



St. Mark's Newsletter

The Reminder

February 15, 2012

St. Mark's Evangelical
Lutheran Church
(828)-459-2161

3216 West Main Street P.O. BOX 550
Claremont, NC 28610

Dear St. Mark's Family,

LENTEN SERVICES

2/22; 2/29; 3/17, 3/14; 3/21; 3/28

7:00 Evening Lenten Midweek Series

Our Life Flows On In Endless Song

The hymn, "My Life Flows On in Endless Song" was written by American Baptist Minister Robert Lowry that first appeared in print in 1869. The hymn opens with these words: "My life flows on in endless song; above earth's lamentation, I hear the sweet, tho' far-off hymn that hails a new creation; No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that refuge clinging; since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?" The hymn goes on to chronicle aspects of the journey of life that include tumult and strife, joys and comforts, darkness and night, and peace and a fountain springing all the while to Christ clinging with the confession Jesus is Lord of all - how can I keep from singing?

His hymn so aptly captures the Christian life as an ongoing and endless song of our hearts and minds in response to Jesus Christ - Lord of heaven and earth. During our Lenten journey we will explore significant themes of our endless song through the Scriptures, our Lutheran tradition, and from hymns or songs. Those themes will be: Confession and Forgiveness; Christ the Word of God; Faith; Following Jesus, Love, and the Cross.

12:10 Mid-day Lenten Services

Reflections with Thomas Merton

Holy Communion

Thomas Merton (January 31, 1915 – December 10, 1968) was a 20th century Anglo-American Catholic writer and mystic. He was a Trappist monk of the Abbey of Gethsemani, Kentucky. He was an extensive writer, involved in social action, and explored and wrote of methods of prayer in the eastern and western religious traditions. He wrote more than 70 books, mostly on spirituality. One of his best selling writings was his autobiography - *The Seven Storey Mountain* (1948), listed in the National Review's list of the 100 best non-fiction books of the 20th century.

During our mid-day services that will begin at 12:10 to include Holy Communion, we will take some time to hear from and to reflect on Thomas Merton's book entitled: *The New Man* that takes up our spiritual identity in Christ.

Each service will last approximately 30 minutes. Hope to see you there! I am your servant.....

In Christ,

Worship Schedule

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

February 12th
Sixth Sunday after
Epiphany

February 19th
Seventh Sunday after
Epiphany

February 22nd
Ash Wednesday
12:10 and 7:00 p.m.

February 26th
First Sunday in Lent

2011 Financial

Giving
Statements
Have Been
Mailed.

Team Annual Reports

Team reports for the 2011 Annual Report are still needed. Team rosters are also needed with all contact information provided. Please turn into church office.

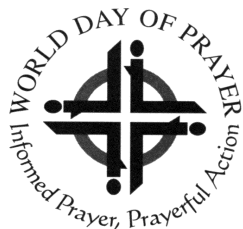
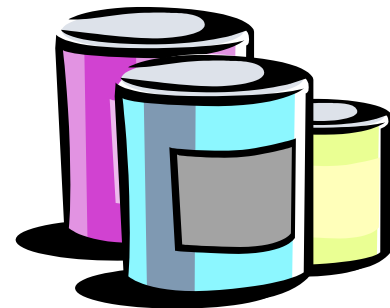


ANNOUNCEMENTS

Food Pantry Update

Thank you all whom donated to St. Mark's Food Pantry. We received 103 items so far this year. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

***DONATIONS NEEDED– Next Sunday February 19th**



"World Day of Prayer" March 3rd

Invitation from Mt. Calvary

to the Claremont Community

You are invited to attend Claremont's annual women's "World Day of Prayer" luncheon event held this year at Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church on Saturday, March 3rd beginning at 11am. The cost for lunch is \$7 and the deadline for registering your attendance is Sunday, February 26th. This year's theme is "Let Justice Prevail". Please call Selina Setzer in the Mt. Calvary church office at 459-7195 to register or for more information.



CELEBRATING BOLD WOMEN'S DAY FEBRUARY 26th

Bold Women's Day— observed annually on the fourth Sunday of February— celebrates all Lutheran women who have acted or are acting boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ. Some women are bold in their unceasing prayers. Other women are bold in their service to those in need. Still other women are bold in their advocacy or through their hospitality. Whether you live out your bold story of faith in the workplace, family or community, your faith compels you to make a difference in the lives of others. It's all about living out your baptismal call, about being a disciple of Christ.

"One" Derful Wednesdays Upcoming Music and Learning Opportunities

Wednesdays Through March 28th



5:30 A Bible Study for Children of All Ages: A Bible Study will be done that tells the story of God's love. It will be a fun, recreational, and hands-on learning experience for children. Each child is given the opportunity to play, and to do crafts. We hope you will bring your child or grandchild to this Bible study – or encourage those with children to attend.

5:30 A Bible Study for Adults of All Ages: Tim Carpenter will lead a study of the Gospel of John that will begin on January 25, 2012. The study book for the Gospel of John Bible study is \$12.00.

5:30 Children's Choir: Judy Carpenter and Phoenix Waters will meet with the children for a fun time to teach them songs to share with us in worship. **7:00 Adult Chancel Choir:** Maria Parker, Chancel Choir Director and Myra Long, Organist will lead the Chancel Choir in preparing musical offerings for our Sunday worship and for special occasions.



CLAREMONT COMMUNITY MARCH 5, 2012 BLOOD DRIVE 3:00P.M. – 8:00P.M. We need volunteers to make refreshments. Contact Exie Little or Chris Cloninger if you can make a cake.



Younger Than Springtime Luncheon February 21
Meet at the church to go to Rock Barn Grill

YOUTH & FAMILY NEWS!



REHEARSAL FOR YOUTH SUNDAY- FEB. 18TH @ 10:30 AM

Youth will have rehearsal for youth Sunday and afterwards lunch will be at Claremont Cafe.

YOUTH SUNDAY (BOTH SERVICES) FEB. 19TH

YOUTH TEAM MEETING IN SR. HIGH YOUTH ROOM- FEB. 21 @ 5:30 PM



Jr. and Sr. High Youth Meet on Wednesday Nights @ 5:30

Youth will begin a study about loving God in their own language using the book "The Five Love Languages of Teenagers" by Gary Chapman. Teens must first grasp the concept of love in their own lives before they can truly love God and others as Christians. This group meets in Susan's office. Make plans to come and bring your friends! For all who plan to come and enjoy the meal, please register the number of attendees on the attendance pad located at the center aisles in the pew **THIS SUNDAY**



THIS SUNDAY IS TRANSFORMATION SUNDAY and YOUTH SUNDAY!

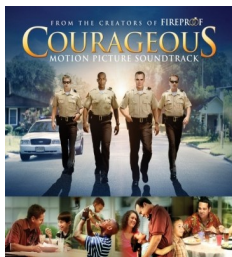
St. Marks' children and youth will be participating in both worship services this Sunday. The Children's Choir will sing. Mrs. Judy Carpenter will present the Children's Sermon introducing a NEW worship tool for children and their parents. Caleb Deal, Chris Deal, Logan Bumgarner, Wesley Shook, and Alec Sigmon will be greeting and ushering. Jessica Sigmon and Morgan Wright will be lectors. Caroline Franklin and Nathan Sherrill will present a Temple Talk and serve as Assisting Ministers. Colton Ignoffo will deliver the sermon. Kiersten Bohn will acolyte at the 8:15, and Jessica Sigmon will acolyte at the 10:30 service. Macie Hefner will dance to Laura Story's "Blessings" and Gina Schaefer will play "Jesus Loves Me" on clarinet. Parents, remember that all jr. and sr. high youth are to rehearse for Youth Sunday this Saturday at 10:30 am in the Sanctuary. Afterwards, we will have lunch together at Claremont Café. Members and friends, come and be blessed by the services led by St. Mark's children and youth this Transfiguration and Youth Sunday, February 19th!

St. Marks' Youth- 2012 ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans the week of July 17 - 23, 2012

St. Mark's Sr. High Youth Gathering attendees and their counselors will begin "Getting Ready" for their trip by meeting together for Bible Study, prayer, games, and learning more about Loving like Jesus! We'll also dig deeper as we explore the theme for this year's gathering and learn more about New Orleans! The March "Getting Ready" times together will be on Sunday, March 4th and 18th at 10:30 am immediately following Sunday School



St. Mark's Cinema for March



On Friday, March 16th at 2 pm for area Sr. Citizens and on Saturday, March 17th at 6:30 pm for all others St. Mark's Cinema will show the movie "Courageous" produced by Sherwood Pictures which is a film about four men and one calling: To serve and protect. When tragedy strikes home, these men are left wrestling with their hopes, their fears, their faith, and their fathering. There is no cost for the movie and free popcorn, snacks, and drinks will be available or you may bring your own.



Memorial Gifts

St. Mark's acknowledges the following memorial gifts given to the glory of God and in memory of those who joined the Church Triumphant!

IN MEMORY OF

- Andy Hicks given by Jim & Betty Campbell
- Coyte Sigmon given by Dee & Gerry Stewart
- Ethel Tucker given by Dee & Gerry Stewart
- Ethel Tucker given by Eva Cloninger
- Mildred Deal given by Peggy Miller

Sunday Service Attendance

February 5th 191

February 12th 193

Ministry Financial Update

Thanks to you for your generosity and support of the mission and ministries of St. Mark's. Below are the financial totals from 2/1– 2/15

Date	Received
February 5, 2012	\$7,445.37
February 12, 2012	\$5,379.50
Total	\$12,824.87

Ministry Financial Summary to Date

Ministry Budget to date:	\$45,455.38
Ministry Budget spent to date:	\$39,187.81
Collected to date :(Budget & Restricted)	\$64,591.88

As of February 15, 2012 we are current and up to date on our bills and expenses. THE TARGET GOAL BASED ON OUR BUDGET FOR EACH WEEK TOTALS APPROXIMATELY \$ 7575.90 PER WEEK. Thank you for your support of the life and ministries of St. Mark's.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Basement Believers

Looking for fun & fellowship,
Come join us on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am in the GRACE Room.

Also Feb. 17th @ 7:00pm—
Valentine's Party (Dinner & Dancing) at Statesville Brick Lakehouse.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS

February 19th– Youth Sunday

**February 22nd- Lent begins with Ash Wednesdays
services at 12:10 noon and 7pm**

February 26th– Bold Women Sunday & Temple Talk



Benefit Concerts
for Gary Parker
Father of Maria Parker,
Chancel Choir Director

BENEFIT CONCERT

OLD-FASHIONED GOSPEL HYMNFEST

Featuring

Timothy Laxton & Tyler Young

Mt. Hebron Lutheran Church 103 Main Avenue East Hildebran, NC 28637

February 19, 2012 3 pm

Admission is free! All donations benefit Gary Parker and his treatments for kidney cancer.

BLUEGRASS GOSPEL BENEFIT CONCERT

Featuring the COCKMAN FAMILY

Saturday, February 25th, 2012

The Concert is a Fundraiser for Lake Norman area native, Gary Parker, who has kidney cancer and is the father of our choir director, Maria Parker .

5:00 P.M. – Free Poor Man's Supper in the Fellowship Hall. (Donations accepted).
Silent Auction



7:00 P.M. Concert in the Sanctuary

The concert is open to the public, and admission is free. A love offering will be taken during the event.

MT. VIEW BAPTIST CHURCH

5045 EAST MAIDEN RD. MAIDEN, NC

For Questions contact the church: (704) 483-5806

St. Mark's Lutheran Church Council Retreat and Meeting Minutes

20 January 2012

In Attendance: Pastor Gil Gilbert, Loretta Gilbert, Tim Carpenter, Elizabeth Franklin, Janet Sigmon, Terry Hefner, Nicky Setzer, Charles Reed, J.D. Icard, Josh Sigmon, Michael Sharpe, Phoenix Waters, Rocky Miller, Rob George. Pastor Gary was absent due to illness. Pastor Gil opened the meeting with prayer.

Meeting Called to Order: Introduction for New Council Members and Business Meeting

1) After a wonderful meal served by Phoenix Waters, Tim Carpenter covered the church structure of ministry teams, the pastoral staff, office staff and council. He expressed the need for the council members to work with ministry teams and support them. St. Mark's is a program sized church and needs the membership to support those programs. For a large church, having only one pastor also requires support from the membership to accomplish the many needs of the Church. The pastor cannot attend all the ministry team meetings and take care of the membership via visitation. Tim discussed the visitation list and asked for support from the Council members for this ministry. Also covered was the Council Liaison role with each council member adopting a ministry team. The Constitution and By-Laws were shared with the council. Members were asked to read them and become familiar with it. .

2) The Covenant of Conduct was reviewed. A motion was made by Rob George to amend the Covenant of Conduct, J.D. Icard seconded the motion. The amendment adds to the following: "All opinions shared will be honored and treated with respect. Decisions by the Council will be honored and supported by all Council members, regardless of personal position."

3) The council discussed the need to make the ministry team structure and leadership more available to the entire church. Several ideas were suggested: Post the structure on the website; post the structure on a wall in the church. (OLD BUSINESS ITEM 1 next meeting.)

Tim stressed that council members need to lead by example by participating in activities, regular attendance and regular tithing or giving.

4) Council Leader Expectations were covered.

Reports:

A) Property Team Report – see attached, high lighted item: Bids for replacing HVAC units for the Nave are being sought. The current heating system works but requires regular repair to keep it functioning, and switching from oil based heat to gas will save in the long run. .

B) Learning Team Report – see attached, highlighted item: Expressed need for better technology for the nursery to allow participation in the service.

C) Youth Team – see attached

D) Finance Team – Nicky passed out the year end information for the council. The church ended 2011 with over \$10,000 cash and with all debts current. The council discussed apportioning some of the excess cash to a building improvements fund to help support the heating and air conditioning need. The decision on the amount was tabled to the next council meeting

(OLD BUSINESS ITEM 2 for next meeting)

E) Scheduled council responsibility for securing the offering each week after services. Feb/Aug - Rob /J.D.; Mar/Sept – Michael/Josh; April/Oct – Rocky/Charles; May/Nov – Phoenix/Janet; June/Dec – Terry/Elizabeth; July/Jan 2012 – Loretta/Tim

Carol Schaefer former Treasurer will take care of the rest of January 2012.

E) Worship & Music, see attached

OLD BUSINESS (none)

NEW BUSINESS:

1) Nominated and elected the following officers for 2012: President: Tim Carpenter; Vice- President: Rocky Miller; Secretary: Phoenix Waters; Treasurer: Elizabeth Franklin. The council tabled the decision on assignments for council members to serve as liaisons to the ministry teams.

(OLD BUSINESS ITEM 3 for next meeting)

Motion to close the meeting was made by Charles and Rob seconded. Meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted, Phoenix Waters- Secretary

SCHEDULES



COMMUNION ASSISTANT

February 19th

8:15 St. Mark's Youth
10:30 St. Mark's Youth

February 26th

8:15 Ann Little & Kermit Nash

March 4th

8:15 Shawn Brown & Jay Abernathy
10:30 Charles Reed & Hal Sigmon

March 11th

8:15 Mark Carpenter & Ann Little

FEBRUARY / MARCH USHER TEAM

Dee Stewart Team (Feb.)
David & JoAnna Eckard

ASSISTING MINISTER

February 19th

8:15– St. Mark's Youth
10:30– St. Mark's Youth

February 26th

8:15 Glenn Morrison
10:30 Kathy Ray

March 4th

8:15 Camille Patrick
10:30 Rona Saunders

March 11th

8:15 Tim Carpenter
10:30 Kermit Nash

ALTAR GUILD

Donald & Debbie Herman

DEACONS

Rob George and J.D. Icard (Feb.)
Michael Sharpe & Josh Sigmon (Mar.)

ALTAR GUILD

Donald & Debbie Herman (Feb.)
Hilka Cox & Paul & Kathy Gibson (Mar.)

ACOLYTE

February 19th

8:15 Macie Hefner
10:30 Jessica Sigmon

February 22nd (Ash Wed)

7:00 Colton Ignoffo

February 26th

10:30 Gina Schaefer

February 29th

7:00 Macie Hefner

March 4th

10:30 Wesley Shook

March 7th (Lent Service)

7:00 Colton Ignoffo

March 11th

10:30 Logan Bumgarner

March 14th (Lent Service)

7:00 Wesley Shook

March 18th

10:30 Zach Gardner

March 21st (Lent Service)

7:00 Macie Hefner

March 24th

8:15 Kiersten Bohn
10:30 Gina Schaefer

Newsletter Mailings

The next mailing of the St. Mark's Reminder will be on March 7th. Please have information that needs to be in the newsletter to the church Secretary on Tuesday no later than noon before the mailing.

St. Mark's Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 550
3216 West Main Street
Claremont, NC 28610
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St. Mark's Newsletter—The Reminder

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Church Secretary	Joyce Miller	828-459-2161	churchoffice@stmarksclaremont.org
Financial Secretary	Marian Dillingham	828-459-2161	finsec@stmarksclaremont.org
Dir. of Youth and Family Ministry	Susan Tucker	828-459-2161	youth@stmarksclaremont.org
Preschool Dir./Praise Team Leader			
	Randy C. Abernathy	828-459-2873	stmarkspreschool@charter.net
Chancel Choir Dir.	Maria Parker	704-361-1082	mparker78@gmail.com
Interim Organist	Myra Long	704-213-7623	longmyra@ymail.com



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