service 7pm	22 Food Pantry 11am-12:30pm  Service of Confession & Absolution 12:30 - 1:30pm	23	24 "Evening South of the Border" 6pm
25 Sunday School 9:30am  The Divine Service 10:30am  Palm Sunday	26	27	28	29 Food Pantry 11am-12:30pm  Service of Confession & Absolution 12:30 - 1:30pm  Maundy Thursday Service 7pm	30 Good Friday Service 7pm	31

The New Office Hours for 2018 are 8:30am – 1:00pm.



# 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