

Life-Lines

919/772-9044
JUNE 2017

WONDERMENTS FROM PASTOR WAYNE'S WORLD

Many of you might still be reveling in the fact that our parking lot, fellowship hall, and our bellies were filled during our 40th Anniversary Dinner, May 20. However, I wonder if you understand the real importance of it.

We had people here who do not really know us or who have not recently been in contact with us as a congregation. When they come to an event that has an overflow crowd, that is a witness to them that we are a thriving church. When a worshipper joins us for worship the first time, and the sanctuary is less than half full, it is witnessing that we are a less-than-thriving church. Add to that a Sunday worship when we might have a worship assistant, limited clarity on ushers, greeters, and acolytes, our witness is again greatly lacking.

We are all responsible for how we are perceived. We are all needed to take responsibility for worship, and, at a very minimum, for "Remembering the Sabbath Day to keep it holy."

Taking this a step further, if someone who does not comes to a midweek worship, or simple supper, or adult discussion group, and then does come and finds only eight people are there, where is our witness in that?

It should make us wonder what the purpose of extra non-Sunday morning worship and events is. However, those who know me know I will do everything possible not to cut any worship, ministries or events.

Back to the Anniversary Dinner. It was a wonderfully, successful event, all brought to you by approximately a dozen people. The call was sent out to gather pictures, mementos, memories, and names and addresses of people we may have missed sending invitations to. Very little was done if anything in this regard. In the 11th hour, when I knew the cooking was being taken care of, I went all out to make sure some had received invitations and knew they could attend. Think of whom you have personally asked to come to a program, an event, or worship or to join us in a particular ministry here.

The more responsibility we all feel, the less apathetic we will be. A church with everyone taking responsibility for our ministries will be a thriving church and a thriving church is a church that envisions every opportunity for worship, every event, every activity as a witness to others.

Pastor Wayne



**Hot off
the
press!!**

Josh Kestner will be Ordained into the Ministry of Word and Sacrament on Saturday, June 24, 2017, at 1:00 p.m. at Lord of Life Lutheran Church.

The entire congregation is invited to meet North Carolina Synod of the ELCA Bishop, Tim Smith, at 11:45 am. prior to Josh's ordination. You don't want to miss this opportunity.



**CHURCH
COUNCIL**

We are no longer receiving monthly articles from the church council but, if you have access to the internet, you can do some research and find their activities.

Special thanks to Don Craig for making this a much less complicated process for those of us who are less computer savvy than others!

Go to www.lordoflifechurchgamernc.org and this will come up: lordoflifechurchgamernc.org -- Just another WordPress site. That's what you want.

That accessed, click MEMBERS. The user code is lordoflife and the password is ch0sen1! (The password has zero 0 in the middle and 1 and ! at the end.)

Select Church Council Members and scroll down past the list of council members and a list of the minutes on record will appear and you can make your selections.

Again, many thanks to Don Craig for his help!

---editor



June

June 4	Karen Post
June 5	Wesley Patrick Niemann
June 8	Lori Harrison
June 8	Chase Ticher
June 10	Monna Stamm
June 14	Perry Proper
June 14	Seth Rebbeor
June 18	Jean Marie Dubnansky
June 18	Paula Pickler
June 20	Barbara Proper
June 20	Susie Havenstein
June 28	Ray Green
June 28	Dan Stamm

July

July 1	Jerry Hart
July 1	Laura Roscoe
July 9	Alice Austin
July 9	Helen Holderman
July 13	Gavin Hans
July 14	Wade Jensen
July 15	Christine Brennecke
July 20	David Hash
July 20	Joyce Havenstein
July 20	Caleb Macurdy
July 21	Kieran King
July 30	Kathi Tichansky



Thank you to Helen Reaves and Joe Ann Wilder for setting the altar for May. To those who have baked bread or donated wine or grape juice, thank you also. If you are interested baking bread please contact Carol at 919/553-5984 -- bakers are always appreciated and welcomed.

At the time of your reading this newsletter, we will have celebrated the 40th Anniversary of Lord of Life in Garner. Thank you to all those who have made this celebration memorable: Sarah Weisenburn for decorations, Rebecca Swanson and her committee for planning and to anyone else that I may have forgotten a big "THANK YOU"

We are currently still celebrating the Easter Season, (50 days of celebration for Easter). On May 25 we celebrated the Ascension of our Lord, and on June 4 we will celebrate Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit descended to the believers gathered in Jerusalem. The color of the altar cloth is red, a reminder of the fire of the Spirit. The Festival of the Holy Trinity will be observed on June 11. The altar cloths for Trinity will be white, the following Sundays will be green, for the growth season

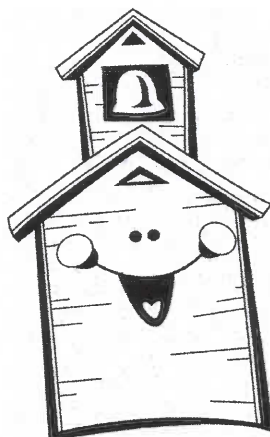
Another cause for celebration will be on Saturday, June 24, at 1:00 for the ordination of Josh Kestner into the ministry. Josh is a son of the congregation and after his ordination will accept a call in Iowa. Please save this important date and plan to attend.

---Carol Wallace

Class dismissed!!

No more pencils, no more books -- yes, this school year is over for the traditional calendar students. For the next two months many of these children will be home all day long. Some will be going to day camps sponsored by the YMCA, the Salvation Army, and various church organizations but many will be just at home. This puts a burden on parents scrambling to find ways to stretch their food budgets to feed these children the breakfasts and lunches that they would be receiving if still in school.

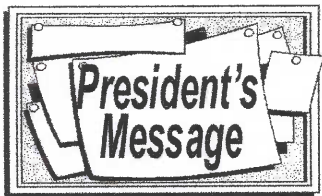
With children at home, besides these meals, snacks and drinks are going to be needed. Social



Concerns is concentrating on gathering "kid" food during the summer months and taking it to the Garner Area Ministries Pantry. We are asking the congregation to consider this very important need by purchasing and donating the following items: ready to eat cereal, pop-tarts, breakfast bars, pancake mix (the kind that only needs water added) syrup, juice, powdered milk, and/or shelf milk, peanut butter, jelly, crackers, small cans of beans, beanie weenies, canned fruit, canned pasta, graham crackers, cookies, fruit snacks, Kool-Aid®, juice boxes and any other items suitable to the need.

While we appreciate any food item you donate we are particularly stressing the needs for the things mentioned. Once again, we offer to shop for you if you wish. Any questions or concerns will be addressed by any Social Concerns member. We also wish to thank Dan Hayes for delivering food in May.

---Connie Fortmeyer



Everyone has busy lives. People raising families, while working for a demanding boss in order to make enough to feed, clothe, shelter, and educate our children. Despite what you may

think, when we retire, we are just as busy it seems. With all our running around, doing various things, all with the best of intentions, it is important to remember the words of St. Paul in his letter to the Ephesians, Chapter 2, verses 8-10: "For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them."

Our God is the one to whom we owe allegiance, and it to His ends that we should be directing our efforts. If each of us is doing our part, there should also be no disharmony as a result.

Yours in the service of our Lord and Savior,
Wade Jensen

Men's Group Report



On May 7 we had a great time at the Carolina Mudcats baseball game with members of the congregation, friends, and family.

The Agapé spring golf tournament was rained out, but we were happy to support them anyway.

The men's choir summer noise series is coming up, keep your eyes peeled for Dr. Brad's announcements!

Our next big event will be Garner's July 3 celebration. We will plan on selling parking and then relaxing and enjoying the fireworks!

If you have any ideas for a cause you would like us to support, a fundraising project, or a group outing, please jot it down and place it in Gray Anthony's mailbox. We would like to get feedback from the congregation about ways we can better serve you!

Our next business meeting will be June 9. All men are invited to attend, and bring a beverage of your choice. If it is your first time joining us, your meal is on the house.

Thanks,

---Gray Anthony, president
Men's Group

Able to Serve is served

On May 9 Lord of Life Social Concerns Ministry hosted the second annual Mother's Day brunch for the moms of the Able to Serve clients. Able to Serve staff and volunteers have been looking forward to this celebration and beautifully decorated the fellowship hall. Each mom was given a flower arrangement by his/her child.

Some special moments were when the participants read a poem "Mom, I love you more than applesauce, more than chocolate, more than McDonalds . . . ' Hey, that's a lot of love. Then there was a nonverbal young man signing "I love you" to his mom. Another mom who had never participated before was chatting with other mothers and happy to be part of the celebration.

One reason this was so important is parents don't have the time during the week to socialize with one another. Clients come on different days of the week and many have never met. This was their chance to enjoy a special time together to share their joys and their concerns.

Thanks to Mary Cook, Alecia Harrison, Connie Fortmeyer and Paula Pickler for making this day a huge success.

We're looking forward to next year!

---Helen Holderman
Coordinator

A Note
from the
Minister
of Music



Learn to Read Music Class

This class will be offered to anyone and everyone interested in learning how to read what we sing every Sunday! Classes, from 6:00 to 7:15 p.m., begin MAY 31 and continue each Wednesday through July. Please take advantage of this unique opportunity!



**First practice:
June 7 at 7:30 p.m.**

Join! Enjoy the camaraderie!
Share your talent!
and, just maybe,
discover a new interest!



We pray for our world and those in it with hope for our future.

Congratulations and Joy . . .

graduating this year: Jamie Bredell, Keara Grayson, Josh Kestner; and

Health Concerns. . .

Dan Stamm, Mona Stamm, Perry Proper, Betty and John Nalepa, Dennis King, Betty Zapata, Bob Baxter; and

Family and friends . . .

Jack and Alice Austin's friends, Bob Anderson and Sam Mansour; Lisa Grayson's mother, Betty Hooker, and uncle, Bill Winterbottom; Gerry Havenstein's sister, Jan O'Briant; Dan and Roxie Hayes' friends, Jacob and Cynthia Sterling; Susie, Benjamin and Bryce Lowe; Camille Morris' mother,

Ola Morris-Jones; Carol Wallace's sister, Claudia Bossen, Don Wallace's nephew, Chuck Wallace and sisters, Irene P. and Marge L.; Vince Wright's stepfather, Ronald Pierce; Shirley Poole's niece, Pamela Chrissinger; Barbara Kyles' niece, Sandy Blackburn; Shannon Thomsen's niece, Kylie Garner, and nephew, Nickolas; Kate Beck's friend, Lisa Gauger; Mary Cook's niece Sarah, nephew Will, son Daniel; Paul and Kerri Blanchard's son, Jason; Linda Hash's mother, Gerry Barlow; Dave Hash's mother, Lucille Hash Stewart; Esther Bredell's sister-in-law, Marti Swanson, family of Michael Horvath; Mary Ann de Leon; Beth Owen.

Please note: prayer requests that have been listed for several months have been removed. If you have current requests or updates of those listed, please e-mail them to: paulampic@aol.com

Our graduates!

High School: Jamie Bredell; College: Keara Grayson; Postgraduate: Josh Kestner.

Jamie Bredell, son of Esther and Donald Bredell, graduates from Knightdale High School of Collaborative Design on June 11, 2017. He graduates ranked in the top 2 percent of his class, is a member of National Honor Society, and served on his school's Student Government Association as the Senior Class Representative this school year. Jamie will be attending UNC-Chapel Hill in the fall majoring in Biomedical and Health Sciences Engineering. He will be living on campus and looks forward to campus-life, but isn't too happy about leaving his car behind at home!

Joshua Kestner, son of Mike and Tina Kestner, graduated from Luther Seminary in MN with a Master's of Divinity. Josh was nominated to give student commencement address at the graduation.



Josh grew up at Lord of Life and received his first Holy Communion and was Confirmed at LOL. He attended Sunday School and VBS and participated as a Youth helper from middle school to his freshman year in college. Josh did his under graduate study at Clemson and spent a year in Israel before attending Seminary.

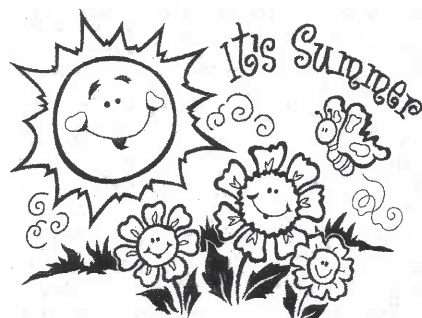
Josh will be Ordained into the Ministry of Word and Sacrament Saturday, June 24, 1:00 pm at Lord of Life. He has been called to St. Paul Lutheran Church in Davenport, Iowa, as a pastoral resident. It is a special two-year First Call.

Next month we will learn more about Keara. -

--Linda Hash, coordinator
Christian Education

Enjoy summer . . . but don't forget ongoing church activities!

I cannot believe that it is June already!



Summer is here, and with it we look forward to some of our summer giving opportunities. Our Back to School supplies drive will be coming up in July/August. We also support the Inner Faith Food Shuttle's

while out of school.

Aaaannndd, we can't wait to hear from all our Summer Campers. I know they will have some fun things to share with us.

So, let's keep those GAM baskets full, and be keeping your eyes peeled for ways you can help us support our community this summer.

We send out a huge thank you for all your support throughout the year! Y'all are truly an amazing congregation, and great examples of the Lord's hands and feet and heart here on earth.

Love In Christ,
Sarah Watkins

Summer program, which makes sure children have access to food

The Shack: a review

When I mentioned *The Shack* in a sermon recently, someone on the way out of worship told me the church she had attended prior to Lord of Life had a discussion series based on the book. Both the book and movie are outstanding. The book is slightly more complex. The movie takes the best of the book and the result is, I am safe to say, will be the highlight of our spiritual cinema series.

It all revolves around the shack. One aspect to look for is the different renderings of the shack. While there are several points of discussion, most important is the emphasis placed upon the good news of God in the midst of tragedy. I stated in a sermon already "God does not stop tragedies from occurring, but He can bring out the most positive results out of the tragedy even though God does not orchestrate it."

The main character, Mack, could be any one of us. He is a man trying to make sense out of a tragic event in his life. He spends a weekend with God. However, do not think we need to experience a tragedy in order to spend a weekend with God. The movie makes it clear God spends each and every minute with us.

Another unique aspect of the movie is it doesn't follow chronological order and that is true to the book as well. It does not simply have past, present, then future.

If you like miracles, think of the impressive one of walking on water. Can Mack do it? Find out. Do you believe you could? The movie tells you how.

You like the beauty of creation? Enjoy Sarayu's garden.

You long for a more intimate relationship with God? Consider the name Nan, Mack's wife, uses when talking to God.

You like walking away from a movie feeling warmer than when you walked into the theater? *The Shack* will do that for you.

If for some reason it is not yet available for the 4th Sunday in July, I will make sure it is shown sometime this summer.

Sam Worthington, who plays Mack, plays him well in a low key manner letting God do all Her work. Nan, played by Radha Mitchell, is a good, faithful mother and wife. Octavia Spencer, as always is great in her role which I will not reveal.

The book has the family with five children, the movie only three. Country music fans will enjoy Tim McGraw, who plays Mack's neighbor and friend, Willie, as well as the soundtrack -- one track with Tim singing a beautiful song with his wife Faith Hill. Most importantly, the movie helps us to deal with the negative aspects of our lives and see them in a much more positive way.

---Pastor Wayne



Some things to ponder:

There is enough food thrown away every year in our country to feed every man, woman and child that ever goes hungry.

There is enough surplus wealth in our country to deliver that food to those who hunger.

There is enough know-how in our country to devise ways to distribute that food to those in need.

There is enough compassion in our people to want all of our hungry fed adequately.

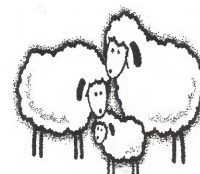
Why, then, do we still have millions of hungry people in our country? Of what is there not enough?

There's not enough leadership. Our priorities at the national level simply do not include eliminating hunger.

There's not enough vision. Far too many of us spend far too much time squabbling about the hot button issues of the day and neglect the fundamental command "when you see your neighbor hungry, feed him."

There's not enough outrage. Hunger has been with us for so long, we have grown numb.

We need to step back a little until we can see clearly. To see a child go hungry is a shame and a pity when the hunger is caused by lack of food. It's a sin and a crime when food is plentiful and people around the child will not trouble themselves to feed him.



Ordination into the Ministry of Word and Sacrament of

Joshua Kie Kestner

Saturday • June 24, 2017 • 1:00 p.m.

Lord of Life Lutheran Church
A light reception follows the service.

Josh has been called as
pastor-in-resident to
St. Paul Lutheran
Church in Davenport, Iowa.

This is a BUSY time for the Women of the ELCA!!!!

The North Carolina Synod Assembly will be held in Greensboro at the Koury Convention Center on June 2-3, 2017. This is a statewide meeting of all ELCA Lutherans in North Carolina. Each statewide Synod Committee will give a report of their activities for the past year. Voting delegates will select several vacant seats on the multiple Synod Committees and review resolutions submitted by either the Synod Council or an individual church in our Synod. The cost is \$100 for a visitor.

Next is the Annual Statewide Gathering of the Women of the ELCA. We will meet at Lenoir Rhyne University in Hickory on June 23-25, 2017. The Theme is "Commissioned to Go!" Again the five committees of the NC Lutheran Women of the ELCA will give a report of their activities and discuss what is going on locally and nationally with Lutheran Women. The cost is \$175 for the entire weekend including housing and meals.

Next is the Triennial Conference and Gathering of the International Women of the ELCA held in Minneapolis, Minnesota from July 10-16, 2017. Lutheran women from across the world will gather in Minneapolis to share stories of their struggles and successes. Each state in the USA will have a gift for each participant and many of the international groups will also have a small gift for each woman in participation. Patty Austin is our current National

President of the Women of the ELCA, but her term is up. Voting delegates will choose the next National President at this time. Other national officers will also be elected. The cost is \$250 for the Gathering. Room and meals are on your own.

Lord of Life Lutheran Church is one of nine Lutheran Churches in the Triangle Conference of the NC Lutheran Synod. We alternate with the other churches who host our Fall and Spring Gathering and the One Day Retreat.

Early Fall, between late September and early November, the Triangle Conference of the Women of the ELCA will have their Fall Gathering at Christus Victor Lutheran Church in Durham, NC. The date is TBA. The cost is expected to be \$8. Hopefully there will be a carpool from the church to this event.

Next is the Synodical Liturgical Seminar at the Lutheran House in Salisbury, NC November 17-18, 2017. The cost is \$50. Rooms and meals are on your own.

The NC Women of the ELCA have ongoing service projects that Lord of Life participates in. Currently, church wide is gathering health kits and blankets for domestic and overseas projects.

Please ask if you have any further questions.

Blessings,
Alecia Harrison

Fear Factor

Nearly everyone has heard the phrase, "Be afraid, be very afraid." This quote is from a 1986 movie "The Fly." It brings a bit of laughter to faces more often than fear. Similarly, the words, "I'll put the fear of God into you," à la Psalm 76, evoke a similar emotion these days.

Reading Psalm 76 caused me to wonder how much of the world's troubles stem from so few folks actually "fearing" God these days. We prefer to think of God as a loving, caring God, full of grace and mercy. And while that is a huge part of the Heavenly Father, to remove the fear factor from Him entirely paints an incomplete picture of the Sovereign Creator of the Universe.

When we live in His love and walk in His truth, fear isn't an issue. Not only is our God is a God of love, John says He IS Love! It's not simply that He has love or gives love, He IS the very personification of love. Sometimes I think that maybe as followers of our God of love and mercy, we create a small God . . . a God of limited capacity. You've heard people say that God was once a God to be feared, and now He is a God of love. Well, I believe that God has always been both. It's just that before Jesus' time, folk didn't realize the full capability of the Almighty, and now that we've glimpsed the all-encompassing character of the Omnipotent, Omnipresent, Omniscient Lover of our souls, we prefer to focus on

the gentler, more welcoming side rather than the complete picture. Our Lord not only loves bigger and better than we can imagine, but He is also to be feared more than any power here on earth . . . or in heaven.



Just like a good earthly father uses fear of punishment to help his children learn to live productive lives, we need to include the image of a God worth fearing when we describe our Heavenly Father. This doesn't mean that He is a harsh meanie! On the contrary, every single person on this earth needs to remember that God should be respected and revered as the God who strikes fear. He is the Lord and Spirit who chooses to show grace rather than revenge, and who demonstrates mercy instead of punishment. He is the great King who deserves our respect and the Father who has adopted us as His own . . . all because He loves us so much! Even John said that "there is no fear in love." (1 John 4:18).

Be blessed.

---Gale J. Isaacs

JUNE 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 Day of Pentecost 8:45 am Sunday Cinema 10:00 am Worship 11:30 am COUNCIL	5	6	7 7:00 am Rotary Breakfast 6:00 pm Learn to Read Music Class 7:30 pm MEN'S CHOIR PRACTICE	8	9 7:00 pm Men's Group Meeting Women's Meet 'n' Eat	10
11 The Holy Trinity 8:45 am Sunday Cinema 10:00 am Worship	12 7:00 pm Worship & Music	13	14 7:00 am Rotary Breakfast 6:00 pm Learn to Read Music Class 7:30 pm MEN'S CHOIR PRACTICE	15 NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE 6:30 pm Social Concerns	16	17
18 2nd Sunday of Pentecost 8:45 am Sunday Cinema 10:00 am Worship 11:30 am Parish Comm.	19	20 7:00 pm Inspirational Book Club	21 7:00 am Rotary Breakfast 6:00 pm Learn to Read Music Class 7:30 pm Choir Practice	22	23	24 11:45 am Bishop Tim Smith 1:00 pm JOSH KESTNER'S ORDINATION
25 3rd Sunday of Pentecost 8:45 am Sunday Cinema 10:00 am Worship 11:30 am Property	26	27	28 7:00 am Rotary Breakfast 6:00 pm Learn to Read Music Class 7:30 pm Choir Practice	29 11:30 a.m. LUNCH BUNCH site tba	30	

Ministers

Members of the Congregation

Pastor. Wayne Dubnansky
Minister of Music. Dr. Brad Hunnicutt
Adm. Assistant. Laura Raun
Web Master. Laura Raun

Congregation Council

Wade Jensen . . . President
Shannon Thomsen . . . Vice President
Barry Brown . . . Treasurer
Tess Andrews . . . Deputy Treasurer
Dave Hash Financial Secretary
Lindsay Crocker . . . Secretary
Mary Cook
Don Craig
Michael Flickinger
Patrick Niemann
Karen Post
Carolyn Watkins

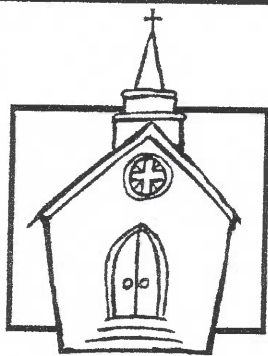
JUNE 2017



Lord of Life Lutheran Church

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Garner, North Carolina 27529

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Newsletter e-mail: paulampic@aol.com
Website: www.lordoflifechurchgarnermc.org/
Office: 919/772-9044



Worship Schedule

9:00 a.m.
Sunday School
10:00 a.m.
Worship Service

Ordination into the Ministry of Word and Sacrament of Joshua Kie Kestner

Saturday • June 24, 2017 • 1:00 p.m.

Lord of Life Lutheran Church
A light reception follows the service.

Josh has been called as pastor-in-
resident to St. Paul Lutheran
Church in Davenport, Iowa.

Sunday Spiritual Cinema

Movies begin at 8:45 a.m.

May 28 & June 4:

Fences

June 11 & June 18:

Lion

June 25 & July 2:

A Man Called Love

July 9 & July 16:

Manchester by the Sea

July 23 & July 30:

The Shack

August 6 & August 13:

Zookeeper's Wife

August 20, 27 & September 3: tba



Men's Choir
First Practice
JUNE 7 • 7:30 p.m.