



July 2019

CELC Newsletter

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

Pastor's Message

The 6th Commandment - God's gift of Marriage

Our Epistle reading for the 3rd Sunday after Pentecost (June 30) was from Galatians 5. In this section of his letter to the church Paul warns against giving in to the desires of the flesh. He argues that such desires are against the Spirit and the desires of the Spirit are likewise against the desires of the flesh. Then he goes on to give several common examples of what those works of the flesh are: *"Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, ²⁰idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, ²¹envy, ^[d]drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God."* And so that brings us to God's will for us in the 6th Commandment:

You shall not commit adultery.

Most certainly this commandment means for us the obvious—don't have sexual relations with someone other than your spouse when you're married. It also clearly means don't have sexual relations with someone else's spouse. Or as Luther put it, "Q: What does this mean for us? A: We should fear and love God so that we lead a sexually pure and decent life in what we say and do, and husband and wife love and honor each other". The 6th commandment of course presupposes that no one would be having sex before they were married. This is *not* the presumption today however. Sex outside of the estate of marriage simply was not permitted at any time in the history of God's people; nor is now and nor will it ever be. Paul above lays out very clearly the fate of those who will not regard God's commandment and it is severe.

The Church seems to be fighting a losing battle with respect to this commandment in our culture. "Losing" not in the sense that the Church has changed God's teaching (The Bride and the Groom are one and do not teach differently than one another) but losing in the sense that our influence in this culture is waning. There seems to be a new facet of immorality celebrated every day in our society. And there is at least a correlation between this and a general, across-the-board lack of devotion to Jesus. One (likely many more) might argue that "the times have changed" and that "we've got to change along with them" and "if we don't, then we'll just keep walking down the path all the way to irrelevancy". I'm not opposed to "change", in fact often times change is necessary, but there are a couple of things that are problematic with these and similar statements. One is that the Word of God does not change, nor does the expectation of striving for obedience on our part. "If you love me you will keep my commandments" Jesus says. Secondly, the Church of Jesus Christ was never meant to take its lead from the world and bend ourselves to it. We have been made to be the light of the world by Jesus Christ Himself, illuminating it and leading it to its Savior. It is exactly backwards to say that we should change ourselves to look more like the world and conform to it. It would only be to darken or veil our light and thus do a poorer job at showing the world the Way of Jesus Christ. And yet we seem to be seeing this more and more.

According to the order of creation, marriage is between one man and one woman. We know this by virtue of God's creation of Adam and his wife, Eve. Sexual activity outside of the bounds which God created and established is contrary to God's will for the people he created and should therefore be repented of. And thanks be to God that we have a Savior who desires mercy and not our destruction and who welcomes us back into his arms every time we return to him. Brethren, keep awake, be diligent, know God's holy Word, and never give in to the way of the world and of the flesh, for you are called to the higher things of God.

Your brother in Jesus,
+Pastor Frye

Prayer Requests:

Immediate Care Concerns: Mack Cloninger, Bitsy Medlin, Rene Clippard, Marilyn Smith, Richard Medlin, Neal Ritchie, Ronnie Davis, Hubert Abernathy, Bertie Billups

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:

Diana Kingsley	Ray McNeely	Tony Beale	Olivia Dixon	Linda Gunter
Sidney Mitchell	Frances Walker	Rod Rudisill	Chris Davidson	Karen Scrivani
Robert Caskaddon	Joe Canipe	Bob Hilton	Harry Murphy	Wanda Murphy
Robin Murphy	Luther Murphy	Robert Frost	Cindy Turry	Karen Norris
Ron Ritchie	Eddie Rhyne	Jewel West	Everett Lineberger	Amy Blythe
Larry Smith	Dickie Smith	Jason Hames	Anita Hallman	Dr. Michael Case
Vicky Throneburg	Barbara Rhyne			

July's Birthday's

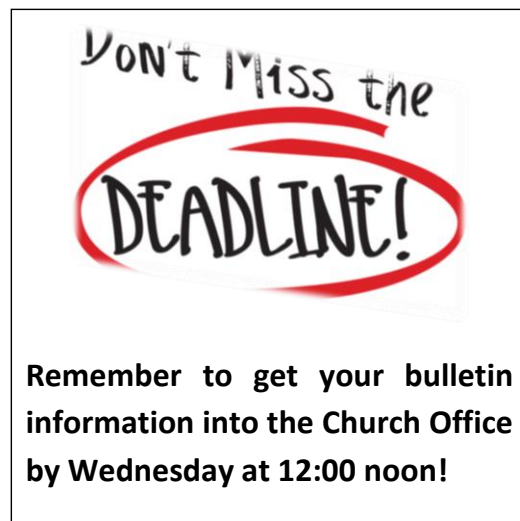
1 Marilyn Smith	17 Loretta Lewis
2 Tim Cloninger	19 Doug Hawkins
5 Leigh Anne Faulkenberry	20 Richard Medlin
9 Mary Robinson	25 Richard Smith
11 Judy Ray	28 Christine Wallace
12 Laura Olls	29 Tim Clark
14 Terri Clark	30 Cindy Keefer
15 Martha Jean McIntosh	31 Crystyl Human

July's Anniversary's

3 Michael & Judy Bozeman
19 Richard & Bitsy Medlin
27 Hubert & Eleanor Abernathy
31 Grayson & Hannah Bodenheimer

Baptism Anniversary

1 Ryan Clark
2 Rodney Wyatt
16 Emma Powell





CELC was so honored to celebrate the "50th" Anniversary in Ministry for Pastor Mozolak. He has blessed so many congregations in these years with leadership and preaching the true word of the Bible. Thank you Pastor Mozolak for your dedicated service to us all.



Church Council Meeting

There will be a church council meeting on Sunday, July 14 at 6pm.

Women's Bible Study

The Women's Bible Study will not be meeting in July.

Community Bag Program

For the month of July our church's food pantry will receive a \$1 donation every time a \$2.50 reusable Community Bag is sold at the Bi-Lo in Stanley. Please mark this on your calendar and get a Community bag in July. The Bags are near register 5. After you purchase a bag you will need to go to the website on the bag and enter the code. If you have any problems you can contact Julie and she can help you.

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!



GRADUATES 2019

Ms. Sarah Jean Cope, Granddaughter of Doris Cope and Daughter of Greg and Jaimie Cope received a Masters of Science Degree in Agricultural and Extension Education from NC State University on May 11, 2019. She also received the Agricultural and Extension Education 2019 Outstanding Student Award from the Department of Agricultural and Human Sciences. Her thesis research was on improving techniques and communication of food safety. She plans to work for NC Cooperative Extension as a food safety educator.

GRADUATES 2019

Laura Olls is a graduate from East Gaston High School. She graduates 9th in her class and was a part of the Beta Club, the National Honors Society, and the International Thespian Society. In the fall she plans to attend the University of North Carolina at Asheville and major in History. Laura would like to be a tour guide at Historical sites. Laura is the daughter of Nancy & Andrew Olls and granddaughter of Mack & Judy Cloninger.



Haley Hawkins graduated from Elon University's Doctor of Physical Therapy program on December 8th, 2018. While earning her doctorate, Haley was an avid volunteer at the program's pro bono community clinic and was inducted into the Pro Bono Honor Society. Haley also volunteered with special needs children regularly during her time at Elon. After graduating and passing her national board exam, Haley accepted a position as a physical therapist at Compleat Rehab & Sports Therapy in Lincolnton, NC. She is truly enjoying her job and loves seeing her patients grow and meet their goals.

Haley is the daughter of Doug & Susan Hawkins and the granddaughter of Buck & Ann Helms.

Haley Hovis graduated from Western Carolina University May 11, 2019 with a Bachelors of Social Work with Magna Cum Laude honors and with the Honors College. Haley did her internship with Gaston County DSS and has had a couple of interviews with them, hopefully getting employment with them. Haley is the daughter of Wayne & Nina Hovis and the granddaughter of Richard Hovis.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

March 10, 2019

MINUTES OF MEETING

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Jay Human

Devotions: Emma Human opened the meeting with a devotional reading and prayer.

Roll call and action on excuses for absence:

Present: Pastor Frye, Jay Human, Gabriel Frye, Jeff Guzman (guest), Emma Human, Joe Keefer, Leonard Lewis, Pat McAlister, Bob Mahovsky, Richard Medlin, Brian Robinson, and Tonya Stone

Absent: Michael Dukes, Tommy Hedrick, Crystyl Human, Nancy Olls

After Roll Call, Bob Mahovsky took time to introduce Jeff Guzman as our new IT administrator. Jeff is a master IT, and we are very happy that he has accepted this important position. Thanks Jeff!

Minutes of last meeting:

1) The minutes of the February 10, 2019 Church Council meeting were approved with one correction. Bob made a motion to accept the minutes with one correction. Emma seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Reception of New Petitions and Communications

1) Jay has received a second letter regarding the sale of the Rhyne property and the wishes of Billy and Susie Rhyne upon their deaths. The letter was authored by Norman L. Cloninger, apparently a close friend of the Rhynes. In the letter, Mr. Cloninger states that he understood that the wish of the Rhynes was to liquidate their property and divide the proceeds between their respective churches. Unfortunately, there is nothing in either will to support this.

Report of the Pastor: Pastoral activities for the month of February, 2019:

- 1) Pastor Frye was sick for almost three weeks with the flu and therefore did not make many visits, none while he was sick. He had 6 pastoral contacts and presided over the Divine Service 5 times, one of which was the Ash Wednesday service. (Pastor Frye was happy to see that Ash Wednesday worship attendance was up the highest it's been since he became the minister at Christ's!) We had one Wednesday Night Bible Study that was led by Tim Cloninger. Pastor Frye also preached at the Community Ash Wednesday Service.
- 2) Lenten Vespers starts this coming Wednesday, March 13, 2019.
- 3) Pastor Frye inquired as to whether we had decided to send another delegate other than him to the Carolinas Mission District, May 17-18, 2019, at Advent Lutheran in North Charleston.
- 4) FYI. The Carolinas Mission District has grown to a size that is increasingly difficult to manage. To promote a better level of local congregational fellowship, the NALC recommends Mission Districts aim for a size of between 10 and 15 congregations. We currently number 50. It will be proposed at our convocation in May, 2019, that the Carolinas Mission District be changed to Carolina Mission Region, which will encompass four smaller mission districts.

Reports by General and Capital Fund Treasurers:

- 1) In Michael's absence, Jay reviewed the Designated Funds Report and the Deposits Summary for February, 2019 with Council.
- 2) Crystyl presented the February, 2019, Capital Fund report to Council for review.

Reports of Standing Committees: **Archives/Communications:** No Report, **Christian Education:** No Report, **Endowment:** No Report, **Evangelism:** No Report, **Finance:** No report, **Internal Ministry:** No Report, **Mutual Ministry:** No Report, **Property Committee:** No Report, **Social Ministry:** No Report, **Stewardship:** No Report,

Worship and Music: No Report, **Youth:** No Report

Report of Special Committees: No Reports

Other Reports:

IT Committee: Jeff Guzman has accepted the position of IT Administrator.

Cemetery Committee: Bob reports that they had a great workday. A large pile of leaves was removed from site.

Unfinished Business:

- 1)** Please turn in Annual Reports to Julie if you haven't already done so.
- 2)** Backpack Money. There is money that is earmarked for the Backpack Food Program. Since the program is well covered, and we have no requests to support it, Council would like to allocate this money to Springfield Elementary School. The spirit of the donation was that the money be used to help children at Springfield. Council voted to donate the money to use for library books, as Tonya feels that is their greatest need. A discussion followed regarding how much money was available. Michael felt that \$4,000.00 to 4,500.00 was available. Bob wanted to know why we can't use all \$6,200+ that is available. Michael and Jay feel that we should reserve some of the fund so it is available if needed in the future. A "rainy day fund", if you will. Bob disagrees and wanted a vote. Bob also wanted to know if we can control what content these books will have. Tonya defended non-fiction books as books about insects, etc. Council decided to table this discussion. No action will be taken at this time.
- 3) New Member Drive:**
 - a) Bob wanted to open the discussion with a comment about Music Camp. This idea came to the forefront of Council's ideas to attract new members. Bob feels there is a lot of interest in music camps. He suggested that we try to get sponsors to help offset the costs of a music camp.
 - b) Bob also wanted to discuss the possibility using **Fortnight** as a way to attract youth to church. Emma and Pastor Frye both told Bob that **Fortnight** is not nearly as popular as it once was. This is the problem with basing an attraction on popularity of a game that can become unpopular.
 - c) Jay had a list of ideas that he got from a survey of Council members. He wants us to narrow down the number of choices for us to discuss.
 - d) Pastor Frye suggests using yard signs to promote the traditional values of our church and the NALC.
 - e) Flyers could be sent out that feature a picture of our pastor to attract younger families.
 - f) Jeff explained that terms used to describe our church in our website are part of our meta-data. He suggests that we write statements as to why we like our church and post them on our website.
 - g) **Jay recommends the following:**
 - 1)** We need youth programs to attract youth. Possibly hire a PT youth Minister.
 - 2)** Visitor management. Try to retain visitors so they will come back and worship with us.
 - 3)** Use the Family Life Center to attract townspeople. Possibly a "Night Out" kind of event.
 - 4)** We will continue this discussion at the next Council meeting.

New 2018 Council Business:

- 1)** David and Leonard will open and close the church in April and May, 2019.
- 2)** All committees are asked to turn in annual reports to Julie ASAP!

Adjournment:

- 1)** The next council meeting will be on April 14, 2019 at 6:00 PM. Bob will lead devotions.
- 2)** The meeting was adjourned following The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph L. Keefer, Secretary

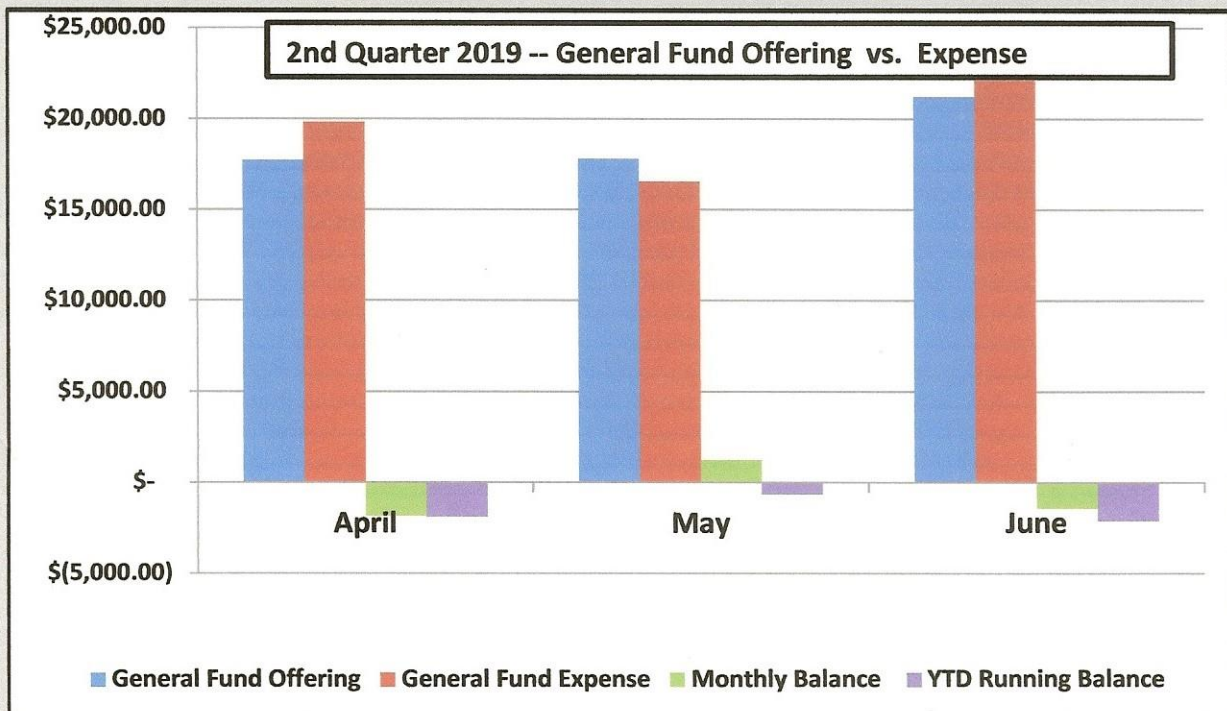
2nd Quarter 2019 -- All Funds Received

	April	May	June
General Fund - Unrestricted *	\$ 16,017.00	\$ 17,593.00	\$ 21,003.00
Other Income	\$ 1,716.00	\$ 208.00	\$ 226.46
Total General Fund Offering	\$ 17,733.00	\$ 17,801.00	\$ 21,229.46
Designated Gifts	\$ 2,009.28	\$ 1,365.44	\$ 2,210.15
Capital Fund Offering (Bldg & Memorials)	\$ 8,875.00	\$ 2,705.00	\$ 1,315.00
Total Offering	\$ 28,617.28	\$ 21,871.44	\$ 24,754.61
* 3.5 % Benevolence to NALC			
* 5 % Given for Local Benevolence (CELC Social Ministry Programs)			

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

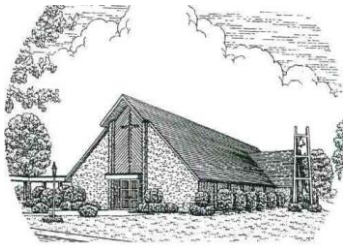
	April	May	June
General Fund Offering	\$ 17,733.00	\$ 17,801.00	\$ 21,229.46
Designated Funds (Budget)	\$ 230.00	\$ -	\$ -
Designated Fund Disbursements	\$ 927.93	\$ 7,376.81	\$ 1,268.46
Transfers to Capital Fund	\$ 7,220.00	\$ 2,705.00	\$ 1,315.00
EXTENSION - Benevolence	\$ 1,352.95	\$ 1,204.11	\$ 1,785.26
EXPANSION - Mission in Community	\$ 25.95	\$ 50.95	\$ 960.71
GUIDANCE - Mission in Staff	\$ 11,490.33	\$ 11,586.75	\$ 11,687.91
MINISTRY - Worship & Word	\$ 685.24	\$ 420.08	\$ 593.82
DEVELOPMENT - Admin & Property	\$ 6,270.07	\$ 3,292.50	\$ 3,323.84
OTHER EXPENSES - Insurance, etc.			\$ 4,322.25
General Fund Expense	\$ 19,824.54	\$ 16,554.39	\$ 22,673.79
All Expenses (Including DF & Transfers)	\$ 27,972.47	\$ 26,636.20	\$ 25,257.25
Monthly Balance	\$ (1,861.54)	\$ 1,246.61	\$ (1,444.33)
YTD Running Balance	\$ (1,911.26)	\$ (664.65)	\$ (2,108.98)

Note --



July 2019

Sunday	Mon	Tuesday	Wed	Thursday	Fri.	Sat.
	1	2	3	4 Office closed	5	6
7 Sunday School 9:30am Worship Service 10:30am	8	9	10 Bible Study 5:30pm Choir 7pm	11 Food Pantry 11:00am-12:30pm	12	13
14 Sunday School 9:30am Worship Service 10:30am	15	16	17 Bible Study 5:30pm Choir 7pm	18 Food Pantry 11:00am-12:30pm	19	20
21 Sunday School 9:30am Worship Service 10:30am	22	23	24 Bible Study 5:30pm Choir 7pm	25 Food Pantry 11:00am-12:30pm	26	27
28 Sunday School 9:30am Worship Service 10:30am	29	30	31 Bible Study 5:30pm Choir 7pm			



Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church

203 S. Main St. Stanley, NC 28164

CELC Newsletter July 2019



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