

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 28, 2023



All Congregation Council members and members of the congregation who are willing to serve as ushers are invited to a training session with Pastor Heather and Terry Hefner. This training will be offered twice and we ask that you attend one of them.

Thursday, July 6 at 6:30pm and Sunday, July 9, at 9am.

The training will take place in the sanctuary where we will walk through the worship service and the responsibilities of the ushers. If you are interested or even just curious to learn about the ministry of ushering, please come!!



On Monday, June 19, the Congregation Council voted to designate our Spring Thanksoffering to our Playground. The playground is in need of trashcans, sand, and some updating of equipment. So far, \$1955 has been giving through this offering. If you would like to give to the Spring Thanksoffering to help us with updates and improvements to the playground, there is still time. Thank you to the members of St. Mark's and the Congregation Council for your support of the playground which our neighbors and St. Mark's preschool enjoy on a regular basis!



As our home gardens begin to produce crops, if you have extra produce and would like to share it with others, you are invited to bring it to the church and place it in the Blessing Box for our community and/or bring it to worship on Sunday to share with our faith family.

Beginning July 19, and on the subsequent Wednesday nights when we have WOW (Wheels on Wednesday) the Outreach team would like to share additional food including fresh produce to those who would like it or need it. With food prices high and the lack of access for many people to fresh healthy fruits and vegetables, this is one way we can help our neighbors. May our gardens grow and grow with abundance! Thank you!

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](https://www.youtube.com)
[Facebook.com](https://www.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>

Congregation Council

2023	2023	2024
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 July 10 at 6:30pm
The next newsletter mailing will be July 12, 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

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: Minister of Music (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)



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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Beginning July 2nd we will start new with Our friends/extended family members of St. Mark’s prayer list.

If there is someone on the current list that needs to be remain please call the or email the office and let us know. Otherwise the names will be removed and we will start new as of July 2nd.



Our friends/extended family members of St. Mark’s

Mark Beatty	Shirley Harwell	Chris Ray
Barbara Benfield	Greg Hollar	Charles Reed
Elden Bojarski	Jackie Hollar	Dana Roberts
Eric Carpenter	Poa Hung	Gene Roberts
Wayne Carpenter	Danny Jolly	Diane Sane
Wendy Cloninger	Miranda Mendel	Mark Sepulvador
Linda Coffee	Jonathan Moore	Charlene Shoemate
Judie Colainni	Ken Moretz	Jim Shoemate
Aiden Cox	Linda Moser	Ken Sigler
Allen Deal	Nicole Nimrod	Kathleen Sigmon
Hilda Deal	Harry Oliver	Tanya Smyre
Diane DeBusk	Martin Pannell	Euel Wade
Jerry Ford	Katlyn May Poovey	Ruth Watson
Martha Fuller	Tammy Poovey	George Williams
William (Billy) Hampton		

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

- Family of Jerry Craig, husband of Judy Craig
- Family of Ray Steckenrider, father of Carol Schaefer
- Family of Chris Sigmon, son of Celia Hollar, nephew of Elaine Simmons

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING WITH ACUTE HEALTH CHALLENGES

Harley Brown	Jo Marilyn Hewitt	Brenda Sigmon	Please pray for COVID victims.
Bailey Carpenter	Celia Hollar	Hal Sigmon	Please pray for all front line Covid caregivers.
Gary Carpenter	Tammie Hoyle	Johnny Sigmon	Please pray for all those isolated, and those in Assisted Living Homes.
Chris Cloninger	Meredith Huret	Ryan Sigmon	Please pray for those in our military.
Eva Cloninger	Exie Little	Tim Sigmon	
Jackie Devlin	Rudy Little	Bishop Tim Smith	
Keegan Dixon	Gaye Morrison	Judy Smyre	
Alanna Dotson	Glenn Morrison	Larry Smyre	
Mike Evans	George Setzer	Dee Stewart	
Jerry Herman	Sandy Sherrill		



July Altar Guild
Gigi & Stan Sigmon, Denise Arndy
& Marcheta Campbell

July Tabulators

Dotty Isenhour
Chris Cloninger



DECODER PUZZLE

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute 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
K	Z	X	M	D	B	Y	R	S	T	H	E	U	P	I	Q	A	C	N	W	V	J	O	F	L	G

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

EASY	YOKE	COME	HUMBLE	GENTLE
BURDEN	LIGHT	LEARN	WEARY	REST



For my yoke is easy and
my burden is light.
Matthew 11:30

Children’s Ministry Page

WORDSEARCH PUZZLE

WELCOME

Matthew 10:40-42

R B Q S L O S E K X F S D E O
W A T E R Q N Y Y T S A I V S
D A M K N Q H W B M H Y S H M
L I T T L E P P H F I A C I C
X T R U T H H B S O R V I J L
R T R E W A R D J F I I P V C
R N C G O N E S K X G Q L R W
H G G N Q Z M H Z B H E E E R
Y D I E A G R R R W T T D C X
G I T V U N G U J Z E L J E H
T H B X E T Y F Z H O T U I C
J E W E J S H O P C U I K V U
J P L M Q Q F O N V S L B E P
Q U E L E R R A U E S H Q S T
R V S M O P H J S Q A N I U R

RIGHTEOUS	LOSE	TRUTH	ANYONE
WATER	PROPHET	ONES	WHO
RECEIVES	DISCIPLE	COLD	GIVES
REWARD	TELL	CUP	LITTLE



MEMORIAL/HONORARIUM GIFTS RECEIVED TO THE GLORY OF GOD

For St. Mark’s: In memory of Jerry Craig, given by Susan Bolick, Harley & Libby Brown, Susan & tony Williams, Kermit Nash, Phyllis Little

St. Mark’s Lutheran Church

Council Meeting 5/22/2023

- I. Call to Order: 6:37pm
- II. Opening Prayer and Devotion: Pastor Heather
- III. Roll Call: Pastor Heather, Blake, Denise, Hilka, Marlene, Jean, Nicky, Carole, Terry, Kendra, Jonathan, Aaron. Excused Absence: Kyle, sick
- IV. Approval of Minutes: April 17, 2023 approved as written
- V. Pastors Report: attached. Council approved new member, Hope Brown
- VI. Wendy’s Report: attached
- VII. Action Items: Safety team recommended electronic locks which were approved by council; recommended that the Property team handle the rekeying of the doors which council agreed with recommendation.
- VIII. Finance Report: attached
- IX. Team Reports:
 - A. Personnel: attached
 - B. Women of the ELCA: attached
 - C. Fellowship: no report
 - D. Worship and Music: attached
 - E. Property: attached
 - F. Outreach: no meeting
 - G. Stewardship: attached
 - H. Youth and Learning: attached
 - I. Congregation Care: attached
 - J. Preschool: attached
 - K. Technology: no report. Teams need to turn in their updated team purpose and picture for the website update
 - L. Memorial: no requests
 - M. Safety: met 5/8. Recommendation to Blink Camera system to be installed which was approved by Council
- X. Old Business: Pastor Heather continues to work on the membership definitions. Bishop Smith added membership is through both communing and contributions. Pastor Heather will bring changes in memberships to the council for review and approval. Council approved the use of \$4271.00 out of the memorial funds for the chime system which was spent in April 2023. Going forward, anything over \$1000.00 will need to go before council and anything over \$10,000.00 will need to go before the congregation.
- XI. New Business: Stewardship Team wants to open the FLC for Claremont Daze for multiple uses. They are requesting people to join the task force, 1 person from each team, to plan the event.
- XII. Adjournment and Lord’s Prayer: 8:48pm Aaron made the motion and Blake seconded

“Faith does not eliminate questions. But faith knows where to take them.”

Elisabeth Elliot

VBS - Seeking God's Treasure

Saturday, July 29th 9am—2pm

Please let us know how you can help make VBS a great experience for us and the community this year. Mark the area/areas you can help, fill in your name and contact information, and we will let you know the details. Place in offering plate! Thank you in advance!

- Food Prep and serving Breakfast Lunch 10 needed
- Group Guide (1-2 needed in each area)
- 4 yrs.-K 1st-3rd grades 4th-6th grades
- Decorations (All the help we can get)
- Registration (2-3 needed)
- Assist with Crafts (2-3 needed)
- Assist with Games (2-3 needed)
- Assist with Bible Adventure (2-3 needed)
- Monitor Inflatables (afternoon) (2-3 needed)



Name Phone

WOW (Wheels on Wednesday) will be in the back parking lot at St Mark's on Wednesday July 5, July 19, August 2, and August 16 from 6:30-8:30p. Families are invited to bring your lawn chairs 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 are 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!



SAVE THE DATE! All Ministry Teams, team members and council liaisons, are asked to attend a Budget Planning meeting on Monday, August 7, at 6pm. We will be putting together our requests for the ministries of 2024 for St. Mark's so the Finance Team may put together the proposed budget for the next calendar year. All congregation members are invited and encouraged to attend to have their voices heard as we work to plan for the future ministries of St. Mark's.



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

A Young Adult Gathering for those 1 year post high school graduation through age 35 will also be at the same time. If you are interested in attending the Youth or Young Adult Gathering

Contact Wendy for more information!



ST MARKS CALENDAR –July 2023

July

- 7/2 Sunday Morning Learning/Coffee and Conversation 9:00am
- 7/2 5th Sunday of Pentecost 10:00am Service/Noisy Offering for Safe Harbor
- 7/4 Offices Closed, Happy Independence Day
- 7/5 WOW (Wheels on Wednesdays) 6:30-8:30pm
- 7/6 Usher Training (all are invited) 6:30pm
- 7/9 Usher Training (all are invited) 9:00am
- 7/9 Sunday Morning Learning/Coffee and Conversation 9:00am
- 7/9 6th Sunday of Pentecost 10:00am Worship Service in Sanctuary
- 7/10 Outreach Team 10:00am
- 7/10 Executive Team 6:00pm
- 7/10 Congregation Council 6:30pm
- 7/11 Congregation Care 6:00pm
- 7/11 Property Team 6:30pm
- 7/12 Newsletter Mailed
- 7/12 Youth Canoe/Kayaking
- 7/13 Grief Share (Loss of Spouse) 6:30-8:30pm
- 7/16 Sunday Morning Learning/Coffee and Conversation 9:00am
- 7/16 7th Sunday of Pentecost 10:00am Worship Service in Sanctuary/ECCCM Food Collection
- 7/17-23 Pastor Heather our of town for Continuing Education Conference and Vacation
- 7/19 WOW (Wheels on Wednesdays) 6:30-8:30pm
- 7/23 Sunday Morning Learning/Coffee and Conversation 9:00am
- 7/23 8th Sunday of Pentecost 10:00am Worship Service in Sanctuary
- 7/26 Newsletter Mailed
- 7/29 Seeking God's Treasure VBS 9:00am—2:00pm
- 7/30 Sunday Morning Learning/Coffee and Conversation 9:00am
- 7/30 8th Sunday of Pentecost 10:00am Worship Service in Sanctuary
- 7/31 Stewardship Team 6:30pm

ANYTIME

www.smarklc.org
YouTube.com



- 7/3 Ted & Janice Sigmon
- 7/7 Don & Ann Carpenter
- 7/7 Michael & Christy Pope
- 7/14 Nathan & Meredith Huret

- 7/1 William Hewitt
- 7/2 Norman Morrow
- 7/6 Jody Carpenter
- 7/9 Cheri Hoke
- 7/10 Haddley Theisen
- 7/11 Harper Hill
- 7/12 Gary Powell
- 7/14 Pete Sink
- 7/16 Lynne Penley



- 7/18 Sandy Sherrill
- 7/20 Isabelle Kau, Trent Wright
- 7/21 Dianna Cloninger, Judy Craig, Robert Stewart
- 7/23 Rona Saunders
- 7/26 Teresa Rozzelle
- 7/27 Gail Carpenter, Jackie Devlin
- 7/28 Donald Herman, Patricia Miller, Barbara Shaffer, Jerry Herman
- 7/30 Betty Powell, Jennifer Carpenter, Matthew Watkins
- 7/31 Jackson Brown, Debbie Herman

Youth Activities 6th - 12th grades
Save the Dates



- June 22 - Bowling
- 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.



We Are One in Christ
Back to School Bash!

Saturday, August 19th, 9am - 1pm
Newton Fairgrounds

Churches and organizations in the area are working together to sponsor this event. Donations of school supplies are needed to fill

2000 backpacks to be handed out at the event.

We need your help with donation of the following items:

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Washable Markers | Pencils |
| Erasers | Colored Pencils |
| Marble Composition Books | Highlighters |
| 1 Subject Spiral Notebooks | Large glue sticks |
| Headphones (no ear buds) | Crayons (24ct) |
| Blunt tip scissors | Dry erase markers |

You can also help monetarily. Donations can be given to the church office or designated in an offering envelope clearly marked as

BACK TO SCHOOL BASH DONATION!

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



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!!!!



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 have input as to the topics discussed. For those who remember the old A.C.T class (Active Christians Today) this will be similar. Please plan to join us!

For those who remember the old A.C.T. class (Active Christians Today), this will be similar. Please plan to join us!



JULY 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
OFFICE HOURS: Monday—Thursday 9:00am-2:00pm Friday, 9:00am—12:00pm						1
2 9:00am Sunday Morning Learning/Coffee and Conversation 10:00am 5th Sunday of Pentecost Worship Service/ Noisy Offering for Safe Harbor	3	4  Offices Closed	5 6:30-8:30pm WOW Wheels on Wednesdays	6 6:30pm Usher Training (all are invited)	7	8
9 9:00am Usher Training (all are invited) 9:00am Sunday Morning Learning/Coffee and Conversation 10:00am 6th Sunday of Pentecost Worship Service	10 10:00am Outreach Team 6:00pm Executive Team 6:30pm Congregation Council	11 6:00om Congregation Care 6:30pm Property Team	12 Canoe & Kayak with Wendy Newsletter Mailed	13 6:30-8:30pm Loss of Spouse Grief Share	14	15
16 9:00am Sunday Morning Learning/Coffee and Conversation 10:00am 7th Sunday of Pentecost Worship Service/ ECCCM Food Collection	17 Pastor Heather out of town	18 For Continuing Education	19 6:30-8:30pm WOW Wheels on Wednesdays Conference and Vacation	20 through July 23rd	21	22
23 9:00am Sunday Morning Learning/Coffee and Conversation 10:00am 8th Sunday of Pentecost Worship Service	24	25	26 Newsletter Mailed	27	28	29 9:00am-2:00pm VBS
30 9:00am Sunday Morning Learning/Coffee and Conversation 10:00am 9th Sunday of Pentecost Worship Service	31 Stewardship Team 6:30pm					