



CELC Newsletter

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

Pastor's Message

You shall not murder – The 5th Commandment

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not hurt nor harm our neighbor in his body, but help and befriend him in every bodily need. God forbids us to take the life of another person –murder, abortion, euthanasia. (*Small Catechism* – Catechism 2008)

Notice the specific language that is used in the above commandment—specifically the word, “murder”. In order to have a deeper understanding of God’s Word regarding his 5th Commandment we need to make a fairly simple distinction between “killing” and “murder”. Murder involves specific premeditation and malice in taking the life of another human being. So even though some members of PETA might declare that “Meat is Murder” they are defining “murder” somewhat differently than the way Christians have historically defined it. Christians, and indeed all humans by virtue of the fact that the proscription of murder is extant in the universal natural law, are not allowed to commit murder. There are times, however, that a Christian may have to kill another human being.

Though this teaching of our Lord flies in the face of everything we’ve been taught in our American culture about standing up for and defending ourselves, Christians are not afforded carte blanche in defending themselves against the violence of others. We must use holy discernment in such matters. For the Lord’s instruction is plain: **“If someone strikes your right cheek, turn and offer him the other also”** and in Romans 12 – **“Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.”**²⁰ **To the contrary, “if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink...”** I didn’t say obedience here was easy - but it is without a doubt a submission to the Lord’s exhortation to bear the holy Cross as well as an opportunity to pray for your enemies.

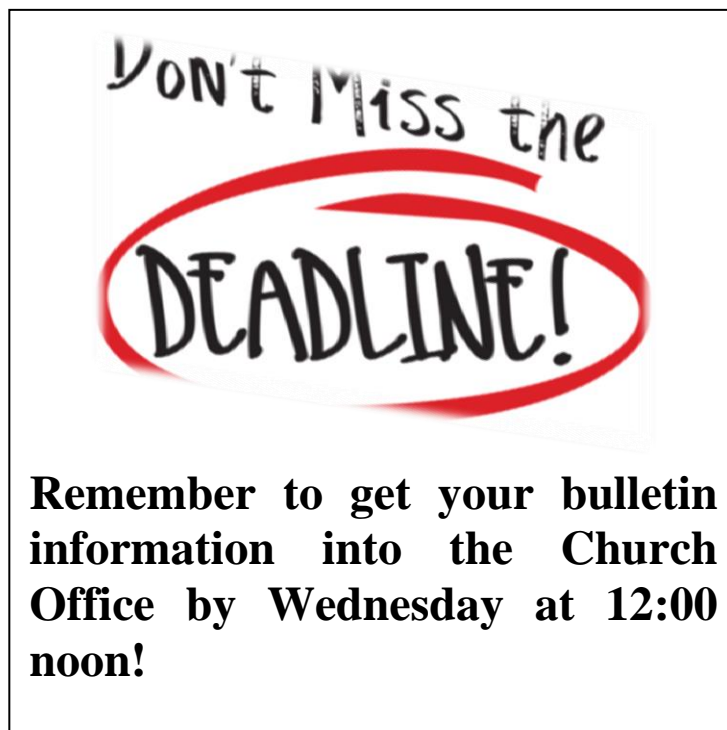
It is however a different matter when you are defending another person and particularly someone who is weaker than you are– for example, your children whom you’ve been given the responsibility of protecting. Because “in Christ” you are in fact your brother’s keeper, you not only have the right to defend your brother or sister even with the use of force, you also have the duty to do so. **“Rescue the weak and the needy and deliver them from the hand of the wicked”** -Psalm 82. Moreover, we should be willing even to give our life for this purpose –

1John 3.16 – **“By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers”.**

The State (the government) also has the right to wield the sword and punish unto death evildoers. Romans 13 – **Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities... for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer.** Therefore, certain agents of the government are afforded the right to use deadly force, for example, police officers, FBI, CIA, etc. Christians are also allowed to fight and kill as soldiers in just wars.

“You have heard that it was said to those of old. “You shall not murder and whoever murders will be in danger of judgment’. But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of judgment.” Here the Lord likens anger at another to murder. Because the sin of murder begins in the heart it’s as if we’ve murdered them in our heart. The penalty of both is exactly the same. And so when anger does overtake us we must cling to Jesus through the great gift of repentance – and as I discussed back in the April newsletter, repentance has two parts: contrition and faith. Repent and know that where we have failed at this commandment, Christ Himself has fulfilled it for us and has become our righteousness –all this through the power and mystery of faith.

Your brother in Jesus, +Pastor Frye



Prayer Requests:

Immediate Care Concerns: Mack Cloninger, Bitsy Medlin, Charles Ray, Barbara Benedict, Rene Clippard, Marilyn Smith, Richard Medlin, Neal Ritchie, Ronnie Davis, Hubert Abernathy, Bertie Billups, Lindy Hawley, Christine Wallace, Gaynelle Moore, Pearl Summey, Libby Michael, Jimmy Harrison, Richard Smith

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, Ruth Cloninger is at Carillon in Lincolnton, Neal Ritchie is at Stanley Total Living

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	Rod Rudisill	Linda Gunter	Robert Caskaddon
Ron Ritchie	Wanda Murphy	Amy Blythe	Amber Buff	Olivia Dixon
Bob Hilton	Luther Murphy	Sidney Mitchell	Dr. Michael Case	

June's Birthday's

2 Ryan Clark	12 Lisa Cloninger
5 Rodney Wyatt	15 Michael Dukes
6 Caroline McCumbee	16 Pat McAlister
6 Neal Ritchie	17 Buck Helms
7 Mack Cloninger	23 Craig Poarch
8 Brenda Cloninger	24 Lindy Hawley
9 Jameson Bodenheimer	

June's Anniversary's

19 Andrew & Nancy Olls

Baptism Anniversary

1 Jameson Bodenheimer
5 Ruth Ridge
18 Mary Robinson
20 Barbara Benedict
30 Mack Cloninger



Please pray for George Schrader, a first-year student at Trinity School for Ministry

Church Council Meeting

There will be a church council meeting on Sunday, June 9 at 6pm.

Women's Bible Study

The Women's Bible Study will be meeting on June 11 at 10am in the fellowship hall.

Do you have BOOKS?

Let's help our own "Stanley Little Library" caretaker (Charles Ray) with filling it up! The location of this library is at Harper Park in Stanley. Everyone is welcome to enjoy these free books, take and read one, then return one for someone else to enjoy! What fun and excitement to see what is there and not to forget that it keeps us reading and learning! If you have any books that you would like to donate at anytime just place in the box at the back. Adult books and Children books especially are needed! This is going to be fun!

To My Mother's Lutheran Church family & friends:

My family and I would like to thank you for your kind expressions of sympathy in the death of my mother, Sarah Lewis. We appreciate your visits to see her while she was at STLC, and Carillon - Cramerton & Lincolnton. I know that she treasured your visits, gifts and treats, even if she didn't remember them for very long. She was a kind and gracious hostess all the days of her life before dementia. We loved and will miss our mother dearly.

Thank you for the beautiful service, the delicious meal, and most of all, your friendship. May God bless you all.

Sincerely,
Wanda Elliott
Anne Bishop &
Bud Lewis

(Andrew Elliott, Randall Grigg, Angela Grigg Allen)



Dear Christ's Church Family,

My deep appreciation and thanks for all the cards, telephone calls, and prayers during my hospitalization and recovery. Thanks too for the gift bag full of cookies, snacks, and many other items to make my hospital stay more pleasant. I feel very blessed to be a part of such a loving and caring church family.

My love and thanks to all of you.
Bitsy Medlin

Summer Opportunity for CELC Members
Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Workday
Tuesday, June 11, 2019 - 9am to 12pm

Come along for a morning of fellowship and rewarding work! We will leave CELC at 7:50am on Tuesday for travel to the work site. It's an easy job just going around tables collecting items to place in a shoebox. You receive a printed sheet for each box of items to collect and then go shopping. We work for three hours and then stop for lunch before returning to CELC around 3pm or earlier. We have eight reservations for this day .. so be one of them and have a great time with friends. Let Kathey Brown know if you plan to share in this wonderful summer opportunity.



Our church donated \$6225.00 to the Media Center at Springfield Elementary to help with their Media center renovations.

Calling All Graduates

Graduation is approaching, so we need information on our 2019 graduates. Please notify Emma Human and email Julie with your information. We will be having our Recognition of the Graduates Sunday on June 9th.

2nd Quarter 2019 -- All Funds Received

	April	May	June
General Fund - Unrestricted *	\$ 16,017.00	\$ 17,593.00	\$ -
Other Income	\$ 1,716.00	\$ 208.00	\$ -
Total General Fund Offering	\$ 17,733.00	\$ 17,801.00	\$ -
Designated Gifts	\$ 2,009.28	\$ 1,365.44	\$ -
Capital Fund Offering (Bldg & Memorials)	\$ 8,875.00	\$ 2,705.00	\$ -
Total Offering	\$ 28,617.28	\$ 21,871.44	\$ -

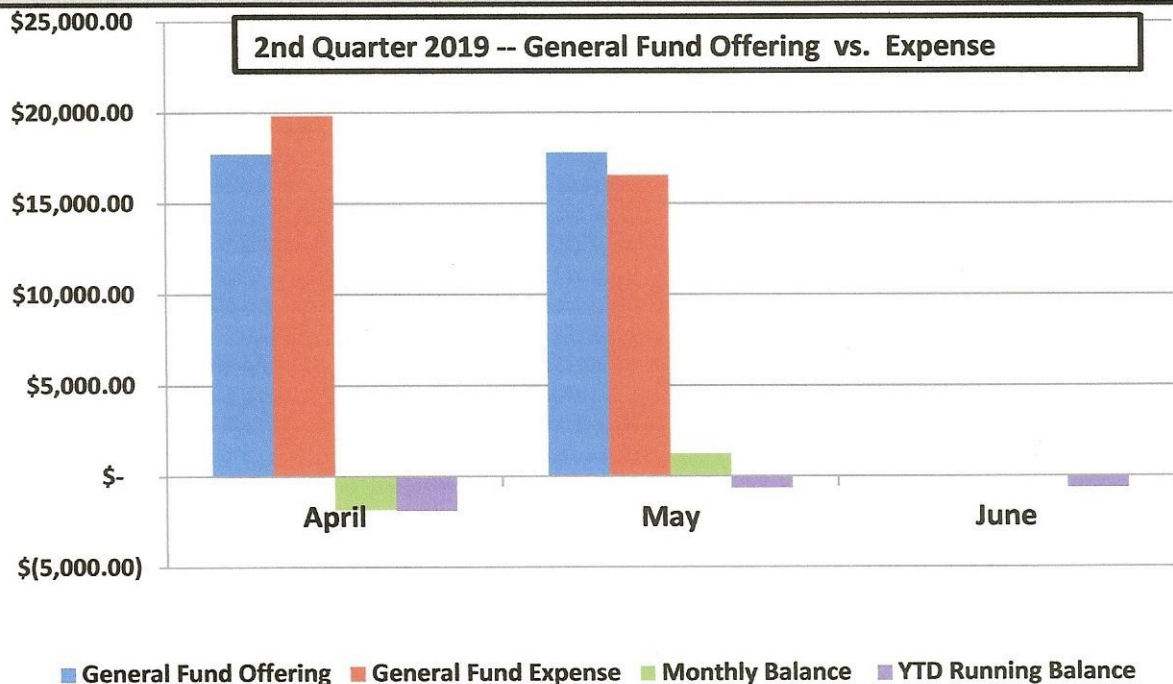
* 3.5 % Benevolence to NALC

* 5 % Given for Local Benevolence (CELC Social Ministry Programs)

2nd Quarter 2019 -- General Fund Offering vs. Expense

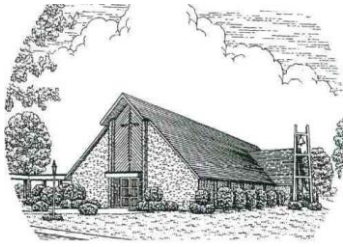
	April	May	June
General Fund Offering	\$ 17,733.00	\$ 17,801.00	\$ -
Designated Funds (Budget)	\$ 230.00	\$ -	\$ -
Designated Fund Disbursements	\$ 927.93	\$ 7,376.81	\$ -
Transfers to Capital Fund	\$ 7,220.00	\$ 2,705.00	\$ -
EXTENSION - Benevolence	\$ 1,352.95	\$ 1,204.11	\$ -
EXPANSION - Mission in Community	\$ 25.95	\$ 50.95	\$ -
GUIDANCE - Mission in Staff	\$ 11,490.33	\$ 11,586.75	\$ -
MINISTRY - Worship & Word	\$ 685.24	\$ 420.08	\$ -
DEVELOPMENT - Admin & Property	\$ 6,270.07	\$ 3,292.50	\$ -
OTHER EXPENSES - Insurance, etc.			\$ -
General Fund Expense	\$ 19,824.54	\$ 16,554.39	\$ -
All Expenses (Including DF & Transfers)	\$ 27,972.47	\$ 26,636.20	\$ -
Monthly Balance	\$ (1,861.54)	\$ 1,246.61	\$ -
YTD Running Balance	\$ (1,911.26)	\$ (664.65)	\$ (664.65)

Note --



June 2019

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



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