January 2020



CELC Newsletter

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

Pastor's Message

The Small Catechism: The Creed—The Second Article: Redemption

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, & who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary &, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into Hell. The Third Day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into Heaven and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

This second article of the Creed has to do with the Incarnation. One of the questions I make a point to ask confirmands is this: Was Jesus 1/2 God and 1/2 man? The ones that aren't staring longingly out the window usually chime in and say, "Yes!". To which I promptly respond, "No". The Christian Faith requires us to confess that Jesus Christ is fully God and fully human—not the stuff I put in my coffee! His divinity does not compromise his humanity and his humanity does not compromise his divinity. Or to put it in the words of the longest of the Three Ecumenical Creeds:

He is God, begotten before all worlds, from the being of the Father, and he is Man, born in the world from the being of his mother—existing fully as Man with a rational soul and a human body; equal to the Father in divinity, subordinate to the Father in humanity. Although he is God and Man he is not divided, but is one Christ. He is united because God has taken humanity into Himself; he does not transform deity into humanity.

When we confess the 2nd article of the Creed we're confessing a truth about God that all of human history hinges upon—that God became a Man, and is a Man still. He took our flesh so that he might be able to shed his blood and die for our sins. And just as Jonah prefigured many years ago, after three days in Death's belly, Jesus bursts forth alive, ready to ascend and to take our flesh with him into heaven and eternity.

The Creed declares the truth that Jesus now sits at the right hand of the Father *and* that he does that wrapped in our flesh. One may wrongly take a very literal approach to what this means, claiming that because Christ is 'seated at the right hand of the Father' that he cannot therefore be located anywhere else. This leads to Christ *not* being able to be present on his Altars across the world where and when the Sacrament of the Altar is celebrated. The Sacred Scripture says this:

²⁰ that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹ far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. ²² And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

What it means that Jesus has ascended and now sits at the right hand of the Father is that he has now ascended to the hand of God's power as a Man. All things are put under Jesus' precious feet—the same feet that were nailed to the Cross! This indeed means exactly the opposite of Jesus not being able to be present in his flesh and blood on his Altars as if he were somehow imprisoned at the Father's right hand. That he is now seated at the right hand of the Father means that he *can and does* make Himself to be present as he has so chosen and promised to be.

At the Last Day Jesus will return embodying the full power of God to judge the living and dead. Jesus will return once. He will not return, "rapture" a bunch of people, leave for 1,000 years, and then return a third time. The Scripture does not know of three comings of the Lord Jesus Christ, but tells us plainly that he will return again. For that, we his Body wait in anticipation.

+Pastor Frye

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: Linda Cloninger, Leonard Lewis, Michael Benedict, Teresa Davis,

Leonard Lewis, Tim Cloninger, Ronnie Davis

Grieving:

The Lindy Hawley Family

Home-bound Members: Gaynelle Moore

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	Ray McNeely	Trudy Dixon
Sidney Mitchell	Harry Murphy	Wanda Murphy	Luther Murphy	Jewel West
Everett Lineberger	Vicky Throneburg	Barbara Rhyne	Donnie Miskellly	Miles Cooper
Joe Canipe	Rick Martin	Jim Bumgardner	Gary Beale	Diane Skidmore

January's Birthday's

3 David Lewis
3 Pat Ritchie
15 Eleanor Abernathy
3 Rachel Walker
24 Hubert Abernathy
9 Wes Clark
25 Gail Weathers
9 Leonard Lewis
27 Terri Bentley

14 Kimberly Benedict

January's Anniversary's

31 Bud & Judy Abernathy

Baptism Anniversary

1 Anne Chapman

1 Loretta Lewis

1 Pat McAlister

1 Tammy Poarch

1 Tonya Stone

11 Amanda Black

28 Jill Price

Backpack Ministry

Our church is sponsoring the backpack ministry. It's a program for Gaston County schools that give school supplies to needy children. The bags will be sent home on Friday's for children who do not have food for the weekend. The school we are providing food for is Kiser Elementary. Please make a donation to this program so we can continue providing food for the school year. If you have any questions, contact Tonya Stone or Crystyl Lewis.



























Great local food with the best group celebrating Christmas at The Woodshed!

We all enjoyed Birthday Cake on this date in honor of Lillian Chronister .. yummy!

Door prizes were won by Bill Hawley and Tonya Stone ... lucky friends and they will enjoy Wendy's later!

Merry Christmas to all and Happy 2020!

Decorating the Church for Christmas



















Volunteers "Thank You" for staying after church to help decorate the church for Christmas! High and hard work was on the schedule and everyone had a great time and then fellowship with pizza for lunch! The church looks beautiful!

Hanging of the Green Service







Operation Christmas Child













Wonderful day working at Operation Christmas Child in Charlotte. A blessing to all who attended this annual workday to serve children around the world. Nine members and friends enjoyed snacks and lunch later.... a yearly event that makes you feel so good!

Church Council Meeting

There will be a church council meeting on Sunday, January 12th at 6 pm.

Women's Bible Study

There will be a Women's Bible Study on January 14th at 10am in the fellowship hall. Please bring toilet paper for the food pantry.

Part 3: Refugee Family

The Bill Cope family shared a lot of fun times with the Cao family. Some fun memories include the time we went to Charlotte to the Ringling Circus where they experienced their first taste of cotton candy and a trip to the North Carolina mountains for picnics and mountain hiking. Also, we had many backyard family outings with my mother Edna Shook, Sharon Simmons, Angie Norkett and Crystal Lewis Human.

We gave them some land to farm on the lower part of our property. There they planted corn, beans, tomatoes, and squash. The girls, Trung's sister and his wife Ngik, planted and hoed the garden while Trang supervised their work. Although it seemed strange to us, it was Vietnamese tradition.

Another strange thing occurred when they asked us if they could have the dried daylily flowers. We thought they were going to make something decorative out of them. Instead, they were going to prepare them in a meal of Moo Shu pork. We learned that various noodle dishes and dumplings call for stir-fried lily buds.

On one of our local pond fishing excursions, we caught a great number of fish. The next day we were invited to the Cao home for lunch. One of the first things we noticed was the sweet aroma from the fish we had caught the day before as well as fresh vegetables. As Ngi took the lid off the oot she reminded us that the entire fish would be eaten, head, eyes fins, etc...

Our family and extended family enjoyed the time spent with the Cao family and learning their many unique traditions as well as seeing them try to respectfully observe our way of life.

Eventually, Trung's sister moved to Hawaii while Trung and his family moved to California to be closer to relatives that had also entered the United States.

Below are some photos that we as the Cope family and friends shared with this wOonderful refugee family. Later we were surprised to meet Trang's Uncle bernard and his wife who visited us from Virginia, where they had settled.

This summer (2019) I received a phone call from Khanh. We shared many memories of their life in Stanley. She caught me up with each family member. She had gone to college, traveled abroad to many countries, served as a fireman in California, worked in Las Vegas as a bartender, has a son 31 years of age that is a mechanic. Her mother Ngi, died of cancer, Minh is also a firefighter, Vinh has suffered through the years with mental health issues and still suffers from those health issues, and is not able to work. Her father Trang has returned to Vietnam, and Trang's sister is still living in Hawaii.

It truly was a surprise to receive the phone call some forty years later, but a blessed time to re-connect with this wonderful family. Christ truly blessed this Church with such a warm and loving family.



Doris Cope 2019



Taken April 23, 1987 L to R: Sharon Simmons, dog Herbie, Khanh, Nga, Doris Cope, Brian Cope, Tranh, Angie Norkett, Bill Cope



L to R: Bernard, Nga, Trang, Bill Cope, Brian Cope, Doris Cope, Angie Norkett, Sharon Simmons and dog Herbie

This is a refresher for the Facility Guidelines used for our buildings.

A. Sponsors

Church organizations and/or members requesting use of CELC facilities shall have an official sponsor. (The leader of any congregational group is considered the "sponsor.")

- 1. A sponsor will be an adult active member (age 21 and up).
- 2. The sponsor is responsible for
 - a) being onsite at all times during the facility usage
 - b) obtaining a key (and returning it)
 - c) unlocking and locking the building after use.
 - d) being sure lights are off and heat/air is set properly when leaving
 - e) the actions of the group
 - f) housekeeping and cleanliness (including laundering table linens if used and then returning them within 72 hours)
 - g) proper use of all utilities, appliances, tables, chairs, etc.
 - h) the return of all equipment to its appropriate storage location
 - i) any damages incurred during use.
- 3. An official checklist for care of the CFLC will be posted to assist sponsors and sponsors agree to assure all items are completed
- 4. If property damages or personal injuries occur, the sponsor will contact the Facility Use Committee Chair <u>immediately</u>. (If they are not available, contact the Council President). Any damages to church property will be repaired by an independent contractor of the church's choosing. At the discretion of the Church Council, fees for repairs may be billed to the sponsor, who may in turn seek reimbursement from participants.

Facility Reservation Request Form

This Facility Reservation Request Form should include both the fee schedule and the signature form and should be distributed together to potential users. ANYONE wishing to reserve Church facilities should complete a Facility Reservation Request Form.

Process for reserving facilities:

- 1) This application form is to be completed by any individual/organization wishing to use any facility.
- 2) Present this form to the Facility Use Committee. No reservation will be confirmed without this completed form and the signature of the church leader/sponsor.
- 3) Facility Use Committee will review and contact you.
- 4) If unable to approve due to conflict with guidelines the Facilities Use Committee Chair may reject the application.
- 5) If unable to interpret the guidelines, the Facility Use Committee Chair will present the application for review to the Facility Use Committee, if the Facility Use Committee is unable to interpret the guidelines, the Facility Use Committee will present the request to the Church Council.
- 6) Early "set up" requests will be reviewed on a case by case basis.
- 7) Reservations will follow the order of priority and if of the same priority level, will be on a first come, first served basis.

If applicant disagrees with Facility Use Committee's decision:

- 1) They may request to review the decision with the Facility Use Committee Chair.
- 2) If there is still a disagreement, after step 1, they may re-present their case to the Facility Use Committee.
- 3) If still unresolved, they may present their case to the Church Council.

FEES

NON-MEMBERS/COMMUNITY USE:

- 1. There will be a cleaning deposit <u>PER BUILDING</u> (refunded if facilities are left clean)
- 2. There is a usage fee for non-members <u>PER BUILDING</u> (refundable if event is cancelled 1 week in advance).
- 3. If facilities *are not left clean* (by either members or non-members), the group sponsor may be billed by CELC for cleaning required. (*Note to non-members who have put down a cleaning deposit*: the actual fee charged by the janitorial service could exceed your deposit).

Date(s) Reserved	Facility Requested	Usage fee (Non-members)	Cleaning Dep. (Non-members)
	Fellowship Hall (w/ Kitchen) Christ's Family Life Center (w/kitchen) Family Life Center Small Room (w/kitchen)	\$125.00 \$500.00 \$150.00	\$125.00 \$250.00 \$150.00
TOTAL FOR RESERVATION			

- 1. An event by/for Church members will not require payment for facility usage but will be responsible for facility cleaning. Members and/or non-members can contract with the Church's janitorial service for clean up prior to submitting the Facility Reservation Request Form, in lieu of paying the cleaning deposit
- 2. Groups with some church members involved but not a "church related function" and being a "God pleasing" non-profit event, will be told that there is not a charge but donations to offset expenses would be appreciated.
- 3. Non-members/community use should pay the full amount shown in the revised Facility Reservation Request Form chart.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING November 10, 2019 MINUTES OF MEETING

<u>Call to Order:</u> The meeting was called to order by President Jay Human.

<u>Devotions:</u> Gabriel Frye opened the meeting with devotions and a prayer.

Roll call and action on excuses for absence:

Present: Pastor Frye, Jay Human, Michael Dukes, Gabriel Frye, Crystyl Human, Emma Human, Joe Keefer, Bob Mahovsky, Pat McAlister, Richard Medlin, Brian Robinson, and Tonya Stone

Absent: Tommy Hedrick, Leonard Lewis, Nancy Olls

Minutes of last meeting:

- 1) The minutes of the October 13, 2019 Council meeting were approved with one correction. Bob made a motion to accept the minutes, with one correction. Tonya seconded. The motion passed unanimously. **Report of the Pastor:** Pastor Frye presented the report for October, 2019.
- 1) For the month of October 2019, Pastor Frye presided over the Divine Service 4 times, taught Wednesday Evening Bible Study 3 times, taught Sunday Morning Bible Study 4 times, had 10 pastoral visits, attended the Fall Festival, and attended 2 meetings.
- 2) Pastor Frye reports that The Southern Piedmont Mission District Meeting will be held on Thursday, November 24, 2019, at Holy Trinity, Gastonia. We will worship and share a meal. The business of this meeting is to elect a Dean. The congregations in this new, smaller, restructured Mission District are as follows:
 - Addis Hiwot (New Life), Charlotte: Pastor Samuel pawlos
 - Advent, King's Mountain: Pastor Joshua Morgan
 - Antioch, Dallas: Pastor George Rhyne
 - Bethel, Lincolnton: Pastor Steve King
 - Christ's, Stanley: Pastor Wesley Frye
 - Grace, Bessemer City: *Pastor Ron Orovitz, Interim (*Member, Catawba Mission District)
 - Holy Trinity, Gastonia: Pastor Brack East, Pastor Jason Dampier
 - Our Savior, Dallas (NALC/LCMC): *Pastor Peter Feige (*LCMC)
 - St. Luke's, Monroe: Pastor Chris Metze
 - Trinity, Flat Rock: *Pastor Janice Kelley, Interim (*Member, Catawba Mission District)

- 3) Christ's will be hosting the Community Thanksgiving Service on Tuesday November 26, 2019 at 7:00 PM. A meal will be served following the service.
- 4) The Annual Hanging of the Green will be done on Advent 2; December 8, 2019. It will be an additional rite added to the Service of Holy Communion, as we did last year.
- 5) Pastor Frye has added the **Feast of the Ascension** back to our liturgical calendar. The Feast of the Ascension is to be celebrated 40 days after Easter. This will fall on May 30, 2020.
- 6) Pastor Frye would like Council to look into the present election process for Council members. We need to weigh "hurt feelings" (not being elected) against the need for those who are not elected to finish out the terms of an elected member who is unable to complete their obligation. In these instances, candidates who are on the ballot, but do not win election, are asked to serve. Therefore, having only 4 names on the ballot for 4 positions, limits our options when need arises.
- 7) Microphone #7 (the pastors microphone) has been repaired.
- 8) Pastor Frye took a week's vacation.

Reports by General and Capital Fund Treasurers:

- 1) Michael reviewed the Deposits Summary and the Designated Funds Report for October, 2019. Michael has moved the balance in the Open Arms Ministry to Stanley School Snack Pack Fund, as approved by Council.
- 2) Crystyl presented the October, 2019, Capital Fund report to Council for review.

Reports of Standing Committees:

Archives/Communications: Richard reports that everything is going smoothly.

Christian Education: Bob Mahovsky would like the names of relatives or friends to form a small group of people who might be interested in returning to church and renewing their faith. He would like the group to be no larger than 10-12 people.

Endowment: Quarterly deposits have been made into the Endowment Fund and the Rhyne Scholarship Fund.

Evangelism: We would like to note our affiliation with the NALC on our sign. There was some discussion regarding refurbishing our sign, or possibly replacing it with a new sign. Franklin Signs of Lowell was mentioned as a possible source of a new or refurbished sign. There was also some discussion regarding an LED sign. Jay asked that the discussion of the sign be tabled until another Council meeting.

Finance: No Report. The budget for 2020 was approved by the congregation by a 54-2 vote.

Internal Ministry: Thanksgiving Community Service will be held at 7:00 PM on November 26, 2019 at CELC. A Thanksgiving meal will be served after the service.

Mutual Ministry: No Report

Property Committee: Brian reports that:

- The heat in the church is working temporarily. Tim Clark is looking into a new unit for the sanctuary. There
 may be some reconstruction necessary when the old unit is removed. This will be determined when a new
 unit is selected.
- 2) Pat will look into possibility of an LED sign for the church.
- 3) The light at the bottom of the steps to the sound room needs to be replaced.
- 4) The lights in the church office are not working 100%. Brian will look into this situation.
- 5) The possibility of handrails leading up to the communion rail was again discussed. Brian will check into different options.

Social Ministry: Tonya reports that we have not heard back from the Stanley Total Living Center regarding an Angel Tree for them. Also, Tonya reports that East Gaston High School has done a food drive and proceeds will be available for pickup on November 22, 2019.

Stewardship: Election Results!! All 4 candidates won. They are as follows: Judy Abernathy, Bud Abernathy, Janice Clark, and Buck Helms. Gabriel Frye won the youth election. Congratulations!!

Worship and Music: No Report, Youth: No Report

Report of Special Committees:

Safety and Security: There will be a CPR class on December 7th, 2019 for our congregation. Please plan to attend this important training. This class is part of our congregation's emergency preparedness training. **EVERYONE** should know basic CPR! The cost of this training is \$22/person. Jay made a motion that the church pay for this class. Bob seconded. The motion passed unanimously

Website Committee: Bob brought up his concern over the appearance of the church calendar on our website. "If you google our website at this time, when you scroll down you will see a list of "Upcoming Events" on the main screen. If you go to the tab that says "view all" you will see the published calendar for the month. This calendar is anemic. We should tell Julie about any and all events and ask her to put them on the calendar as soon as she becomes aware of an event. Perhaps any topic in the newsletter or bulletin would qualify. For example, cemetery workdays, Pastor's scheduled time for confessions, finance committee meetings, other committee meetings, etc." (Bob Mahovsky, IT Administrator Liaison for 2019)

Bob is also looking into the possibility of blocking prayer requests that are, in reality, simply solicitations.

Other Reports:

Cemetery Committee:

- 1) Bob thanked the Budget Committee and Council (and the congregation) for their approval of a \$3000.00 budgeted item to help the Ancestry Fund. The funds will be distributed quarterly, at the end of each quarter. Bob had asked that the funds be distributed in the middle of the last month of each quarter. This is inconsistent with the present end-of-month check writing routine. It was decided to leave the disbursements as they are. Joe suggested that the final (December) payment be done by direct deposit in the middle of the month, so it is an automatic, one time deposit. Michael will check out this possibility.
- 2) Bob also discussed the proposed new concrete pad that will extend the present concrete pad, on the right of our exit driveway. He presented estimates and drawings to Council. One concern is lighting for the area. There is a Duke Energy pole to the left of the exit driveway. This pole could be used to mount a light for this area. There is a large cedar tree at the end of the exit drive that some consider a sight hazard. Bob feels that this tree could be removed or trimmed, if necessary. A nearby oak tree might need to be trimmed as well. Emma made a motion to approve the concrete work to extend the concrete pad on the right of the exit driveway. Crystyl seconded. Council approved the concrete work at this time. Capital improvement funds are available. Any discussion about tree removal or trimming will be tabled until another Council meeting.

Unfinished Business:

1) Progress report on the Memorial Chime Tower. Kathey has been working with the architect to make changes that are required by the county. We are waiting for approval by the county.

New Business: None

Open and Close Church: David and Leonard will open and close the church in December, 2019, and January, 2020. Thank you, David and Leonard!

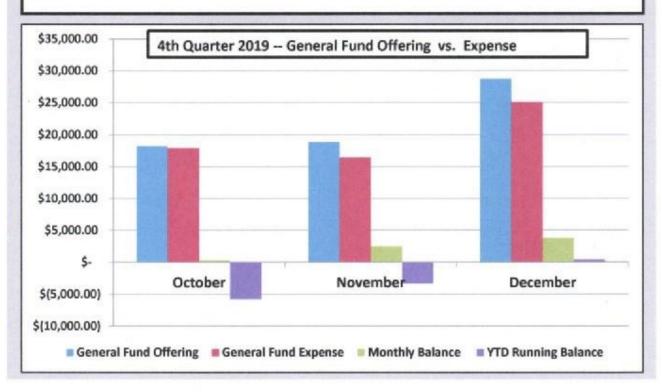
Adjournment:

- 1) The next council meeting will be on December 8, 2019 at 6:00 PM. Brian will lead devotions.
- 2) The meeting was adjourned following The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Joseph L. Keefer, Secretary

-		November		December	
\$	17,839.00	\$	18,306.00	\$	24,547.00
\$	347.00	\$	540.38	\$	4,158.00
\$	18,186.00	\$	18,846.38	\$	28,705.00
\$	1,428.95	\$	2,664.61	\$	2,986.35
\$	1,955.00	\$	1,630.00	\$	2,250.00
\$	21,569.95	\$	23,140.99	\$	33,941.35
	\$	\$ 18,186.00 \$ 1,428.95 \$ 1,955.00	\$ 18,186.00 \$ \$ 1,428.95 \$ \$ 1,955.00 \$ \$ 21,569.95 \$	\$ 18,186.00 \$ 18,846.38 \$ 1,428.95 \$ 2,664.61 \$ 1,955.00 \$ 1,630.00 \$ 21,569.95 \$ 23,140.99	\$ 18,186.00 \$ 18,846.38 \$ \$ 1,428.95 \$ 2,664.61 \$ \$ 1,955.00 \$ 1,630.00 \$ \$ 21,569.95 \$ 23,140.99 \$

	October	November		December	
General Fund Offering	\$ 18,186.00	\$	18,846.38	\$	28,705.00
Designated Funds (Budget)	\$ -	\$		\$	107.00
Designated Fund Disbursements	\$ 2,554.26	\$	2,722.20	\$	5,025.10
Transfers to Capital Fund	\$ 1,955.00	\$	1,630.00	\$	2,250.00
EXTENSION - Benevolence	\$ 1,516.32	\$	1,556.01	\$	1,976.00
EXPANSION - Mission in Community	\$ 329.26	\$	25.95	\$	925.95
GUIDANCE - Mission in Staff	\$ 11,739.30	\$	11,585.21	\$	11,518.90
MINISTRY - Worship & Word	\$ 198.11	\$	421.63	\$	888.67
DEVELOPMENT - Admin & Property	\$ 4,081.51	\$	2,796.32	\$	5,285.68
OTHER EXPENSES - Insurance, etc.	\$ 7.	\$	-	\$	4,470.25
General Fund Expense	\$ 17,864.50	\$	16,385.12	\$	25,065.45
All Expenses (Including DF & Transfers)	\$ 22,373.76	\$	20,737.32	\$	32,340.55
Monthly Balance	\$ 321.50	\$	2,461.26	\$	3,746.55
YTD Running Balance	\$ (5,803.60)	\$	(3,342.34)	\$	404.2



January 2020

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



Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church

203 S. Main St. Stanley, NC 28164

CELC Newsletter January 2020



Pastor: Rev. Wesley R. Frye, STS

Administrative Assistant: Julie Bodenheimer

Facilities: Rick Chapman

Schedule: Sunday

9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Service

Wednesday

5:30pm Bible Study 7:00pm Choir Practice

Church Office Hours:

Monday—Friday 7:30 am until 12:00 pm