

# **CELC Newsletter**

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

Pastor's Message

#### May 4<sup>th</sup> - The Commemoration of St. Monica

On May 4<sup>th</sup> the Holy Church lifts up for us the exemplary life of St. Monica. St. Monica is probably best known to us as the mother of St. Augustine who along with Saints Ambrose, Gregory and Jerome make up the four Great Fathers of the Western Church. This early period in the life of the Christian Church (4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> centuries) is arguably the summit of Christian thought. St. Augustine himself is chiefly responsible for much of the Church's theological thought on the grace of God and especially in his theological battles with his longtime opponent and heretic, Pelagius. St. Augustine is sometimes referred to as the Church Father of Grace. Martin Luther himself was a monk of the Augustinians order.



St. Monica's son was not always so highly regarded however. Though Monica was a Christian, her parents gave her into marriage to a man named Patricius, an ill-tempered and dissolute pagan. Witnessing the licentiousness of his father, Augustine spent much of his childhood and some of his adulthood living in hedonism. When he was 17, Monica was devastated to discover that her son had become a student of Manichaeism - a Christian heresy that blended Persian paganism, Gnosticism, and Christianity. Even though he was one of the brightest minds of the age and even though he had been brought up a Christian, his pagan and immoral lifestyle nonetheless blinded him from the Way, the Truth and the Light, Jesus Christ.

At the age of 29, Augustine decided to travel to Rome to teach rhetoric. With her husband now dead, Monica's resolve was to follow the son

she loved to Rome. One evening however, Augustine told his mother that he was going down to the docks to say goodbye to a friend who was setting sail. He did not return. When Monica learned of her son's betrayal, she was devastated. However, she nonetheless followed

after him. She arrived in Rome only to discover that her son had recently left for Milan. Though it was dangerous for a woman to travel alone at this time, she pursued him again anyway.

Monica continued to pray for her son and never gave up on him. Her love for him and for her Lord would not allow her to quit on him. While in Milan, Augustine came under the instruction of the Bishop of Milan, St. Ambrose and in the year 387, on the Feast Day of the Resurrection, St. Augustine was baptized and made a member of the one, holy, catholic and Apostolic Church. Monica's prayers not only availed for her son but also for her husband, Patricius who was baptized one year before his own death.

Some time after his conversion, Augustine left with a company of brothers headed to Africa to help with the burgeoning Church there. At this point St. Monica knew she was sick and that her life would soon be over. Before he left, she called her son to her side and said this: "Son, nothing in this world now affords me delight. I do not know what there is now left for me to do or why I am still here, all my hopes in this world being now fulfilled". Soon after this, she became very ill and suffered severely for nine days before her death.

Monica left this life fulfilled. She had prayed for and pursued her son relentlessly and God heard her many prayers and granted the faithful thing for which she asked—both her and her son, Augustine finished the race and died in the Faith of the Holy Church. Now I write to you about all of this because I want you to know that if you have family members or friends whom you love and care for that have strayed from the Christian Faith— \*\*Don't ever give up on them\*\*. Be St. Monicas for the,! Continue to pray for and urge them in a spirit of gentleness to repent, recant, and return to the Christian Church, for Jesus does not save out side of the Ark of his Holy Church. Continue to pray and know that God will grant anything you ask for according to his good and gracious will.

Your brother in Jesus, 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: Marilyn Smith, James Bodenheimer, Jim & Bertie Billups

Grieving: Medlin Family (Lisa Medlin Costner's husband Kevin)

Home-bound Members: Gaynelle Moore

Friends and Relatives: Everette Chapman, Joe Mackowski, Jack Wilson, Ray McNeely, Faye Harper, Harry & Wanda Murphy, Rick Martin, Luther Murphy, Everett Lineberger, Donnie Miskelly, Jim Bumgardner, Betty Coulter, Crystal White, Tony Carroll, Buddy Hodge

### May's Birthday's

2 Anne Chapman

3 Gary Dixon

4 Ashley Clark

15 Teresa Davis

15 Emily Keefer Vernola

20 Richard Hovis

22 Pastor Frye

22 Haley Hawkins

24 Betty Hacker

27 Tammy Poarch

### May's Anniversary's

11 Gary & Connie Dixon
28 Michael & Barbara Benedict

### Baptism Anniversary

8 Nina Hovis

12 Kimberly Benedict

13 John Clark

21 Alyssa Poarch

21 Craig Poarch

21 Judy Ray

29 Danielle Clippard

30 Lori Spears

Attention: All Graduates.
Please email me, your
information so I can get
it into the June's
newsletter. Also,
upcoming, I will need
your children's awards
and accomplishments.

The King's Daughters Ministry is grateful for your partnership in this vital ministry for our community. With your help, we are able to serve young women and their children who are escaping homelessness, domestic violence or recovering from addiction. Thank You.

"Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful."

Luke 6:36



The King's Daughters Ministry: Office: 704-263-4204: Please call Sheryl Dorsey at 704 263-4204 if you would like tickets. <a href="www.kdmonline.org">www.kdmonline.org</a>

### Cemetery Restoration Cleanup Day

There will be a cemetery cleanup day on Saturday, May 15, from 8am-12noon to work on the cemetery. The rain date is the next Saturday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>. All the markers have been placed so now it is easy to find any grave. If you need a map contact Julie in the office.

#### Thank You so Much!

James and I would like to thank you for all the cards, calls and prayers received during James' surgery and stay at the hospital. We feel so grateful for our church family and their thoughtfulness.

Love, James & Julie Bodenheimer

# EASTER DECORATIONS

Thank you to everyone that came and decorated the church for Easter. The church was beautiful.









# EASTER PROCESSIONAL







































EASTER 2021







# **MEMORIAL DAY CELEBRATION**

AND THE DEDICATION OF THE FLAG IN THE STANLEY CEMETERY HONORING 141 VETERANS AND ALL THOSE WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE US

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER:** 

## **Command Sergeant Major (Ret) Russell Stalvey**

## MONDAY, MAY 31, 2021 11:30 A.M.

IN THE MIDDLE OF THE STANLEY CEMTERY BY THE NEWLY ERECTED FLAGPOLE

See other side for location of flagpole and canopy Bring your own chair and in case of light rain an umbrella

Location of the flagpole for the celebration.

See the RED arrow below.



Board of Directors: Judy Billings, Tommy Deese, Rev. Wesley Frye, Rev. Dan King, Barry Summey, Colin Withers, Robert Mahovsky, President

December 30, 2020

Pastor Frye, the Church Council and Members of Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church 203 S. Main St Stanley, NC 28164

Dear Pastor Frye, Church Council and Members of CELC:

On behalf of the Stanley Cemetery Ancestry Fund, I want to thank you, the Church Council, and the Church members for remembering and honoring all those who have gone before us with your very generous fiscal year 2020 contribution of \$1,500.00. Your contribution will help us maintain our Stanley Cemetery with the love and respect that our loved ones deserve.

As you know, our goal is not just this year's maintenance of the Stanley Cemetery but endless maintenance by way of creating a perpetual care fund that is self-sustaining. We believe that when others join our efforts and make contributions like yours via bequeaths from estates, qualified charitable distributions, and other large donations over the next 5 to 10 years our community can make that happen. Your contribution is a big assistance in helping us achieve that goal. We truly appreciate your helping us achieve that noble goal of endlessly honoring those who have gone before us.

Sincerely,

Robert D. Mahovsky, President

Stanley Cemetery Ancestry Fund

#### Eagle Scout Project Nicholas Price

My goal is to help out those less fortunate than we are during these trying times. The Phoenix Mission in Gastonia serves people in need in the Gastonia area. Right now, they need our help with the following items:



- Gloves
- Hats
- lackets
- New Socks
- New Underwear
- Outerwear
- Shoes
- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Toothpaste

- Toothbrushes
- Deodorant
- Dish Soap
- Cleaning Products
- Laundry Detergent
- Clorox
- Trash Bags
- Storage Bags
- Paper Towels
- Flashlights.

Phoenix Community Outreach Center operates as a daily safe haven to those individuals and families experiencing homelessness or transition in our area. Phoenix Mission is open to all, regardless of race, age, gender, social-economic status, or living situation, granted that they are respectful of all persons and staff that may come here. They offer daily continental breakfast and lunch and are a resource centre for anyone in our community that may need assistance.

Place your donations in the collection box provided by Sunday, May 9th

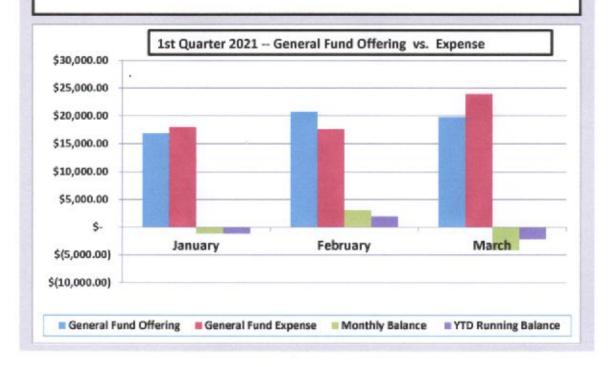
If you have any questions please contact me at 704-214-9331 or

nicholas.price007@gmail.com

		January		February		March	
General Fund - Unrestricted *	\$	16,439.00	\$	19,125.00	\$	19,431.00	
Other Income	\$	411.34	\$	1,568.67	\$	382.62	
Total General Fund Offering	\$	16,850.34	\$	20,693.67	\$	19,813.62	
Designated Gifts	\$	1,054.95	\$	1,461.25	\$	2,316.55	
Capital Fund Offering (Bldg & Memorials)	\$	100.00	\$	400.00	\$	114.00	
Total Offering	\$	18,005.29	\$	22,554.92	\$	22,244.17	

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

		January		February		March	
General Fund Offering	\$	16,850.34	\$	20,693.67	\$	19,813.62	
Designated Funds (Budget)	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	
Designated Fund Disbursements	\$	225.00	\$	125.00	\$		
Transfers to Capital Fund	\$	100.00	\$	400.00	\$	114.00	
EXTENSION - Benevolence	\$	1,561.71	\$	1,816.88	\$	1,845.95	
EXPANSION - Mission in Community	\$	25.95	\$	32.95	\$	925.95	
GUIDANCE - Mission in Staff	\$	11,996.26	\$	12,061.34	\$	11,958.70	
MINISTRY - Worship & Word	\$	395.24	s	229.18	S	766.34	
DEVELOPMENT - Admin & Property	\$	4,025.77	S	3,457.12	S	3,873.90	
OTHER EXPENSES - Insurance, etc.	\$	-	S	-	S	4,591.84	
General Fund Expense	\$	18,004.93	\$	17,597.47	\$	23,962.68	
All Expenses (Including DF & Transfers)	\$	18,329.93	\$	18,122.47	\$	24,076.68	
Monthly Balance	\$	(1,154.59)	\$	3,096.20	\$	(4,149.06	
YTD Running Balance	\$	(1,154.59)	\$	1,941.61	\$	(2,207.4	



# May 2021

Sunday	Mon	Tuesday	Wed	Thursday	Fri.	Sat.	
						1	
2 Divine Service 10:30 AM	3	4	5 Bible Study 6pm	6 Food Pantry 11:00am- 12:30pm	7	8	
9 Divine Service 10:30 AM Mother's Day	10	11	12 Bible Study 6pm	13 Food Pantry 11:00am- 12:30pm	14	15 Cemetery Restoration Cleanup day 8am-12noon	
16 Divine Service 10:30 AM Church Council Meeting 6 PM	17	18	19 Bible Study 6pm	20 Food Pantry 11:00am- 12:30pm	21	22	
23 Divine Service 10:30 AM	24	25	26 Bible Study 6pm	27 Food Pantry 11:00am- 12:30pm	28	29	
30 Divine Service 10:30 AM	31 Office Closed Memorial Day Celebration 11:30am						

If you need anything please call the church between 8am-12:30pm, Monday - Friday.



# Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church

203 S. Main St. Stanley, NC 28164

# CELC Newsletter May 2021



Pastor: Rev. Wesley R. Frye, STS

Administrative Assistant: Julie Bodenheimer

Facilities: Rick Chapman Choirmaster: Nancy Olls

Schedule: Sunday

10:30 am Worship Service

**Church Office Hours:** 

Monday-Friday 8:00 am until 12:30 pm