

St. Mark’s Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 550
3216 West Main Street
Claremont, NC 28610
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Claremont, NC



Our Mission
To Proclaim the Gospel
To Make Disciples
To Embody Christ’s Love

ST. MARKS NEWSLETTER
February 28, 2024

“We know love by this, that Jesus laid down his life for us– and we ought to lay down our lives for one another.” 1 John 3:16

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

	3/3/24 @ 10:00am	3/10/24 @ 10:00am	3/17/24 @ 10:00am	3/24/24 @ 10:00am	3/31/24 @ 10:00am
Ushers	Nicky Setzer Carol Schaefer	Nicky Setzer Carol Schaefer	Nicky Setzer Carol Schaefer	Nicky Setzer Carol Schaefer	Nicky Setzer Carol Schaefer
Greeters	Judy Carpenter Jennifer Carpenter	Marcheta Campbell Cheryl Brown	Susan Williams Dotty Isenhour	Susan Williams Boyce Hollar	Larry & Judy Smyre Hilka Cox
Read Lessons	Tim Carpenter	Rev. Bill Hollar	Cheryl Brown	Denise Arndt	Rachael & Hadley Theisen
Carry Cross (Youth or Adult)	Larry Smyre	Dale Sherrill	Tamarah Hefner	Larry Smyre	David Theisen
Acolyte (Youth of Adult)	Silas Carpenter	Kermit Nash	Terry Hefner	Denise Arndt	Silas Carpenter
Assisting Minister	Tim Carpenter	Dale Sherrill	Kermit Nash	Carol Schaefer	Rachael Theisen

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

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

If you need to change Sundays or you need to be taken off the list of worship volunteers please call Pastor Ted Rust 252-675-5936

Church Staff

Rev. Dr. Ted Rust: Interim Pastor (252-675-5936)

Wendy Hefner: Family Ministries Director
wendy@smarklc.org (828-270-6008)

Emily Schuttenberg: Minister of Music (828)-459-2161

Maria Wright: Preschool Director
mw9268@gmail.com (828-234-5943)

Randy 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)

Larry Smyre: Church Custodian (828-459-2161)

Congregation Council

2024	2025	2026
Hilka Cox	Jean Cloninger	Carol Schaefer
Kendra Hendren	Blake Sigmon	Matthew Watkins
Aaron Carpenter	Jonathan Ray	Nobia Summer
Bill Dotson	Nicky Setzer	

The year denotes rotation off Council.

Congregation Council meets on March 18 at 6:30pm
The next newsletter mailing will be March 13, 2024

Church Office Hours

Monday - Thursday, 9:00am—2pm

Follow Us Online

f StMarksLutheran...Claremont, NC www.smarklc.org
YouTube St. Mark’s Lutheran Church, Claremont, NC



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2-24-2024



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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Saint Mark’s Lutheran Church
Ministry Financial Analysis

1/31/2024	Month	Year
General Fund	\$ 36,015.49	\$ 36,015.49
Expenses	\$ 24,984.56	\$ 24,984.56
	\$ 11,030.93	\$ 11,030.93

Lent Worship Service at
12:30pm led by
Rev. Dr. Ted Rust

Lunch to follow at 1:15pm
3/5, 3/12, 3/19

Please join us for Worship!



January 2024
Worship
Attendance

1/7/24	62
1/14/24	72
1/21/24	62
1/28/24	76

MEMORIAL/HONORARIUM GIFTS RECEIVED TO THE GLORY OF GOD

For St. Mark’s: In loving memory of Harley Brown given by Donna Evans

In loving memory of Tim Sigmon given by Donna Evans

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING WITH ACUTE HEALTH CHALLENGES

(Those with ongoing health challenges and extended friend and family members
of St. Mark’s are listed weekly in our Sunday worship bulletin.)

Mike Benfield Gary Carpenter Jan Carpenter Chris Cloninger Eva Cloninger Keegan Dixon Alanna Dotson	Jerry Herman Jo Marilyn Hewitt Celia Hollar Tammie Hoyle Rudy Little Gaye Morrison Glenn Morrison	George Setzer Brenda Sigmon Hal Sigmon Johnny Sigmon 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.
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March Altar Guild
David & Lisa Tucker



March Tabulators
Hilka Cox, Elaine Simmons & Jan Carpenter



2

Blessing Box Schedule

3/3-3 Carol Schaefer, 3/10-16 Nobia Summer
3/17-23 Jan Carpenter, 3/24-30 Nobia Summer



The Ten Commandments

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

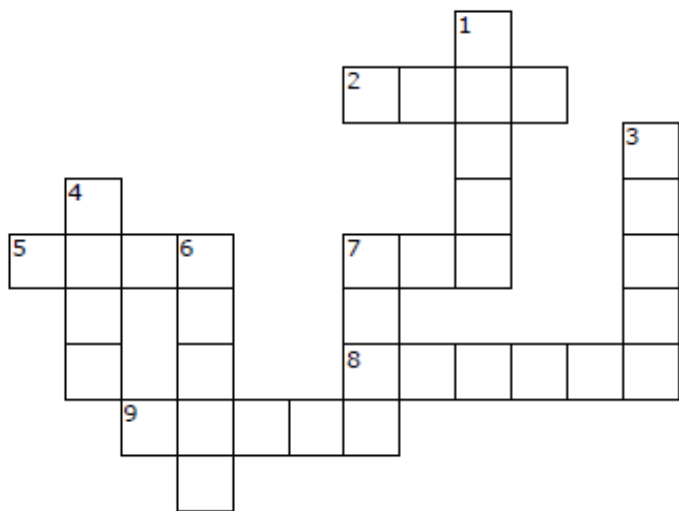
SABBATH	NAME	MURDER	LIVE	HOUSE
WIFE	FALSE	REMEMBER	DAY	IDOL
COVET	WORSHIP	MOTHER	LONG	FATHER
LORD	NEIGHBOR	DONKEY	SEVENTH	STEAL
MISUSE	HONOR	ADULTERY	TESTIMONY	HOLY



“Apart from the cross, there is no other ladder by which we may get to heaven.”¹¹
Rose of Lima

Children’s Ministry Page

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 2. You shall not make for yourself an _____. (a false god)
- 5. You shall have no other _____ before me.
- 7. You shall _____ commit adultery.
- 8. You shall not _____. (kill)
- 9. You shall not give _____ testimony against your neighbor. (untrue)

DOWN

- 1. You shall not _____. (to want something that belongs to another)
- 3. _____ your father and your mother.
- 4. Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it _____.
- 6. You shall not _____. (to take what does not belong to you)
- 7. You shall not misuse the _____ of the LORD your God.

FALSE NAME	IDOL COVET	STEAL HOLY	HONOR NOT	MURDER GODS
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Faith Kids

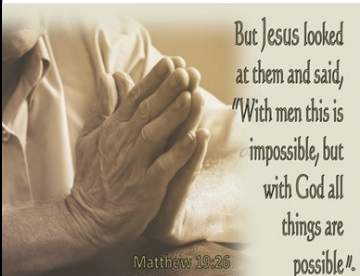
Children and Youth (4 yrs. - 6th grade) will be meeting at least two Sunday’s a month for fellowship, service projects and Faith Growth opportunities.



Look for information in the bulletins, newsletters and special mailings for information on meeting times and activities.

Ladies Day in honor of Mothers Day Saturday, April 27: 11am-1pm .

Our theme is “ Gods Providential Hand “.
Get ready to be inspired by our
Guest speaker Debbie Smith
She will be sharing how Gods Providential Hand led them to adopt a child from Bulgaria



Lunch is provided.
Please RSVP to the office by April 22 .

Easter Lilies! Reserve by March 25

Lilies are available for purchase to decorate our sanctuary for Easter. The cost is \$12. You may purchase lilies to the Glory of God, in memory or in honor of someone special.

Please write checks to St. Mark’s with Easter lilies on the memo line.

Name _____

Phone _____ # of Lilies _____ X \$12 = \$_____ Total _____

In Honor _____

In Memory _____



God Can! Summer Camp Week

July 22-26, 2024

3216 West Main Street
Claremont, NC

Camp Hours:

Monday–Friday 9am–4pm

Before and After Care is available
Daily meals and snacks included.

Camp Activities:

- Fun
- Friends
- Games
- Crafts
- Water day

LIMITED SPACE!

828.459.2161

To register, call or email: wendy@smarklc.org



Scan Code
to Register



PER PERSON

Church members
receive a \$20
discount

Second child
in same family
receives a \$20
discount

Second child discount does
not apply to members.

Dear St. Mark's Church Family,

We sincerely thank you for your many acts of kindness and thoughtfulness as Gary has struggled with various health issues in recent years. You have boosted our spirits and warmed our hearts with your cards, calls, gifts, visits, and prayers. You have wrapped us in Christian love and affection. We extend a special thank you to the Women of the ELCA for blessing us with constant reminders of care and concern. We have been touched deeply by your goodness and will treasure always the gifts from your hearts. You are true disciples of Christ! May you be richly blessed! In Christian love and gratitude,

Gary and Susan Carpenter



Setting the Example

(A Newsletter Article by Rev. Dr. Ted Rust)

Grace to you and peace in the loving and hopeful name of Jesus. In Romans 4:13-25 Paul presents Abraham as a good example for how a person comes into a right relationship with God. It is not through works of the law, but through faith. Though Abraham and his wife Sarah were too old for bearing children, Abraham trusted that God would accomplish what God had promised to accomplish. God’s promise to make them the ancestors of many came true when Issac was born. (Genesis 17:19) Abraham was 100 years old and his wife Sarah was 90 when Issac was born. (Genesis 21:2-3) So instead of putting out the retirement rocking chair on the porch, Abraham and his wife anticipated rocking a baby to sleep.

Our own Hazel Setzer is another inspiring example of God’s grace in action by a faithful servant. She is a long-time member of St. Mark’s Lutheran Church. Every day talented Hazel spends most of her time at a sewing machine preparing colorful and beautiful dresses and outfits for children in the poorest areas of Africa. She has made over 5,000 dresses and outfits that children in Africa and other places are wearing right now. She is 97 years old and had no plans of stopping this incredible ministry. Last Sunday I visited with her and her daughter Kathy and son-in-law Roger. They showed me pictures of many children in he poorest areas of Africa who were wearing her dresses and were so thankful for them. The dresses Hazel makes are colorful and beautiful and are yet another example of how to share God’s love and kindness with others. **What an inspiration Hazel is!**

When any of us use our time, talents, and resources to help others God is glorified and His kingdom advances. What gifts do you have that the Lord could use? Let us pray. God of miracles, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us, ourselves, our time, and our talents, signs of you gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Pastor Rust to begin a New Ministry “Complete Support Group”

Pastor Rust is organizing a new ministry that will begin meeting Sunday, March 10th at 4:00pm. This group will be called the “Complete Support Group” and will help anyone going through a difficult loss, transition, or issue that is causing pain or sadness. Anyone is welcome to attend—no exceptions. For more information or to let Ted know you will be attending please call him at 252-675-5936. We will meet in the Family Life Center at 4:00pm on March 10th.

Please consider attending to receive support and give support to others.

ST MARKS CALENDAR –March 2024

March

- 3/3 Adult Bible Study & coffee with Pastor Rust 9:00am
- 3/3 3rd Sunday Of Lent Worship Service 10:00am/Noisy Offering for pregnancy Care Center**
- 3/4 Women of the ELCA Bible Study 11:00am
- 3/4 Youth/Learning Team 6:00pm
- 3/5 Lent Worship Service **“Guided to Peace”** 12:30pm
- 3/5 Lunch 1:15pm
- 3/6 Music Rehearsal 6:30pm
- 3/9 TURN YOUR CLOCK UP 1 HOUR BEFORE BED**
- 3/10 Adult Bible Study & coffee with Pastor Rust 9:00am
- 3/10 4th Sunday of Lent 10:00am Worship Service**
- 3/10 Complete Support Group 4:00pm
- 3/11 Outreach 11:00am
- 3/11 Worship/Music 6:00pm
- 3/11 Stewardship Team 6:30pm
- 3/12 Lent Worship Service **“Guided to Trust”** 12:30pm
- 3/12 Lunch 1:15pm
- 3/12 Congregation Care 6:00pm
- 3/12 Property Team 6:30pm
- 3/13 Music Rehearsal 6:30pm
- 3/13 Newsletter Mailed
- 3/17 Adult Bible Study & coffee with Pastor Rust 9:00am
- 3/17 5th Sunday of Lent Worship Service 10:00am/ECCCM Food Collection**
- 3/18 Executive Team 6:00pm
- 3/18 Congregation Council 6:30pm
- 3/19 Lent Worship Service **“Guided to Perseverance”** 12:30pm
- 3/19 Lent Meal 1:00pm
- 3/20 Music Rehearsal 6:30pm
- 3/21 Women of the Vine 6:00pm
- 3/23 City of Claremont Spring Celebration 11:00am-2:00pm
- 3/24 Adult Bible Study & coffee with Pastor Rust 9:00am
- 3/24 Palm Sunday of Lent 10:00am Worship Service**
- 3/27 Music Rehearsal 6:30pm
- 3/27 Newsletter Mailed
- 3/28 Maundy Thursday Worship Service 6:30pm
- 3/29 Good Friday Worship Service 6:30pm
- 3/31 Sunrise Service 8:00am
- 3/31 Congregation Breakfast 9:00am
- 3/31 Easter Sunday Worship Service 10:00am**



3/3 – Jonathan & Kathy Ray
3/4 – Shawn & Hope Brown
3/6 – Pete & Judy Sink
3/16 – Alex & Whitney Kau



3/1 – Tenley Sigmon, Tim Sigmon
3/2 – Nathaniel Carpenter
3/5 – Ticia Goble, Jonathan Ray
3/6 – Keegan Dixon
3/7 - Lisa Tucker
3/10 – Kay Deal, Steve Deal, Bill Dotson, Richard Tallant, Sara Williams Keener
3/11 – Nobia Summer

3/20 – Peyton Brown
3/21 – Stan Sigmon
3/22 – Gigi Sigmon
3/23 – Steven Little
3/24 – Telicia Hefner
3/25 – Greg Stephenson
3/26 – David Theisen
3/31 – Dotty Isenhour



Easter Services
8:00am Sunrise
Worship Service
9:00am Congregation
Breakfast
10:00am Easter
Worship Service

Do you have a special lady in your life you would like to acknowledge and nominate for Woman of the Year 2024?

Maybe it’s your mother or someone fulfilling the role of mom, someone courageous, someone who makes a difference in the world or who loves fiercely and makes you feel valued? Who is your hero or champion you are blessed to know?

Let’s celebrate her !!! Turn in your handwritten letter to the office or Elaine Simmons no later than April 2 .

*Woman
of the Year*

Disaster Current Operations Report

1/25/2024

DR Name: NC Region 01/24 FLT

DR Number: 610-24

DR Start Date: 1/9/2024

Since shelters were opened for this disaster, the Red Cross and our partners have provided **71** overnight stays for more than **35** residents in **2** emergency shelters. There were **0** new shelter registrations overnight.

With the help of partners, a total of **4609** meals and snacks have been provided. Of the total meals served, **0** are shelf stable meals delivered where other resources are unavailable. To date, **193** relief items including comfort kits and other supplies have been provided to people in need and **84** total households have been served.

The operations are supported by **105** trained Red Cross disaster workers. Of these, there are **14** who are trained to support health and mental health services, and Spiritual care needs in the shelters and throughout the community. Workers have provided support to **1** EOC locations in the state.

Red Cross caseworkers have opened **60** cases, serving **128** people with recovery support, including financial assistance, replacement of eyeglasses and other medical needs like prescriptions.

Red Cross reunification support has received **0** welfare information requests and have successfully completed **0** of those requests.

Preliminary damage reports indicate that of the **222** total assessments done to date, **56** homes were either destroyed or suffered major damage

Report Run: 01/26/2024 13:18:31



Chicken & dumpling lunch raised \$1481.00 for Highways and Hedges, Noisy Offering was \$248.00. Thank you St. Mark's Family!



March 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 9:00am Adult Bible Study & coffee with Pastor Rust 10:00am 3rd Sunday of Lent Worship Service/Noisy Offering for Pregnancy Care Center	4 11:00am Women of the ELCA Bible Study 6:00pm Youth/Learning	5 12:30pm Lent Worship Service 1:15pm Lunch	6 6:30pm Music Rehearsal	7	8	9 
10 9:00am Adult Bible Study & coffee with Pastor Rust 10:00am 4th Sunday of Lent Worship Service 4:00pm Complete Support Group DayLight Savings Time Begins	11 11:00am Outreach 6:00pm Worship/Music 6:30pm Stewardship Team	12 12:30pm Lent Worship Service 1:15pm Lunch 6:00pm Congregation Care 6:30pm Property Team	13 6:30pm Music Rehearsal Newsletter Mailed	14	15	16
17 9:00am Adult Bible Study & coffee with Pastor Rust 10:00am 5th Sunday of lent Worship Service/ECCCM Food Collection 	18 6:00pm Executive Team 6:30pm Congregation Council	19 12:30pm Lent Worship Service 1:15pm Lent Meal 	20 6:30pm Music Rehearsal	21 6:00pm Women of the Vine	22	23 11:00am—2:00pm City of Claremont Spring Celebration
24 9:00am Adult Bible Study & coffee with Pastor Rust 10:00am Palm Worship Service	25	26	27 6:30pm Music Rehearsal Newsletter Mailed	28 6:30pm Maundy Thursday Worship Service 	29 6:30pm Good Friday Worship Service 	30
31 8:00am Sunrise Service 9:00am Congregation Breakfast 10:00am Easter Worship Service						