



CELC Newsletter

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

Pastors Message

Grace be unto you from him who is, and who was, and who is yet to come.

Whether it's a phenomenon that's gotten worse in recent years or one that has been around since the dawn of time, the race of Adam is an entitled race. I suspect that latter. I also suspect that the reason, in part, that Adam failed to protect his wife from Satan's seductions and that Eve reached out and took the fruit, had something to do with this peculiar sense of individual prerogative.

Let's define the term: "Entitlement" may be defined as either *desiring* or *reaching out to take something* that is not ours to desire or take. Certainly, this desire was resident within Satan when he rebelled and sought to seek equality with the Holy Trinity. It shouldn't then surprise us in the least that Satan tempted our first parents by asking them to reach out for something that God had not given them to have.

With this in mind, let's look at The Sacrament of the Altar.

The Holy Communion belongs to the Holy Church of Jesus Christ. And we can be so bold as to say that it "belongs" to us because Jesus Himself gave it to us. It is the gift of Himself (body, blood, soul, and divinity) to his Bride, the Church. In it we have the forgiveness of sins, life, and rest for weary soldiers along the Way. We call it Communion because, in it, we have union with Christ. Or as my seminary professor, The Rev. Dr. Ridenhour once said, "You can't be any closer to Jesus than when you eat him."

It should be observed that when our Lord instituted this Holy Meal, he did *not* do so out amongst the masses with just any old random people. Rather, on the night in which he was betrayed the Lord gathered his twelve disciples together in one place for the first observance of this Blessed Sacrament. In doing this, the Lord sets forth the pattern for the Church: This Meal is not for everyone. It is for the Church—the baptized Bride and family of Jesus Christ. God's Word instructs us further in 1Corinthians 11 concerning this Sacrament:

²⁷Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. ²⁸Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. ²⁹For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body, eats and drinks judgment on himself.

What we learn here is that *examination* is another requisite (Holy Baptism being the first) before one eats and drinks of this Supper. In other words, we are to look at our life, see all the ways in which we have not lived up to being the recipients of such an incredible gift in receiving God Himself under bread and wine, and then approach the Altar in penitence with the resolve to do better. This is to say, and it must be said, that impenitent, recalcitrant sinners who do not desire or intend to change their ways are not to eat of this Holy Meal—this include even those who are baptized. The Formula of Concord, one of the Lutheran Confessional documents, states it this way:

“But it must be carefully explained who are the unworthy guests of this Supper, namely, those who go to this Sacrament without true repentance and sorrow for their sins, and without true faith and the good intention of amending their lives, and by their unworthy oral eating of the body of Christ load themselves with damnation, that is, with temporal and eternal punishments, and become guilty of the body and blood of Christ.”

The one who eats thusly does not sin against merely bread and wine, or even against the salutary command of the Lord, he rather sins against the Body and Blood of Jesus and furthermore shall be guilty of the Body and Blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. This is to say that reception of the Sacrament of the Altar is a serious matter—this cannot be overstated. This Meal is not for the unbaptized and it is not for the baptized who have no intention of amending their life through the mercy of repentance.

“All are welcome” is a common thing to see on church signs and websites and the like. This is most certainly true. All are welcome to come and hear the Word of God. All are welcome and invited to enter into a deeper relationship with the merciful Lord who died for them. All are welcome to come and stand in awe of God’s Presence in the Divine Service. The preaching of God’s Word is meant for all the nations. The same cannot and should not be said of this Sacred Meal which Christ has given and continues to give in abundance to his radiant Bride the Church—it is meant for *penitent* sinners unworthy of the pearls our God places around our necks—and in the case of the Sacrament, upon our tongues. We are not entitled to such mercy as a right, but he gives it nonetheless as a privilege and a gift, that we may know the Kingdom of Heaven even on earth, and so taste and see that the Lord is good.

Your brother in Jesus, Pastor Frye+



Announcements

Women's Bible Study: There will be a Women's Bible Study on Tuesday, October 12th at 10:00 AM in the Sanctuary.

Cemetery Work Day: There will be a cemetery work day on Oct. 16th, (rain date is Oct. 23rd) from 8:00 AM to 12 Noon.

Church Council: The Nominating Committee is looking for volunteers for the Church Council for 2022. Please contact Tonya Stone Campbell, 704 530-3717 or Jay Human 704 616-7133, if you would like to serve on the Council.

Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Drive for 2021

It's that time of year for preparing your special **Shoe Box** for a child somewhere around the world. This may be the only way that they know Christ is through your packed box. What a simple gift but with a **BIG** message! Please pray when packing your box that this child will come to know that "Jesus Loves Them". Just pick-up a brochure and read the "DO NOT INCLUDE ITEMS", decide if you want to pack for a girl or boy and go shopping.

Join me -- pack a box! Return to the church by **Sunday, November 14th, 2021!**

Have fun and enjoy that good feeling for doing something for someone else!

Thanks, Kathey Brown

Note: Work day information will come later.

Notice Members: We have a challenge... a member of CELC will pay your \$9 shipping on a box. WOW, what a savings. Make a box...

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: Pat Ritchie, Ruth Laue, Jim & Bertie Billups, William Busch

Grieving: The Family of Emma Powell

Home-bound Members: Gaynelle Moore

Friends and Relatives: "Maggie" Magnolia White, Mark McClure, Jerry Winham, Joe Jack Wilson, Harper, Harry & Wanda Murphy, Rick Martin, Luther Murphy, Everett Lineberger, Jim Bumgardner, Betty Coulter, Crystal White, Tony Carroll, Buddy Hodge

October's Birthday's

7 Barbara Benedict	25 Michael Bozeman
7 Kathey Brown	26 Donnie Clippard
18 Libby Edwards	29 Amelia Clark
22 Sara Abernathy	29 Landon Dixon
24 Doris Skidmore	31 Betty Hoover

October's Anniversary's

1 Bob & Sally Mahovsky
3 James & Julie Bodenheimer
3 John & Prissy Helms
10 Joe & Cindy Keefer

Baptism Anniversary

1 Brenda Cloninger
4 Kyle Medlin
7 Lillian Chronister
7 Doris Skidmore
11 Abigal Price
17 Betty Haker
17 Buck Helms
17 Marilyn Smith
26 Ronnie Davis

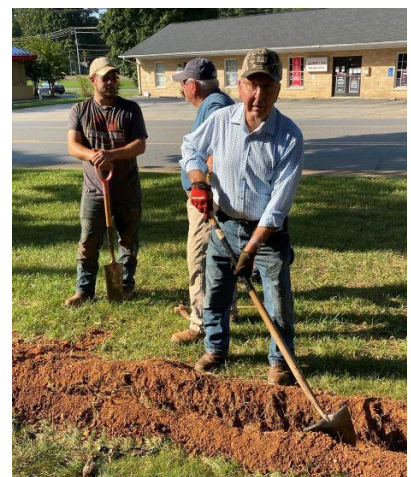


Pictured: Doris Cope, Lois Conley, Paige Vu (Trang Cao) and Teresa Davis enjoying time together after Homecoming.

Paige came from California to visit with Chirst's Lutheran to share her love for the help the church provided her family with when they came here from Vietnam in the 70's.



Work day at CELC



CELC Partners with Gaston County DHHS

Meals on Wheels Program

Beginning the first week in October 2021, the Adult Nutrition Program will be utilizing our Family Life Center, Monday through Friday from 8:00am until 1:30pm to pack and distribute meals for Stanley and Dallas homebound participants. The program site monitor and other staff and volunteers will be responsible for the cleanup daily. Christ's Lutheran Church will have priority use of the Family Life Center in the event of a conflict. The usage of the facility will be "in grata" (free of charge). The contract will be re-evaluated and renewed annually.

Anyone interested in volunteering with the Meals on Wheels Program may contact Selina R. Pate, Adult Nutrition Program Supervisor/Adult & Aging Services
Gaston County DHHS
Office: 704 862-7833
Mobile: 704 678-5439

Michael Dukes

For those who have not yet heard, I resigned as the congregation's General Fund Treasurer effective October 1, 2021. The Church Council chose to make it effective immediately upon receiving my resignation letter on September 17th. It has been both my pleasure and a privilege to serve as the General Fund Treasurer for this congregation over the last 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ years. I greatly appreciate the support and the trust that you placed in me over that time.

Your Servant in Christ,
Michael Dukes

Thank you Michael

On behalf of the Church Council and entire congregation, I would like to thank Michael Dukes for the contribution of his time and talents serving as the General Fund Treasurer for the past 12 1/2 years at Christ's Lutheran Church.

Michael has worked closely with the Church Trustees and handled Financial Secretary duties most recently. We appreciate Michael's dedication and hard work.

Michael submitted his resignation effective October 1, 2021.

Thank you Michael,

Judy Abernathy,
Council President

THANK YOU

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for awarding me a Rhyne Scholarship for the pursuit of a doctorate in ministry. Your generosity is a blessing to me and, God willing, through me.

In Jesus' love,
The Reverend Ryan Ray

The Sound of Music

Did you know that the piano is made of more than 12,000 parts ... For the piano to generate its entire sound range, it requires 230 strings!

Christ's Lutheran church was recently gifted a special piano that belonged to a very special member of this congregation from 1945 until 1994. Etheleen J. "Tiny" Shook. Tiny served as our choir director for 40 years from 1946 until 1986. She also served as director for the Stanley High School Chorus for over thirty years. Tiny also enhanced the musical lives of a multitude years as a piano teacher.

Tiny's piano was graciously donated to Christ's Lutheran Church by her daughter Bitsy Shook Medlin and is now housed in our Family Life Center. Bitsy said she knew her mother would be so very happy and proud her piano now resides at the church she loved so dearly. Thank you Bitsy for this wonderful addition to our Family Life Center.

Also thank you to Richard Medlin and Bud Abernathy for moving the piano.





INVITATION

As you know, we are organizing the Second Annual Veterans Day Celebration that will be held on November 7, 2021. **Please know that you are invited and that we would be honored to have your attendance as we celebrate and honor all veterans and veteran family members.**

Individuals attending the Celebration will receive a Program Guide. The Program Guide includes: a list of speakers, helpful information for each segment of the Celebration, a listing of all Veterans who have been submitted by individuals, or organizations for inclusion in the program guide as either "Remembered" or "Honored," along with the name of the individual or organization that submitted the Veteran's name.

If you would like to have a beloved Veteran included in the Program Guide, please complete and submit one form below for each Veteran you would like to have either "Remembered" or "Honored." **Names must be received by 10/8/2021 to be included in the Celebration Bulletin.**

The Stanley Cemetery Ancestry Fund Second Annual **VETERANS DAY CELEBRATION PROGRAM GUIDE INFORMATION** **SUBMISSION FORM**

Name, military branch, and battlefield information desired to be printed in Celebration
Program Guide:

PLEASE PRINT ABOVE THIS LINE THE NAME TO BE PRINTED IN BULLETIN [] IN MEMORY OF, or [] IN HONOR OF or [] PROUD SUPPORTER

PLEASE PRINT ABOVE THIS LINE MILITARY BRANCH, WHERE SERVED, E.T.C.

Donations must be received by 10/8/2021 to be included in the Celebration Bulletin.

PRINT NAME, ADDRESS, EMAIL ADDRESS, AND PHONE NUMBER OF DONOR – PHONE NUMBER REQUIRED

SUGGESTED INDIVIDUAL DONATION LEVELS*

PLATINUM LEVEL SUPPORT.....\$500+

GOLD LEVEL SUPPORT.....\$200+

SILVER LEVEL SUPPORT\$100+

BRONZE LEVEL SUPPORT.....\$50+

COPPER LEVEL SUPPORT.....\$20+

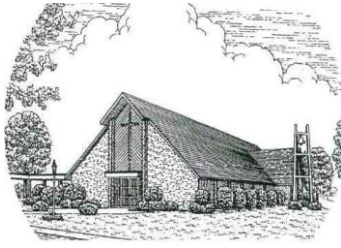
MAILING ADDRESS OF: STANLEY CEMETERY ANCESTRY FUND, c/o THOMAS DEESE, TREASURER, PO
BOX 772, STANLEY, NC 28164, or email: mahovsky2@gmail.com

**DONATION SUPPORT WILL PAY FOR THE FOLLOWING: PRINTING COST OF THE PROGRAM GUIDE, SPEAKER FEE, SPEAKER TRAVEL EXPENSES (MILES AND MEALS), SPEAKER LODGING, PROGRAM ADVERTISING EXPENSES, CELEBRATION MEDIA EXPENSES, FLOWERS/POPPIES/GIFT FOR VETERANS, SIGNS & BANNERS, ANY UNUSED AMOUNT DONATED WILL PAY FOR ONGOING SUPPORT FOR THE NON-PROFIT ANCESTRY FUND'S CEMETERY MAINTENANCE EXPENSES*

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO WATCH LAST YEAR'S CELEBRATION CLICK ON THE FOLLOWING LINK:
Veterans Day Service 11.8.2020 - YouTube

October 2021

Sunday	Mon	Tuesday	Wed	Thursday	Fri.	Sat.
					1	2
3 Divine Service 10:30pm	4	5	6 Bible Study 6pm Choir 7pm	7 Food Pantry 11:30am- 12pm	8	9
10 Divine Service 10:30pm Church Council Meeting 6:00pm	11	12 Women's Bible Study 10am in Sanctuary	13 Bible Study 6pm Choir 7pm	14 Food Pantry 11:30am- 12pm	15	16 Cemetery Work Day 8am-12noon
17 Divine Service 10:30pm	18	19	20 Bible Study 6pm Choir 7pm	21 Food Pantry 11:30am- 12pm	22	23 Cemetery Work Day 8am-12noon (Rain date)
24 Divine Service 10:30pm	25	26	27 Bible Study 6pm Choir 7pm	28 Food Pantry 11:30am- 12pm	29	30
31 Divine Service 10:30pm						



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
Choirmaster: Nancy Olls

Schedule:

Sunday

10:30 am Worship Service

Church Office Hours:

Monday—Friday 8:00 am until 12:30 pm