



ST. MARK'S NEWSLETTER THE REMINDER

April 25, 2018



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

Worship Schedule

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Sunday Mornings

8:15 am Contemporary
9:20 am Sunday Brew
9:30 am Sunday School
10:30 am Traditional

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April 29

5 Easter

May 6

6 Easter

May 13

7 Easter

Mother's Day

May 20

Pentecost

You Are Invited!

Farewell Receptions for Myra Long Sunday, April 29, Family Life Center After Each Worship Service

It is with a sad heart that St. Mark's wishes farewell to Myra Long, our Chancel Choir Director, Handbell Choir Director, Organist, Praise Team Leader, & Keyboardist.

Her music, kind words, caring manner, and genuine love of the congregation will be impossible to replace. She began serving at St. Mark's on Sunday, October 30, 2011. Her last day with us will be Sunday, April 29.



Rev. Terrell & Myra Long

After each service, on Sunday, April 29, there will be a reception honoring her and the music she has brought to this congregation. Please take a moment to stop by and wish her well. She will be missed!

Excerpted from Myra's resignation letter:

I would like to say a very sincere thank you from my heart for all your generosity, support, prayers, cards, gifts, and most of all your love over the last 7 years and especially during the last months during Terrell's health issues. I have truly enjoyed my time at St. Mark's and will treasure your love and friendship.

Over the last year, there have been many life changes for my family. Terrell started home hemodialysis this past January which takes most of my time and I also look after my mother who lives 2 hours away.

So it is with much consideration and a very heavy heart, that I submit this letter of resignation to St. Mark's Lutheran Church. My most sincere prayer is that God will continue to bless St. Mark's and it's ministry to His people. You will always be in my heart and remember, "Sing His praises with a joyful heart and keep smiling!"

40 DAYS
of Giving

Thanks to all who contributed to 40 Days of Giving for Disaster Relief. Through your donations, we raised \$3,483.15. This amount includes \$332.15 from the Milk Pail.

Choral Concert is May 6

Catawba Valley Community Chorus May 6 at 4pm in the Sanctuary

Since 1987, the Catawba Valley Community Chorus, an ecumenical ensemble, has provided quality music that has both stirred the spirit and satisfied the soul of audiences as well as singers. The chorus, made up of approximately 40 singers, offers performances in the Fall and Spring.

The concert is free to the public but an offering will be collected. Tech team leader, Carol Schaefer, is part of the chorus. We hope you can join us!



Memorial Weekend Worship is May 27

Sunday, May 27

One Worship Service at 10am

In the Family Life Center

Music by Bob Hollar

Lunch and Fun Activities



There will be one worship service in the Family Life Center at 10am. Bob Hollar will lead us in the music during worship and play a set after we eat.

Lunch of barbeque, slaw, and fixings will be served in the Family Life Center. Members are asked to bring a dessert to share.

Fun activities for the children include a Bouncy House and a giant waterslide, so bring swimsuits and towels! Please wear your St. Mark's t-shirts. There will be t-shirts available for purchase as well.

Mother's Day / Women of the ELCA Celebration is May 13



Hazel Setzer
2017 Woman of the Year

All Women Are Invited!

Mother's Day / Women of the ELCA Celebration

Sunday, May 13, at 3pm, Family Life Center

Nominate "Woman of the Year" by April 29

Each year the St. Mark's Women of the ELCA elect a "Woman of the Year" who will be recognized at the celebration on May 13. Any woman in our congregation is eligible for the award. Please give your nomination letter to Linda Hewitt with the reasons why you believe your nominee should be given the designation. "2018 Woman of the Year" nominations will be accepted until Sunday, April 29.

Names for Mother's Day Bulletin Insert Due by Sunday, May 6

The Women of the ELCA will host a Mother's Day Bulletin Insert on May 13. The cost is \$1 for each woman. Please place the completed form in the offering plate in an envelope marked *Mother's Day*.

In Honor of _____

In Memory of _____

By _____

Church Work Day on May 12

Property Team Calls for Church Basement Clean Up on Saturday, May 12 at 8:30am



The basement of the church has been declared a fire and safety hazard. The Property Team plans to clean up this area by disposing of all material that has collected over several years from various programs that no longer exist or items that are no longer used. Some items will be tagged by the Property Team that will be kept by the church. However, nothing will be retained due to possible usage in the future.

- ◆ Ministry teams are asked to remove items before Saturday, May 5.
- ◆ Volunteers are needed to work Saturday, May 12, to move items from the basement and to load onto a truck for disposal. Contact Kelly Nash (828-312-2074) or Nicky Setzer (828-459-9668) to sign up.

Calendar Highlights

Please check monthly/weekly calendars for times

Women of the ELCA Spring Gathering (**April 28**)
Catawba Valley Community Chorus (**May 6**)
Women of the ELCA Rachel's Day Celebration (**May 6**)
Red Cross Blood Drive at St. Mark's (**May 7**)
Church Basement Work Day (**May 12**)
Mothers Day / Women of the ELCA Celebration (**May 13**)
Memorial Weekend Casual Sunday (**May 27**)
NC Synod Assembly (**May 30—2**)
Graduate Recognition, Camp Sending (**June 3**)
Bishop Tim Smith, Homecoming, Father's Day (**June 17**)
Lutherod Day Camp (**June 18—22**)
ELCA Youth Gathering (**June 27—July 1**)

NC Synod Assembly, May 30—June 2

Pastor Gary, along with St. Mark's representatives, Nicky & Evelyn Setzer, will attend NC Synod Assembly in Raleigh. This is the official annual gathering of the NC Synod of the ELCA.

Local Outreach

Arts & Crafts Festival Benefiting Rising Hope Farms is Saturday, May 19, 9—2pm

3775 Bethany Church Road, Claremont, NC. Go to risinghopefarms.com for more information.

Witness Team Benefit Raised \$900 for Relay for Life



The Witness Team thanks the congregation for coming to eat or take out the chicken and dumplings fundraiser lunch on Sunday, April 22. We made almost \$900 to give from St. Mark's to Relay for Life!

The Relay for Life walk will be held the night of June 1. The Witness Team will have luminaries for sale which will be set around the track at dark. The luminaries can be in honor or in memory of a friend or relative who has died from cancer. It is a beautiful sight to see!

If you would like to make a donation to this cause, or to reserve a luminary, please see Team Captains, Chris Cloninger or Linda Hewitt.

Red Cross Blood Drive May 7, 2:30—7pm, Family Life Center

Scheduling a blood donation appointment today is a life-changing act of kindness. Make a reservation online (redcrossblood.org) or contact the church office (lisa@smarklc.org or 828-459-2161).



Financial Update

Memorial Gifts to St. Mark's Preschool

In Memory of Rita Busbee

Mike & Cindy Baker, Anna, Josh, & Rossi Spiegel,
Angie & Sophie Chirico, Charlie Baker
Sue Karen Falls
Cheryl Ramsey

In Memory of Ernestine Morrow

Sue Karen Falls

In Memory of Charles Pope

Jo Marilyn Hewitt
Maebelle Sigmon

Worship Attendance

April 15: 110

April 22: 131

Ministry Financial Update

<u>Reported as of</u>	<u>March</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
General Fund Receipts	\$27,764	\$73,476
Expenses (<i>including payables</i>)	\$31,266	\$83,052

All bills are paid.

40 Days of Giving for Disaster Relief

\$3,483.15

Memorial Gifts to St. Mark's

In Memory of Rita Busbee

Glenn & Judy Boston
Harley & Libby Brown
Claremont Rescue Squad
R. Will & Linda Cline
Charles & Edie Connor
Ron & Hilka Cox
Mike & Donna Evans
Gary & Elizabeth Franklin
Regina & Katherine Frederick
Paul & Kathy Gibson
Doyle & Lilly Hendricks
Jo Marilyn Hewitt
Hickory Saw & Tool

In Memory of Rita Busbee

Ken & Dotty Isenhour
Charles & Jacki Joseph
Gary & Mary Matthews
Pamela McGuire
L.E. Nichols
Robert & Camille Patrick
Patricia Pope
Maebelle Sigmon
Russell & Joanne Sigmon
Rudy Snow
Bob & Becky Travis
Whisnant & Company

In Memory of Ernestine Morrow

Mike & Donna Evans
Ken & Dotty Isenhour
Cathy & Tom Miller
Barbara Moser,
Suzanne Moser Wade & Family,
Stephanie M. Pridemore & Family
Rick & Mary Anne Wike
Susan Williams

In Memory of Charles Pope

Cargo Transporters

Please Remember in Prayer Families Who Have Recently Lost a Loved One

Dale Hermann (April 17)

Husband of Monica Herman; Father of Timothy (Courtney) Ryan Herman, Crystal (Timmy) Nicole Merritt; Grandfather of Jaden Lain, Hayden Merritt, Brycen Merritt, Braxton Merritt

Ernestine Morrow (April 10)

Mother of Becky (Ronnie) Morrow Hedrick, Danny E. Morrow; grandmother of Todd Hedrick, Shawn (Monica) Hedrick, James Daniel Morrow; Great grandmother of Chloe Hedrick, Noah Hedrick, Ethan Morrow

Rita Busbee (April 1)

Wife of Bob Busbee, mother of Suzanne (Jason) Busbee Snyder, Andrea (Scott) Busbee Ramsey, John (Rodney Foster) Moser Busbee; grandmother of Cole Busbee Snyder, Mia Frances Snyder, London Busbee Ramsey; Daughter-in-law of Mary E. Busbee.

Fannie Mae Aldridge (March 28)

Aunt of Judy (Tim) Carpenter

Would You Like to Be a Communion Envoy?

Recently, some of our Communion Envoys have retired from their faithful service, and we have a need for 4-6 new envoys. You are invited to consider becoming an envoy here at St. Mark's. Below are facts and questions (FAQ) related to this important ministry. If you are interested in becoming a Communion Envoy please speak to Communion Envoy Leader, Tim Carpenter, or to Pastor Gary.

What is a Communion Envoy? Communion Envoys are messengers of God's love and care, and are representatives of the body of Christ by extending the Sunday Holy Communion meal to shut-ins.

Why is this ministry important? Communion envoys literally share the presence of Christ. Christ is present, in, with, and under the bread and wine – the body and blood of Christ. Shut-ins thereby receive the same intimate presence and support for their lives as those on Sunday at the Table of our Lord.

When and how often do Communion Envoys share the meal? Envoys usually make brief visits to share the meal the first Sunday of each month, or soon thereafter. Once a month meets the need.

How do Communion Envoys extend the elements of the community meal? Communion kits are prepared by the Altar Guild each month that the envoys use, who then return them by placing them on the Altar for replenishment.

How and where do Communion Envoys get the Communion Kits? Kits are prepared and placed on the altar the first Sunday of each month. Thereafter, they are inside the cabinet under the table of the Altar for Envoys to pick up.

What do Communion Envoys say when they serve communion? A script is provided to Envoys for guidance and serving communion.

How are Communion Envoys organized? Envoys pair up to make a team to visit shut-ins. Tim Carpenter works with Pastor Gary to oversee and to communicate with the envoys regarding needs, assignments, and address changes.



Can a husband and wife team serve together? Yes, spouses may serve together.

So, is it OK for a layperson to do communion? Yes, indeed, laypersons are permitted to do so, much like our Assisting Ministers, as an extension of Holy Communion already presided over by the pastor.

Does this take the place of pastors taking communion to our shut-ins? No, pastors continue to offer and preside over communion with our shut-ins on an as needed basis and/or on request.

May I do this for a trial period, or for a specified time – say, for one year? Yes, you may.

How would I begin as an Envoy? Please call Tim Carpenter or Pastor Gary. You will be paired with an experienced Envoy to join them in visits and to learn how to serve as an Envoy.

What can I expect if I decide to explore this ministry or to become an Envoy? You can expect to be enriched by meeting, visiting, and sharing the meal with our shut-ins. Your service will be deeply appreciated by them and the community of faith. You will know without question by your service that you are a "good and faithful servant" of Christ.

Day Camp at Trinity Village in Hickory for Ages 5—12

**Lutheroad Day Camp at Trinity Village in Hickory is June 18—22
Total Cost of Camp is \$110. \$85 Scholarships for Day Campers is Available**

Lutheroad Day camp will be led by counselors from Camp Lutheridge, together with staff members and volunteers from Trinity Village. Camp will be intergenerational and campers will participate in music, arts and crafts, games, Bible study, and nature programs. Lutheroad Day Camp is for youth ages 5-12 and seniors at Trinity Village. The camp takes place at Trinity Village, 1265 21st St, NE, Hickory.

St. Mark's is offering \$85 scholarships for members' children to be able to attend Lutheroad Day Camp, Monday, June 18—Thursday, June 21, 9am—4pm. Friday, June 22, will be 9am until noon. Cost of the camp is \$110.

Register by June 1 with a \$25 deposit. Remaining balance of \$85 is due by June 7. Once you have paid the \$25 deposit, you can request the \$85 scholarship. *(This scholarship does not affect those who wish to apply for a scholarship for other Lutheran summer camps.)* Brochures are available at the entrances to the sanctuary. Please contact the church office or Marcheta Campbell for more details.



Caroline Huret, daughter of Nathan & Meredith Huret, with a senior at Trinity Village.

Graduate Recognition is June 3

Graduation Photos Needed

Graduates will be recognized at both services on June 3. Send information regarding those graduating from high school or college to the church office no later than Tuesday, May 29. Please email graduate photos for inclusion in the newsletter (lisa@smarklc.org).

Camp Sending is June 3

It's Almost Time for Summer Camp

St. Mark's children and youth who are attending church camp this summer are asked to be present to be recognized at both services on June 3. Choose the camp week at www.novusway.com. Scholarships are available to help defer the cost. Contact Lisa Underwood (lisa@smarklc.org or 828-459-2161).

ELCA Youth Gathering is June 27—July 1



Every three years, 30,000 high school youth and their adult leaders from across the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America gather for a week of faith formation known as the ELCA Youth Gathering. Through days spent in interactive learning, worship, Bible study, service and fellowship, young people grow in faith and are challenged and inspired to live their faith in their daily lives.

Ethan Campbell, Korbin Nash, and Kody Nash plan to attend the ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston. Kelly and Kerri Nash will chaperone.

Opportunities for School Age Children to Sign up For Summer Camp Camp Scholarships Are Available

Camp is made for kids! Activities include swimming, crafts, active games, stories, songs, campfires, engaging Bible lessons, creative worship, and more. Fantastic college-aged counselors are excellent role models who keep kids safe and help them make friends. Contact www.novusway.com for details on camping opportunities and their registration process. Once registered, then contact the church office for the St. Mark's Camping Scholarship. After your child has attended camp, then they will be eligible for the Alec Calvin Sigmon Memorial Scholarship.

St. Mark's Camping Scholarship

St. Mark's currently provides a scholarship of \$150 per camper per summer for members of the church. The cost of camp per week for per child is approximately \$450. The following guidelines have been developed:

- ◆ The funds are available for those in grades 1 – 12.
- ◆ Scholarships are given to those who attend one of the Lutheran camps for a full week. An exception to this is camp for 1st and 2nd graders which is less than one week.
- ◆ The total amount per camper to be given once per year is \$150.
- ◆ For a full week of camp, the church will pay \$150. For those that attend a half week session, the church will pay up to \$150 but the total, when combined with the Alec Calvin Sigmon Memorial Camp Scholarship will not exceed the cost of the camp.
- ◆ The funds will be awarded after the camper is registered.
- ◆ Families will need to contact www.novusway.com for information on camping opportunities and their registration process.
- ◆ Please contact the church office for more details.

If there are extraordinary circumstances related to finances in sending your child or children to camp, please speak with Pastor Haddock. St. Mark's will work to see that finances are not a hindrance to attending camp.

Alec Calvin Sigmon Memorial Camp Scholarship



In October 2014, we tragically lost Alec Sigmon in a car accident. We still miss him, and invite you to continue to pray for the family. Alec loved camp – particularly Lutherock. The family has designated that memorial funds given, and those that continue to be given in his memory, be specifically given as camping scholarships to those who attend Lutheran camps. The guidelines are the same as above except that the scholarship will be awarded after the camper's participation at camp. This protects the fund from those who might change their plans.

Scholarship Form

Date _____ Camper's Name _____
Parents' Names _____
Cell Phone _____ Email _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Which Church Camp _____ Lutheridge _____ Lutherock _____ Agape _____ Kure Beach
Dates Attending _____

Please attach a copy of the registration form.

St. Mark's Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 550
3216 West Main Street
Claremont, NC 28610
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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Permit #2
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Church Staff

Pastor Gary Haddock: Senior Pastor
gsh.elca@gmail.com (828-781-3060)

Pastor Paul Christ: Associate for Pastoral Care
paulernestchrist@yahoo.com (828-409-4681)

Myra Long: Choir Director / Praise Team Leader
longmyra@ymail.com (704-213-7623)

Randy Abernathy: Preschool Director
stmarkspreschool@charter.net (828-459-2873)

Lisa Underwood: Church Secretary
lisa@smarklc.org (828-459-2161)

Mike Baker: Church Sexton
mikebaker411@bellsouth.net

Congregation Council

2018	2019	2020
Terry Hefner	Angela Brown	Barry Bumgarner
Scott Ramsey	Edie Connor	Tiffany Caudill
Carol Schaefer	Gigi Sigmon	Marcheta Campbell
Nicky Setzer	Tanya Stephenson	David Tucker

Congregation Council Meeting

Council meets on May 14 at 6pm.

Newsletter Mailing

The next mailing will be on May 9.

Church Office Hours

Mon - Thu, 8:30am - 4:00pm; Fri, 8:30am - 12:30pm

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