



CELC Newsletter

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

Pastor's Message

On the Seventh Commandment – “You shall not steal” - “Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, ¹⁰ *nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers* will inherit the kingdom of God.” 1Corinthians 6.9-10

What does this mean for us? We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor's money or possessions or to get them in any dishonest way, but help him to protect and improve his possessions and income.

I have heard it argued that the sort of communal life which the early brethren led is grounds for establishing a sort of Communism. ⁴⁴ *And all who believed were together and had all things in common.* ⁴⁵ *And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need.* – Acts 2.44-45 It is however exactly wrong to equivocate the communal living of the early Church in Jerusalem with the godless Communism of Karl Marx. Firstly, the community existed in the way that it did *in order to glorify and worship God* (vv.46-47). Secondly, this community that formed in Jerusalem immediately following the Holy Pentecost existed “communally” out of sheer necessity. Many of the new converts had previously travelled into Jerusalem from other countries for the Feast of Weeks and were therefore far away from their homes (vv.8-9). The Jewish pilgrims did not intend on an extended stay in the Holy City, for though the name of the feast is “Weeks” the feast only lasts for one day (the 6th day of the Hebrew month Sivan) and because of that they didn't have the necessary supplies to survive a longer stay. Thirdly, notice also that v.43 above mentions “possessions” and “belongings”. Marxist Communism denies the God-given right to own property. So, Sacred Scripture *3* - Marxism *0*.

The seventh Commandment is an expression of the Lord's imperative to “Love thy neighbor as thyself”. Stealing from your neighbor is to participate in and help bring about his economic downfall—the weakening of his financial health. Moreover, it is to diminish his ability to serve God and neighbor as he has been commanded and equipped to do. The Christian life seeks to order our possessions to God that they may bring glory to him. Stealing another's goods is directly contrary to that.

Maybe some examples of stealing beyond the obvious might help:

+This one is particularly dark – When you seek to help or serve someone else under the guise of charity and love but secretly only do it so that they will give you something in return. This is

an affront the Commandment because it seeks to gain through deceitful and dishonest means. Furthermore, it causes you to approach your neighbor as a wolf in sheep's clothing, thus denying and rejecting what God has made you to be in his Son—which is exactly a sheep of his own fold!

+This next one is a tricky one. What if there is a country ruled over by a particular form of government and the citizens decide they don't want to be ruled over in such a way any longer? Does a majority consensus grant citizens the right to overthrow the God-appointed government and in affect usurp the authority to rule for themselves? Is that stealing as well? At the least, it certainly seems to not take seriously St. Paul's injunction: *Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been*

instituted by God. ²*Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment.* Romans 13

+Lastly, when you fail to love your neighbor, you have not only robbed them, but you have robbed God who loves them and who has sent you to serve and minister to them. Claiming to be children of the Father, how can we not recognize Lazarus, the hungry beggar in the parable (cf. Lk. 17.19-31), in the great multitude of people without food or a roof over their heads? If we claim to hear the Word and know the Word, how is it that we can fail to hear Jesus who IS Himself the Word of God: *As you did it not to one of the least of these, you did it not to me* (Matt. 25.45)? Let us pray that we ourselves do not fail to recognize the Presence of Jesus in the face of the poor who are his brethren.

Your brother in Jesus, Pastor Frye



CALEB ETCHISON
presents

REVIVE

An evening of expressive
original piano compositions and
timeless hymns of faith

THURSDAY EVENING,
AUGUST 8, 2019, 7:00 PM
COMMUNITY PENTECOSTAL CENTER

*College Tuition Fundraiser. CDs available for purchase.

Prayer Requests:

Reminder: People's names will be rotated off of the Prayer List upon request or after 30 days. If you know of someone who needs to remain on the prayer list for longer than 30 days, and have their permission to do so, please let the church office know.

Immediate Care Concerns: Mack Cloninger, Rene Clippard, Marilyn Smith, 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	Mickey Lineberger		

August's Birthday's

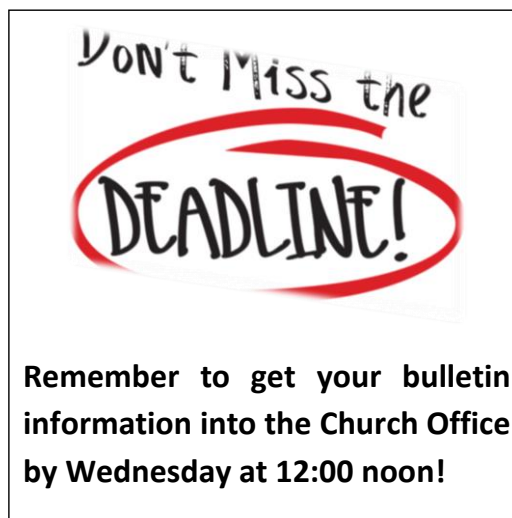
5 Doris Cope
8 Andrew Olls
12 Julie Bodenheimer
13 Kim Costner
15 Kyle Medlin
31 Grayson Bodenheimer

August's Anniversary's

5 Buck & Ann Helms
13 Steve & Kim Lineberger

Baptism Anniversary

1 Tim Cloninger
4 Bill Hawley
6 Harold Lineberger
23 Haley Hawkins



Ten CELC Members enjoyed surprising Christine Wallace in celebration of her 85th Birthday! Hooray! We stopped for a quick morning snack at McDonald's on the way, a wonderful visit with Christine with lots of talking and laughing! We sure enjoyed it and Christine said, Crystal you sure look like your dad! Lunch at City BBQ and then on to the beach! Wow! The pictures will show our day together was a blast from start to finish.



Church Council Meeting

There will be a church council meeting on Sunday, August 11 at 6pm.

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!

Great Opportunity!!

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Items on SALE ON

Sounds like a long way off but the season of sharing will be here soon!

School supplies are on sale right now and there are some great buys.

Stock up and you will be ahead of the game come October and save money too.

**'Tis the Season for
Back-to-School Sales—
and Shoebox Packing!**

**Pastor Frye and Members of Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Stanley,
Thank you**

- for your part in a joyful marking of my 50th year of God's attempting, forgiving and somehow working through and in spite of my sinful self to minister in his will and way at a number of loved parishes
- for the blessing afforded me to be in your pulpit and at God's altar on this anniversary.
- for special music prepared by the choir and musicians.
- for a luncheon of tasty food prepared and served, flowered tables and pleasant conversation
- for a congregational gift icon
- for warmly welcoming my relatives and friends
- for being our friends, a family of faith and a Pastor to us

Pastor Harvey S. Mozolak

27 June 2019

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Thank you for all the cards, calls and visits during my illness but most of all thank you for your prayer. Your love and concern is overwhelming and is not realized until something like this happens.

May God bless each and every one of you.

Love,

Mack Cloninger

ANCESTRY FUND COMMUNICATION

By Bob Mahovsky

While recently working in the Stanley Cemetery I was struck by a few things:

- It was a bright clear day and the cemetery looked beautiful.
- The lawn was well maintained.
- The grave sites looked majestic and prominent.
- Some gravesites that were not attended to by our recent work crew had been cleaned up by others.
- More people seem to be visiting, showing interest and even working on some grave sites.
- Knowing that it costs between \$700.00 and \$1050.00 a month to maintain the lawn and seeing the well-kept appearance made me feel it is a project that is working very well in the short term.

It is the long-term goal that worries me. Last year the Ancestry Fund received donations from 41 donors by July 1st. This year in an equal amount of time we have received donation from only 20 donors. Less than half the number who supported the work/Fund last year. The endowment (perpetual care) goal that exceeds the cost of annual maintenance was a very large but necessary dollar amount of about \$300,000.00 within the next 5-10 years. At the end of 2018 with maintenance expenses taken out the goal is now \$254,563.00 in the next 4-9 years.

I hope improved appearance of the Stanley Cemetery makes you feel proud to have had your ancestors, friends and relatives buried in the Stanley Cemetery. I also hope that you are gratified that your donations have greatly assisted in the beautification of the cemetery grounds and that you are pleased by the increased community interest in our historic cemetery. Please seriously consider repeating your support as you did last year in providing a generous donation this year and for the next several years so our goal of a perpetual care fund is achieved, preserving and securing the future care of our historic cemetery.

Donation from: _____ To honor: _____

Donation amount: \$ _____ Receipt requested? ____No ____Yes.

If yes please complete the following:

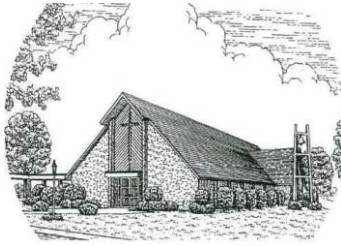
Name: _____ Email address/Phone no: _____

Street Address _____ City _____ Zip _____



August 2019

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



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