January 2019

CELC Newsletter

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

Pastor's Message

There was a time when the books that we had in our homes were few, but we knew them very very well. Today if you're like me, it's not uncommon to have more books on your shelf than you've read. We live in a day when many Lutherans have but a passing familiarity with the Small Catechism and that leaves parents feeling unprepared to teach the Catechism to their children. New member instruction often focuses more on basic information on the operations of the congregation, the denomination, or the specifics of local ministry opportunities and the like. Unfortunately Christian youth have been the subjects of experimentation from time to time to try-out the new hip Christian instruction upon – whether it be camp-y worship or a strong curriculum on discipleship. We are so captivated by the idea of something new – a program, or curriculum, or resource, that we have in turn tended to pass off the Catechism as something outdated and no longer useful. Because of this, there are Lutheran pastors and congregations where the Catechism is affirmed in theory but almost entirely absent in the instruction of adults and children. The Faith is taught, however, it's taught without the standard of the Catechism as a guide. The result of this is that there is great fluctuation in unity of faith/doctrine amongst the Lutheran denominations. I do not want this to ever be the situation at Christ's. So, in my allotted space in the newsletter, I am going to be devoting my efforts to teaching the Catechism.

There are 6 parts: **1. The Ten Commandments 2. The Apostle's Creed 3. The Lord's Prayer 4. Baptism 5. Confession and Absolution 6. The Lord's Supper.** So we'll begin with the Commandments.

The 10 Commandments

1st Tablet

1.) I am the Lord your God, you will therefore have no other gods before me.
2.) You will not take the Name of the Lord your God in vain.
3.) Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

2nd Tablet

4.) Honor your Father and Mother.
5.) You will not murder.
6.) You will not commit adultery.
7.) You will not steal.
8.) You will not lie.
9.) You will not covet your neighbor's house.
10.)You will not covet your neighbor's spouse.

The Commandments are God's will for humanity. They therefore show us how God desires us to live. The Commandments were not Plan A and when humans couldn't live up to every last letter of it God thought of a Plan B. That is exactly wrong. Ever since the creation, humans were bound to be redeemed by the Son of God/2nd Person of the Holy Trinity/Jesus. Jesus was NOT God's back up plan because we were not strong enough to live up to the Law. Jesus was always THE plan.

1ST Commandment: I am the Lord your God, you will therefore have no other gods before me.

Q. What does this mean for us?
A. It means that we should fear, love and trust the Lord our God above all things.

Q. Why do we fear the Lord?
A. Because he created everything, he spoke it into existence with his Word. The fear of God consists in a reverential awe of his omnipresence, power and divine justice. It is NOT a slavish fear of punishment, but is rather more like a parental fear that helps to restrain us from sin through the love of God. For example we don't want to disappoint or shame our parents, in the same way we do not want to do this to God either.

Q. Why love him?
A. Because he alone is good. Anything else that is good derives its goodness from him, the Source and Author of all life. The love of God is evident through a joy in and a heartfelt longing for your Creator. This sort of love leads to obedience to the will of God, for example worshiping him and serving the people he loves.

Q. Why trust him?
A. Because he is my God and his Word is true. He will never take back his promises to me. We put our trust in God when we expect every good thing from him. And when we find ourselves in times of trouble, we never fall into despair/utter lack of faith and hope.

Q. What is forsaken/ forbidden in the 1st Commandment?
A. Idolatry: Idolatry is setting ANYTHING above the Lord. An idol is something that draws worship away from God. TV, sleep, cell phones, sports, and even our families are all things when not properly ordered within our lives can become idols to us.

Thank You.

I would like to thank everyone so much for the cards, calls and gifts that you showered upon me and my family over the Christmas season. It is truly a blessing to be your Pastor through the good times in your lives and through the bad times as well. My family and I are so thankful to be a part of this community of saints.

Your brother, +Pastor Frye

Wednesday Night Bible Study to start back January 16th

As our study of The Apocalypse of St. John is coming to a close we will see the culmination of all things in, with and through the Lamb who was slain but now lives. Come and join in the study of the Word of God and be blessed!

Blessing of the Home in (or around) the season of Epiphany…

...has long been a custom in the Christian Tradition. If you would like for the Pastor to come and bless your home give him a call to set up a time.

Prayer Requests:

Immediate Care Concerns: Rene Clippard, Marilyn Smith, Richard Medlin, Pat Ritchie, Neal & Pat Ritchie, Ronnie Davis, Hubert Abernathy, Bertie Billups, Lindy Hawley, Christine Wallace, Gaynelle Moore, Pearl Summey, Libby Michael, Jimmy Harrison Richard Smith, Susan Wyatt, Elijah Kale

Home-bound Members: Gaynelle Moore, Pearl Summey, Lindy Hawley.

Members in Nursing Homes: Christine Wallace is at Huntersville Health & Rehabilitation Ctr., 13835 Boren St. Huntersville, Sarah Lewis & Ruth Cloninger are at Carillon in Lincolnton

Friends and Relatives:

Everette Lineberger	Jewel West	Cindy Turry	Chris Davidson	Frances (Hawley) Walker
Eddie Rhyne	Gail Conner	Harry Murphy	Jason Hames	Jennifer Champange
Karen Scrivani	Joe Canipe	Tom Hodge	Rod Rudisill	Robert Caskaddon
Ron Ritchie	Wanda Murphy	Amy Blythe	Frank Parker	Vicky Throneburg
Bob Hilton	Luther Murphy	Sidney Mitchell	Dr. Michael Case	

January's Birthday's

3 David Lewis
3 Pat Ritchie
3 Rachel Walker
9 Wesley Clark
9 Leonard Lewis
14 Kimberly Benedict
14 James Bodenheimer
15 Eleanor Abernathy
19 Sarah Lewis
23 Pearl Summey
24 Hubert Abernathy
25 Gail Weathers
27 Terri Hedrick

January's Anniversary's

31 Bud & Judy Abernathy

Baptism Anniversary

1 Anne Chapman
1 Wayne Davis
1 Loretta Lewis
1 Pat McAlister
1 Tammy Porch
1 Tonya Stone
28 Jill Price

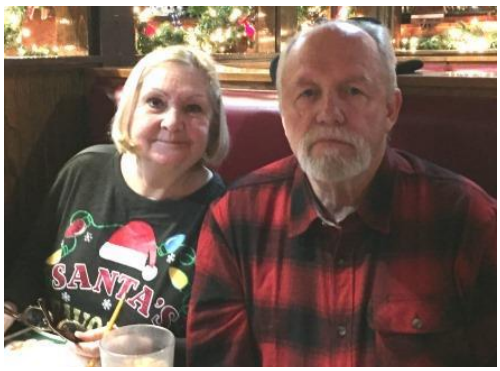
Food Pantry

We have been getting too many donations of clothing to the food pantry. A few good items are welcome, but please do not bring large boxes or bags of clothing to the food pantry. We are essentially a food pantry and don't have the time to spare to deal with a lot of clothes. If you have large amounts of clothing to dispose of, take them to Penny Thrift. They are the source of funds for King's Daughter's Ministry, which cares for battered women. We appreciate all the toilet paper you have been donating. This is an on-going need. Please put it on the table in the memorial corridor.

Nancy Dukes
Food Pantry Director

What a wonderful day for this group of Lutherans and friends! Amazing we have Janice come all the way from Florida to join us each and every year!
What a blessing for us and a fun day together working for the Lord. Plan on joining us next year for this great day! Working, snacking, eating lunch, laughing and sorry Pastor Frye you had the worst job on your first ever experience at OCC ... good sport!

We made it happen even on this cold night and enjoyed the warmth that fellowship offers to these Lutherans and friends! Twenty-three delicious meals with games and prizes for all. Again memory to cherish! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from your Prime Timers!



Prime Timer's Christmas Dinner 2018

Church Council Meeting

There will be a church council meeting on Sunday, January 13 at 6pm.

Women's Bible Study

The Women's Bible Study will be meeting on January 8th at 10am in the fellowship hall.

Food Pantry

A big thank you to East Gaston High School and the Biology department for their generous donation of canned foods to our food pantry. We received over 2000 can goods.

Church Council Officers for 2019

The following officers were elected at the council meeting on December 16.
President-Jay Human, Vice President- Leonard Lewis, Secretary- Joe Keefer,
Treasurer (s)-Michael Dukes and Crystyl Human, Financial Secretary-vacant

Attention **Council Committee Liaison and Committee Chair**: Please send in your annual reports due to church office by Jan. 31, 2019. Also **members** if you have any updated contact info please email it to the office.

Poinsettia Donations

In honor of Sara & Ron Abernathy by Hubert & Eleanor Abernathy
In Memory of Calvin & Lenore Lay by Charlie & Debbie Lay

In Memory of Randy Robinson by Mary Robinson

In Memory of Randy Robinson by Connie & Gary Dixon

In Honor of Mary Robinson by Connie & Gary Dixon

In Memory of Eddie Wyatt by Susan Wyatt

To the Glory of God by David Lewis

In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Abel Luther Lewis by David Lewis

In Memory of Bud Conley by Lois Conley

In Honor of Buck & Ann Helms by Jeff & Kathy Black

In Honor of our Children & Grandchildren by Jeff & Kathy Black

In Memory of George & Rebecca Clippard & Sammy & Gloria Clippard by Donnie & Rene' Clippard

In Memory of Ester Summey by Donnie & Rene' Clippard

In Memory of her father, Joe Guthrie by Lisa Caudle

In Honor of Pat McAlister by Tonya Stone

In Honor of Devon & Garrett Stone by Tonya Stone

In Honor of Grace Englert by Neal & Pat Ritchie

In Honor of Hope Englert by Neal & Pat Ritchie

In Honor of Jake Bailey by Neal & Pat Ritchie

In Memory of Phyllis Hawley by Bill Hawley

In Memory of Phyllis Hawley by Shelley (Hawley) Bolt

In Memory of Floyd Cloninger by Linda Cloninger

In Honor of Robbie & Carla Oakes Family by Linda Cloninger

In Honor of Kelly & Susan Philbeck Family by Linda Cloninger

In Memory of O.L. West Jr. by Donnie & Rene' Clippard

In Honor of Jewell West by Donnie & Rene' Clippard

In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. James Whitley by Cathy Wallace Morris

Our Beautiful white poinettias on the Altar for December are given for the Glory of God and in memory of Annette Friday and Mr.& Mrs. A.T. Rhyne by The Kevin Friday Family and in memory of Oliver & Tiny Shook by The Richard Medlin Family.

Food Pantry Donations

In Memory of Frank & Clara Robinson, & Don & Jo Abernathy by Leigh Anne Faulkenberry

In Honor of Bud & Judy Abernathy by Leigh Anne Faulkenberry

In Memory of Jack Brown by Kathey Brown

In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Rufus Pope by Kathey Brown

In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Ben N. Brown Sr. By Kathey Brown

In Honor of all the Food Pantry Workers by Anne Fields & Gil Harris

In Honor of all the Food Pantry Volunteer by Richard & Bitsy Medlin

In Memory of Ann McAlister by Pat McAlister

In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. J.O. Sherrill by Pat McAlister

In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Brady Robinosn by Linda Cloninger

In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Oscar Cloninger by Linda Cloninger

In Memory of Carol Oakes by Linda Cloninger

In Memory of Frank & Clara Robinson by Neal & Pat Ritchie

In Memory of Luther & Lucy Ritchie by Neal & Pat Ritchie

In Memory of Ann McAlister by Tonya Stone

In Memory of Calvin & Lenore Lay by Charlie & Debbie Lay

In Memory of those who are no longer with us by Gordon & Betty Hacker

In Honor of the Members of Christ Lutheran Church by Gordon & Betty Hacker

Dear Pastor Frye and the Congregation of Christ's Ev Lutheran Church,

On behalf of the North American Lutheran Seminary, I am writing to thank you for your gift to the Theological Education Fund of the North American Lutheran Church in the past several years. Through your generosity, and that of many other friends, our students are able to learn and train here without accumulating significant debt.

Enclosed is a letter of thanks from a current student who has benefited from your wonderful gift, and is receiving a scholarship. We hope that you will feel more connected to the students by reading one of their stories, and that you will remember this student in your prayers.

Each of us at the NALS is thankful to God for you and your partnership with us. This year alone, we have 14 full-time students who are receiving scholarships! As you can see from the enclosed correspondence, it makes an enormous difference to all of our students.

Again, thank you! Should you have any questions about the enclosed letter, or about the NALS, please feel free to call me.

In Christ Jesus,

The Rev. Dr. Amy Schifrin, STS

President, NALS

Dear Friend of the NALS,

My name is George Schrader, a first-year student at Trinity School for Ministry, and I would like to take this opportunity to offer my thanks for your generous donation to the NALS.

The impact of your gift on behalf of myself and seminarians like me cannot be understated. I left a reasonably well-paying job to move to another state for the purpose of obtaining an education. I was quite concerned about how I would make financial ends meet, especially when factoring in living expenses beyond the scope of a tuition bill. Access to the scholarship I received made seminary possible, and I pray that I might use this opportunity as God continues to direct to His greater glory. I hope that I honor the intention of your gift in doing so.

In closing, please again accept my thanks for your selfless gift to the NALS. It is my sincere desire and objective that I might be able to use this opportunity to further serve and proclaim the Word of God, in whatever community and capacity I may find myself in.

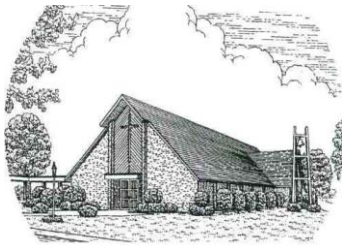
Sincerely,

George Schrader

January 2019

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

The last date to make a contribution for 2018 will be Sunday, Dec. 30, 2018 for the church year.



Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church

203 S. Main St. Stanley, NC 28164

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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