

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

**OPPORTUNITIES TO GATHER
AT ST. MARK'S**

Sundays—Worship

10:00 Services in Sanctuary

9:00am Sunday Morning Learning

10:00 Drive-Up in Front Parking Lot
@ Both Services

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>

ST. MARKS NEWSLETTER
February 8, 2023



LENTEN CALENDAR

In honor of the 250th
anniversary of the hymn
"Amazing Grace" written by
English poet and Anglican
clergyman John Newton, our
Lenten and Holy Week services
and bible studies will focus on

the richness of the gift God sent to us in his Son, who died on the cross for people
who were lost but now found, who were blind but now can see. We will read and
learn about some of the people from the Bible who personally received God's
amazing grace in their own lives like King David, Peter, and Mary Magdalene. Hope
you will join us throughout Lent and Holy Week as we ponder in our hearts and
minds when we have personally seen or received God's Amazing Grace ourselves.

Wednesday, February 22 Ash Wednesday

Worship at 12:15pm and 6:30pm with the imposition of ashes and Holy Communion

Sunday Morning Bible Study February 26, March 5, March 12, March 19, and March 26, 9am in the Family Life Center

Sunday Morning Worship

February 26, March 5, March 12, March 19, and March 26, 10am in the Sanctuary

Wednesday Evening Bible Study March 1, March 8, March 15, March 22, and March 29, Dinner at 5:15pm, Study at 6:00pm

The Sunday morning and Wednesday evening will be the same study just offered at two different times and days.

Sunday, April 2 Palm Sunday, 10am in the Sanctuary

Thursday, April 6 Maundy Thursday Worship, 6:30pm in the Sanctuary

Friday, April 7 Good Friday Worship, 6:30pm in the Sanctuary

Sunday, April 9 Easter Morning

Sunrise Service at 7am, Traditional Service at 10:00am

Both in the Sanctuary

Devotional Booklets for all ages will be available starting Sunday, March 12th for
pick up at the church

Church Staff

Pastor Heather Langan: Senior Pastor
hlangan519@yahoo.com (704-724-5991)
Emily Schuttenberg: Choir Director/Organist (828-459-2161)
Praise Team Leader/Keyboardist (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: 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 February 20th at 6:30pm
The next newsletter mailing will be February 22, 2023

Church Office Hours

Monday - Thursday, 9:00am—2pm; Friday, 9:00-12:00pm

Follow Us Online

[StMarksLutheran...Claremont, NC](https://www.facebook.com/StMarksLutheranChurchClaremontNC) www.smarklc.org
 [YouTube St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Claremont, NC](https://www.youtube.com/StMarksLutheranChurchClaremontNC)



Vol. 13, No. 3
2-8-2023



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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Refreshing our sanctuary has been a topic of conversation for many years. We are excited to share that a subcommittee of our Property Team has been working with two different companies that specialize in this type of work. On **Sunday, February 19, at 9am** during the Coffee and Conversation time, this team led by Nicky Setzer will be sharing information about the pew cushions, new flooring, and information about the spacing out the pews in the nave and in the choir section. You are invited to come hear and see what the materials will be and the timeline for work. You may also ask any questions you have. We are grateful for the memorials we have received that will help cover the cost of the refreshing of our worship space. Thank you!



2022 Annual Reports Due

Please send your annual report to the office no later than February 20th.

2023
YEARBOOK
"A GLANCE AT
2022

MEMORIAL/HONORARIUM GIFTS RECEIVED TO THE GLORY OF GOD

For St. Mark's Audio/Video Fund: In loving memory of Forrest and Glenna Pope, given by John Pope

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING WITH ACUTE HEALTH CHALLENGES

Harley Brown Gary Carpenter Eva Cloninger Jerry Craig Jackie Devlin Andy Dison Keegan Dixon Alanna Dotson Mike Evans	Celia Hollar Tammie Hoyle Meredith Huret JD Little Rudy Little Hazel Setzer Tom Schaefer Kaye Shaffer	Sandy Sherrill Brenda Sigmon Tim Sigmon Bishop Tim Smith Dee Stewart Richard Tallant Brian Waters Susan Williams	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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February Tabulators

Cathy Sigmon, Evelyn Setzer
Jean Cloninger

Worship Leaders needed. Please let the office know if you are available for one of these.
2/22 @ 12:15pm & 6:30pm Ash Wednesday
2/26, 3/19 & 3/26



"Compassion is language the deaf can hear and the blind can see." - Mark Twain



February Altar Guild
Dale & Sandy Sherrill

DECODER PUZZLE

Love Your Enemies
Matthew 5:43-48

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



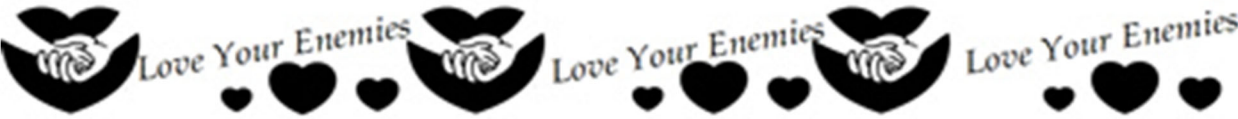
FATHER
LOVE
RISE

NEIGHBOR
REWARD
SUN

PRAY
EVIL
GOOD

PAGANS
HATE
BROTHERS

PERFECT
GREET
ENEMY

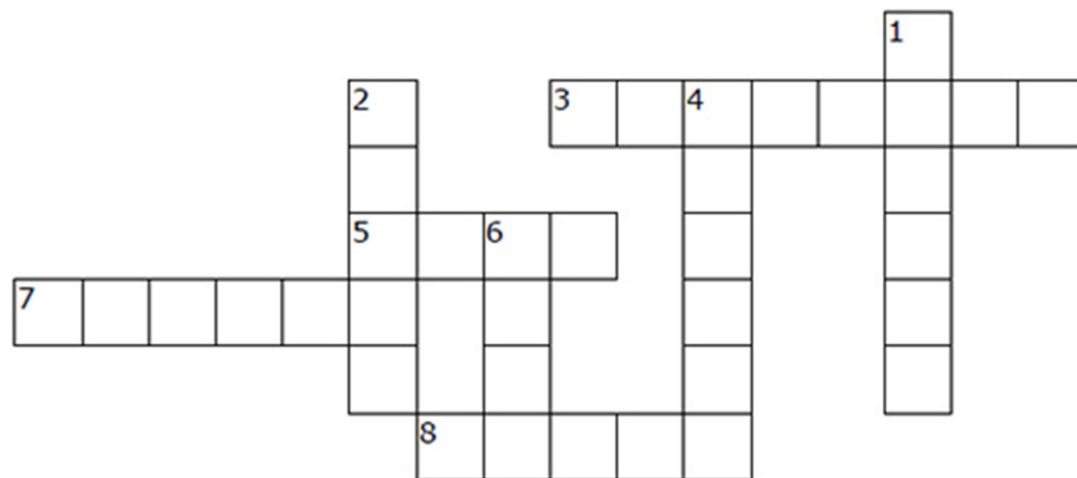


Children's Ministry Page

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

FORGIVING AND FORGIVEN

MATTHEW 5:21-25



ACROSS

3. To decide if a person is guilty or innocent
5. A present that is given to another person
7. Killing of a person by another person
8. The place where gifts or sacrifices to God are made

DOWN

1. A group of human beings (men or women or children)
2. To be furious
4. To be at risk of being injured or harmed
6. A person who lacks good sense

DANGER
JUDGMENT

PEOPLE
GIFT

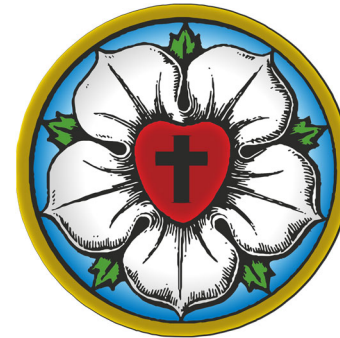
ANGRY
ALTAR

MURDER
FOOL



"One"derful Wednesdays

We will be having a meal on each Wednesday in March which will only consist of soup and salad. We need two people to prepare the soup and salad for each meal. If you would be willing to help with a meal, please call the office or Cathy Sigmon. The dates are March 1, March 8, March 15, March 22, and March 29.



*You're
invited*

To the Installation of our Senior Pastor, The Reverend Heather Ann Langan

When: Sunday, March 5, 2023 **Time:** 4:00 **Where:** St. Mark's Sanctuary

Festivities will continue with a **catered meal at 5:30 in the Family Life Center**

RSVP required for the meal only

Free Will Offering available

Menu includes: Choice of Pork Roast with gravy or Baked Chicken quarter
Mashed potatoes, Green Beans, Macaroni and Cheese,
Rolls, butter & honey butter, Cheese Cake (gluten free)
Tea, water, lemonade, and coffee

RSVP for the meal by Sunday, February 26 one of 3 ways:

- 1) Call the office at 459-2161
- 2) Email Debbie at secretary@smarklc.org
- 3) Deposit the form below in the offering plate

RSVP FORM FOR INSTALLATION DINNER

5:30pm after the installation service in the Family Life Center

_____ Number of Adults _____ Number of Children under 10

Name (s): _____



Dear St. Mark's Family,

I cannot thank you enough for keeping my husband Brian, and our entire family in your thoughts and prayers during the past seven weeks. It has certainly been one of the most challenging periods of time for us. It has been the support, love, kindness and prayers of dear friends and family, like you, that has sustained us and allowed us the ability to lean on our faith as Brian battled a completely unexpected and devastating cancer diagnosis and the weeks of complications and healing that followed. But, the thoughtful and generous gift you've given us will also be a great support to us in many ways, as well, and we are so very grateful.

All our love & prayers-Phoenix Waters

St. Marks Women , SAVE THE DATE , April 29: 11 o'clock

We will be celebrating Ladies Day in honor of Mothers Day ! We will be crowning our 2023 Woman of the Year ! If you have someone who inspires you , puts a smile on your face , is a mentor or role model or anyone you feel is deserving please send written letter into the office or give to Elaine Simmons . All nominations must be in no later than Monday, April 17 . Our theme is His Eye is on the Sparrow!



On Sunday, February 12, the NFL will host its annual football game between the champion AFC and NFC teams. Millions of people around the world will watch these two teams face off and tackle their way into history. There are millions of people around the world who also will be hungry that day due to food shortages and food deserts. We can help tackle this problem in our own area.

On Sunday, February 12, you are asked to bring canned or boxed non-perishable food items with you to worship to give to ECCCM as a part of the "Souper Bowl of Caring." Monetary

donations will also be welcomed. To add an element of fun and competition to our day, you will be able to vote for the team you hope or feel will win that evening's game by placing your food item in the bin with the team of your choice. You will be able to do the same with your financial gifts. And for those who really do not care about who wins the game but want to help tackle hunger in our community, there will be a container that says "I do not care who wins but I do care about those who are hungry."



Become Part of Our Church Family

Join us as a Disciple of St. Mark's! Are you interesting in becoming a part of the St. Mark's family? It is easy to do. Let Pastor Heather know of your interest. There is a short form you will be asked to fill out and then we will find a date to introduce you to the

4 congregation as a family member. If you have any questions, let Pastor Heather know.

The History & Archives team will meet on February 15th at 12:00noon.



Backpack Team will meet Wednesday, February 15th at 9:30am to pack the backpacks.

St. Mark's Lutheran Church
Council Meeting 12/12/2022

- I. Call to Order: 6:08pm
- II. Opening Prayer: Tim
- III. Roll Call: Kendra, Terry, Pastor Heather, Cathy, Marlene, Hilka, Jonathan, Blake, Kyle, Tim, Nick, Carol. Excused Absence: Denise
- IV. Approval of Minutes from 11/21/2022
- V. Pastors Report: attached.
- VI. Action Items: none
- VII. Finance Report: Attached
- VIII. Team Reports:
 - a. Learning: attached
 - b. Witness and Social: no report
 - c. Support: no meeting, milk pail over \$1200.00. Christmas for 2 families through Oxford Elementary.
 - d. Technology: new camera system has been ordered
 - e. Youth: attached
 - f. Congregation Care: no report
 - g. Property: attached. Council approved moving forward with tree removal and replacing furnace.
 - h. Worship and Music: no meeting
 - i. Fellowship: met last night. Finished for the year.
 - j. Preschool: Christmas program is upcoming then they will go on winter break.
 - k. Memorial: no team
 - l. Personnel: attached
 - m. W-ELCA: no report. 11/17 made snowflakes which are going out.
- IX. Old Business: none
- X. New Business:
 - a. Council members were provided with the book "Reclaiming the C Word" with the expectation that it is read prior to the retreat.
 - b. Council retreat was set for 2/3-2/4
 - c. Council installation set for 1/8
 - d. Pastors Call Letter: Pastor Heather has accepted the call and it will now go to a vote with the congregation on 1/8 with a Q&A session prior to service
 - e. Council meeting 1/16 will include Executive Team election
 - f. Part of the call conditions include that the executive team will begin meeting with the Pastor at 6pm prior to the Council meetings at 6:30. This will begin in February with the new executive team being established 1/16
- XI. Adjournment and Lord's Prayer: 7:56pm

A great big thank you to Jean Cloninger for sewing the first of what will be a set of paraments for our Children's Church altar. This will aid in teaching our children about the seasons and colors of the church year along with showing them that what we have in the sanctuary is similar to what is being used in Children's Church. Thank you to Tim Carpenter for using his skills to modify what was a unused altar into the Children's altar which has storage within it and is the appropriate size for children.

