

St. Mark's Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 550
3216 West Main Street
Claremont, NC 28610
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Our Mission
To Proclaim the Gospel
To Make Disciples
To Embody Christ's Love

ST. MARKS NEWSLETTER
June 14, 2023

OPPORTUNITIES TO GATHER
AT ST. MARK'S

Sundays—Worship
10:00 Service in Sanctuary
9:00am Sunday Morning Learning
10:00 Drive-Up in Front for Radio
broadcast on FM 101.5

Anytime—online
www.smarklc.org
YouTube.com
Facebook.com - Links

Media
Christ in our Home devotional
Please call the church office.

A NOTE ON OUR WORSHIP
TOGETHER IN THE NAVE

MASKS ARE OPTIONAL
WE ASK THAT YOU OBSERVE SOCIAL
DISTANCING FOR THE SAKE OF
YOURSELF AND YOUR NEIGHBOR.

PLEASE NOTE:
Worship times and places are subject
to change for the sake of safety due
to COVID-19
You may view our services live on St.
Mark's Lutheran Church's YouTube
page. Become a subscriber by going
to the page and clicking on the
subscribe button. The service will
remain there after each service for
later viewing.

http://www.youtube.com/@st.marks
lutheranchurchclar6483



HIGHLIGHTS FROM NC SYNOD ASSEMBLY

On June 1, Pastor Heather, Jonathan Ray, Melanie Sigmon, and Shawn Brown attended the Pre-Assembly Continuing Education seminar on Mutual Ministry Teams. Having a Mutual Ministry team is a part of Pastor Heather's call as it is a group specially appointed by the congregation council to serve in a support role for the pastor as he/she serves the congregation.

The NC Synod Assembly took place on Friday, June 2, and Saturday, June 3. The Bible Study on the first day was based on Matthew 16:13-24. Reports from our synodical partners and organizations such as Lutheran Services Carolinas, NovusWay and Agape/Kure Beach Camp Ministries, Lutheran Men in Mission, WELCA, and the Mission Investment Fund were given. A budget for 2024 and 2025 for the Synod was passed. *Comunidad Amada de Cristo* (Christ's Beloved Community) in Winston-Salem, an ecumenical (Lutheran/Episcopal) and bilingual (Spanish/English) ministry that serves as a food distribution hub for hundreds was welcomed as the newest congregation of the synod. We elected churchwide assembly voting members for the 2025 assembly since we gather as a synod every other year. A new synod secretary, Pastor Cassie McIntosh Overcash, was also elected. Assistant to the Bishop, Rev. Dr. Alfredo Oviedo, was installed during the Friday evening worship service. And a prayer shawl along with a special time of prayer and the laying on of hands was given to Bishop Tim Smith as he was beginning his cancer treatments. For more information about the happenings of the NC Synod Assembly, please visit <https://myemail.constantcontact.com/Special-e-News-2023-Assembly-Recap.html?soid=1101477504383&aid=HbYAMqTcnT0>

HAPPY Father's Day Father's Day Sunday School Sunday, June 18th, 9:00am
Fathers, Grandfathers, Uncles, all are invited to attend Sunday School with their child/children on Sunday, June 18th.
We will have a special lesson and craft for all to work on together. Plan to attend as we celebrate the special "Father Figure" in our lives.

Church Staff	
Pastor Heather Langan: Senior Pastor hlangan519@yahoo.com	(704-724-5991)
Wendy Hefner: Family Ministries Director wendy@smarklc.org	(828-270-6008)
Emily Schuttenberg: Choir Director/Organist	(828-459-2161)
Praise Team Leader/Keyboardist	(828-459-2161)
Rachel Isaac: Nursery/children's Church Leader	(828-459-2161)
Maria Wright: Preschool Director mw9268@gmail.com	(828-234-5943)
Randyl Abernathy : Preschool Director mimab@charter.net	(828-781-1702)
Deanna Butcher: Finance Secretary deanna@smarklc.org	(828-459-2161)
Debbie Smith: Administrative Assistant secretary@smarklc.org	(828-459-2161)
Keegan Dixon: Interim Church Custodian	(828-459-2161)

Congregation Council		
2023	2024	2025
Terry Hefner	Kyle Sigmon	Jean Cloninger
Denise Arndt	Hilka Cox	Blake Sigmon
Marlene Epps	Kendra Hendren	Jonathan Ray
Carol Schaefer	Aaron Carpenter	Nicky Setzer
The year denotes rotation off Council.		
Congregation Council meets on June 19th at 6:30pm The next newsletter mailing will be June 28, 2023		
Church Office Hours		
Monday - Thursday, 9:00am—2pm; Friday, 9:00-12:00pm		
Follow Us Online		
StMarksLutheran...Claremont, NC	www.smarklc.org	
YouTube St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Claremont, NC		



Vol. 13, No. 11
6-14-2023



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Congratulations to Franklin and Mary Catherine Wepner on the birth of Ruben Coyte Wepner on Sunday, June 11.

Ruben joins big sister, Bonnie Clementine, and is the newest grandson of Kyle and Melanie Sigmon.

Our noisy bucket offering collected for NovusWay Ministries (Lutheridge and Lutherock) was \$186.50. They offer programs for summer camps, retreats and conference space. Providing experiences for people of all ages in God’s creation to inspire faith, build relationships, and to transform lives to love and serve . Values instilled are, but not limited to, renewal, stewardship, hospitality and forming discipleship. As a ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, all are invited to reconnect with nature and Jesus.

MEMORIAL/HONORARIUM GIFTS RECEIVED TO THE GLORY OF GOD

For St. Mark’s: In memory of Jerry Craig, given by Richard and Arcola Cansler

THOSE PERSON AND FAMILIES WHO ARE GRIEVING, NAMED AND UNNAMED.

Family of Jerry Craig, especially his wife, Judy

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING WITH ACUTE HEALTH CHALLENGES

Harley Brown Bailey Carpenter Gary Carpenter Chris Cloninger Eva Cloninger Steve Deal Jackie Devlin Keegan Dixon Alanna Dotson Mike Evans	Jerry Herman Jo Marilyn Hewitt Celia Hollar Tammie Hoyle Meredith Huret Exie Little Rudy Little Gaye Morrison	Glenn Morrison George Setzer Sandy Sherrill Brenda Sigmon Tim Sigmon Bishop Tim Smith Larry Smyre Dee Stewart	Please pray for COVID victims. Please pray for all front line Covid caregivers. Please pray for all those isolated, and those in Assisted Living Homes. Please pray for those in our military, especially Ashley Carpenter and his family as he is deployed.
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 June Tabulators Janet Sigmon, Dotty Isenhour & Linda Lytton	June Altar Guild Hilka Cox, Elaine Simmons & Jan Carpenter	
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2

“The love of Christ always helps us see beyond the faults of others.”

Victor Manuel Rivera

DECODER PUZZLE

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the Correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
L	Z	J	Q	B	K	T	E	F	X	N	H	G	V	Y	P	U	M	W	R	I	D	S	C	O	A

- 1. 9-26-1-1 _____
- 2. 12-8-26-22 _____
- 3. 23-25-1-22 _____
- 4. 13-20-25-17-11-22 _____
- 5. 11-17-18-5-8-20-8-22 _____
- 6. 12-26-21-20-23 _____
- 7. 23-16-26-20-20-25-19-23 _____
- 8. 23-25-17-1 _____
- 9. 16-8-11-11-15 _____
- 10. 19-25-20-7-12 _____

SOUL PENNY	NUMBERED SPARROWS	SOLD WORTH	HAIRS GROUND	HEAD FALL
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“So don’t be afraid; you are more valuable to God than a whole flock of sparrows.”

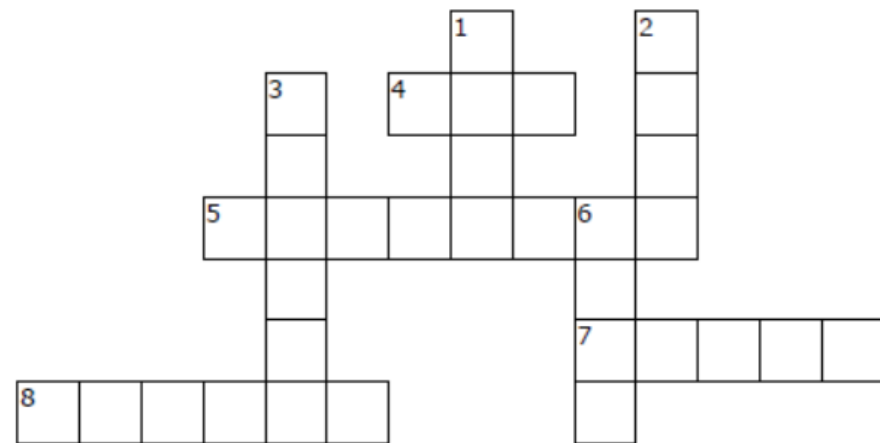
Matthew 10:31

Children's Ministry Page

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

DELIVERING THE GOOD NEWS

Matthew 9:35-10:8



ACROSS

4. A small number, not many, or not enough
5. Unable to care for yourself
7. A large number of people gathered together
8. An employee, as opposed to an employer

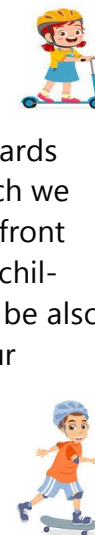
DOWN

1. To restore health to the sick
2. Information about recent events or happenings
3. The original number of disciples of Jesus
6. Suffering from illness or disease

NEWS	FEW	CROWD	HELPLESS
HEAL	SICK	WORKER	TWELVE



WOW (Wheels on Wednesday) will be in the back parking lot at St Mark's on Wednesday, June 21, from 6:30-8:30pm. Parents bring your lawn chair and children with their bicycles, scooters, skateboards and a helmet to safely play in the parking lot which we will block off to traffic. Parents please park in the front parking lot and you were asked to stay with your children on the church property. The playground will be also available for children to enjoy. Come out with your friends and neighbors and enjoy a flat shaded parking lot in the evening for the children to play safely. Sidewalk chalk, water, and popsicles will also be available!



Summer Sunday School Bible Board Games

Each Sunday morning this summer, we will focus on a different board game or game and see how it reminds us that we **Always WIN with JESUS!**
9:00 AM every Sunday!
June 11–August 27



Adding a New Learning Opportunity for Adults!



Beginning Sunday, June 11th, adults of St Mark's will have an added option for Sunday School. Pastor Heather will continue to provide an adult class for the lectionary Bible Study, but this new class will give an opportunity for the group to focus on short, in-depth topics such as Revelations, Prayer Life, Living with Worry, etc. The class will meet in the conference room downstairs and will have input as to the topics discussed.

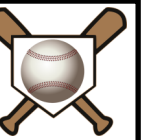
Christ in Our Home

July, August, September 2023



The July, August, September 2023 Christ in Our Home is available for pick up. If you need one mailed to you please notify the church office.
 828-459-2161
 secretary@smarklc.org

The Crawdad's for Dad's Day



Join us as we celebrate our Dads at a Hickory Crawdad's Baseball Game

Sunday, Jun 18th at 2:00 pm.

Bring your church bulletin to the ticket office for a discounted \$6 ticket. The "Dads" will donate \$4 from each ticket to that bulletin's respective church courtesy of Catawba Shoe Store.



Youth Activities 6th - 12th grades Save the Dates



June 22 - Bowling 1:30-3:00pm
July 22 - Canoe/Kayaking
July 26 - Prepare for VBS
August TBA - Pool Party

Youth will be able to come to the church early and stay till the afternoon when a family member can pick them up.

Please make these arrangements with Wendy by the registration deadline date for each activity.



St Mark's Lutheran Church
 Vacation Bible School

Seeking God's Treasure
Saturday, July 29th
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM



Come join the Adventure as we
 Seek to Find God's
 most Important Treasure!

Bible Story time, Crafts and Games will be included in our search in the morning and the afternoon will provide a hotdog lunch and waterslide inflatables.

There will also be a Bible study for adults!

Contact the church office at
 828.459.2161
 to register your child today!!!!



For where your Treasure is, there your heart will be also

ELCA Youth Gathering

July 16—20, 2024

The gathering is open to all **current 8th - 10th graders** who will be rising 10th—12th graders next summer.

2024 ELCA Youth Gathering
including MYLE the tAble
Young Adult Gathering

CREATED
TO BE

St. Mark's
Preschool at
Patterson's
Strawberry
Farm



Parents Night
Out
at
St. Mark's



Thank you to Ed and Joy James along with their children Jabin and Elese for sharing your ministry with the St. Mark's congregation through a temple talk and time for conversation after worship. From the James Family's latest newsletter:

We are excited to announce that Ed feels led to begin a ministry to help mission organizations and small churches with audio, video, lighting, and technology needs. This is something that he has been thinking about for over a year, and he can't let go of the idea. The need for this was confirmed during our recent trip to Arizona. Ed is currently praying through what this will look like. This will allow Ed to support a greater range of ministries while continuing to use his skills as he does at JAARS. Ed was able to talk with Frontiers (mission organization) during our recent trip about how he can support their work, including helping them make decisions about equipment replacement. He is also talking with Bret Taylor of Interaction International about AVL needs for upcoming conferences.

We will be moving to Arizona so that we can be involved in helping with Frontiers candidate school. Ed will provide AVL support while Joy and the kids plan to help with the children's program as needed. We believe that Arizona will provide a better climate for our health, allowing us to be more effective in ministry.

Joy enjoyed attending the MK Caregivers Summit and got some ideas she would like to implement with Ripe for Harvest, starting with getting to know the families at the conference coming up in June. We will be traveling to Colorado for this conference, which includes our children.

Ed will be finishing his time on JAARS campus with a 75th-anniversary celebration coming up in mid-May. He will be continuing to work for JAARS remotely and in more of an advisory role.

With these changes, we appreciate your prayers for a smooth transition, including the sale of our house in North Carolina and the purchase of a new home in Arizona. Pray also as we say goodbye to people we care about in North Carolina and work on building new relationships. Pray for clarity for Ed and Joy as they continue to pray through decisions regarding future ministry opportunities. We will be visiting partners as we transition - pray for safe travels for these visits, the move, and the conference.

To learn more about their ministry or to help support them, go to www.ripeforharvest/james-ed-joy/

The Mother's
Day recognition
offering amount
was \$185.00.
This was given
to the ALS Association.



Our July noisy
bucket offering
will go to
Safe Harbor,
a Christ Centered Community
for rebuilding, renewing and
recovery for women. They
offer classes, housing,
assistance, encouragement,
and programs to offer those
seeking to enhance their
commitment to recovery and
step into their God given
purpose.



St. Mark's 2023
Preschool
Graduation

