

Life-Lines

919/772-9044
OCTOBER 2017

WONDERMENTS FROM PASTOR WAYNE'S WORLD

As we approach the 500th Anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation, the question is occasionally asked, "Should the celebration of the Lutheran Reformation continue to be celebrated after 500 years?" The same question is being asked of the 9/11 observances after only 16 years. It is being asked about Holocaust Observances after 70 plus years, Veterans' Day after 100 years, and, of course, the 4th of July after 241 years. I don't think we want to discontinue any of the above celebrations/observances, nor do we want to discontinue our Reformation celebration. We need to remember the Reformation of 500 years ago when the Church was in need of reform and learn from Luther and the reformers of that era and determine where reform can take place in the imperfect Church of our era.

We need to be, as our discussion group emphasizes, "Ever-Reforming".

Central to that for ourselves as individuals and as the Lord of Life community of faith is "Remembering the Sabbath Day to Keep it Holy."

We all need to recommit ourselves to regular worship. Martin Luther in the Small Catechism says we "should not despise preaching and His Word, but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it."

From the sanctuary where we gather for worship, we go out to live out our mission statement printed on the bulletin each Sunday "sharing God's love with all". With that in mind we go to our jobs, we spend quality time with our families, and live together with

neighbors, coworkers, and with all God's people.

Thus, the Spirit of the Reformation should take hold of us when we see others not living lives of love for others, the love that God intended for all his people. As a church of the Reformation, we should speak out against other churches that exclude some of God's people because of race, gender, or disability, especially churches as well as faith leaders who claim that they speak for all Christendom when they espouse such attitudes ignoring Jesus' greatest commandment to "love one another".

As members of the church of the reformation when the "least of these" are being neglected, ignored, forgotten, we will always need to be very visible as Luther was visible as he "protested" what was happening in the Church.

After Lee Strobel meets with the archeologist turned priest in the movie "The Case for Christ", they walk by a picture in the sanctuary which shows Jesus' body covered with a shroud. Strobel asks the priest, "how could God Almighty allow His Son to suffer and die like He did?" The priest answers with lone simple word, "Love".

That is God's message to us, "That He gave His only Son to die for us so that we would have eternal life." (John 3:16) Martin Luther had such great love for his people that he was willing to risk his life for them. He inspires us to love others as he did, as our Savior Jesus did and still does, and as our Father in heaven still does.

Pastor Wayne

Sunday School

Sunday School for children. After your children go up for Communion, they should go immediately to the second classroom on the left for a Sunday School lesson. After about 30 minutes they will be dismissed to the fellowship hall. Thank you for your support. Anyone interested in helping with Sunday School this year please let me know. All are welcome.

Adults. There are two Sunday School classes. One is in the fellowship hall and the second one is in the Library.

How an Apple is like the Trinity

The peel is like God the Father, because He protects us.

The flesh is like God the Son, because Jesus is God made flesh.

The seeds are like the Holy Spirit because He helps us grow.

HYPERLINK "<http://www.preschoolpost.com/SeptemberApples.html>"

---Linda Hash, coordinator
Christian Education



October

October 1	Kristin Hayduk
October 2	Tim Clark
October 2	Connie Fortmeyer
October 2	Page Gough
October 5	Keara Grayson
October 5	Doris Weden
October 8	Avery Britt
October 14	Tom Harrison
October 25	Amy Macurdy
October 25	Thomas Isaacs

November

November 2	Maddie Terrazas
November 2	Carolyn Watkins
November 5	Tess Andrews
November 7	Dennis King
November 7	Benjamin Gerald Lowe
November 8	Jeremy Hans
November 11	Mark Macurdy
November 14	Paul Savolainen
November 15	Pam Hedley
November 15	Ryan Johnson
November 17	Kari Britt
November 21	Ryan Roof
November 22	Bobby Grayson
November 22	Brad Hunnicutt
November 23	Christopher Hayduk
November 23	Don Wallace
November 24	Jason Blanchard
November 28	Terry Barnes
November 29	Lindsay Crocker-Fairchilds



There will be a meeting of the Altar Guild at 10:00 a.m. in Saturday October 14 in the church library. If you are interested in becoming a member of the Altar Guild please contact Carol at 919/553-5984 or just attend the meeting. New members are welcome.

“Reformation Day will be observed on Sunday October 29 at 10:00 a.m. It is a day for giving thanks for Martin Luther and other reformers, but much more it calls attention to the ongoing need for ecumenical growth and renewal of the church. Paraments for the day are bright red, the color of the Church. The following Sunday, November 5, we will observe All Saint's Day. All Saint's Day commemorates all the baptized people of God who have died in the faith. All Saint's Day is November 1 but may be observed on the Sunday following that date. Altar paraments are white.”¹

Thank you to Ginny King and Barbara Proper for setting the altar for Sunday worship. Thank you to bread bakers and donors of wine. If you helped with the setting of the outdoor space for Worship on Sunday, September 10, thank you very much. The weather was good -- no rain or dampness -- however the wind was a bit chilly. We survived it all despite those conditions. Thank you to all for attending.

---Carol Wallace

¹Altar Guild and Sacristy Handbook. S. Anita Stauffer

From toilet paper to chickens!

You did it. Yes you really did it! You donated every single thing that Garner Area Ministries had on their list of needs when Social Concerns designated August as “Personal Care and Household Month” -- detergent to diapers, tooth paste to toilet paper, shampoo to soap and you gave multiples of these. Our bins overflowed. Thanks go to Dan Hayes once again for packing these items up and delivering them to GAM.

Although we focused on the things mentioned you continued to help with food items also. Many cans of fruit and vegetables, always a need for them, were given. Due to the generosity of one of our members, we delivered one hundred (100) pounds of chicken.!!! That was a record for Lord Of Life. At Christmas and Thanksgiving the turkeys we usually donate probably top that weight but this was a single donation.

So, on behalf of Social Concerns Ministry and Garner Area Ministries a big THANK YOU goes out to all in the congregation who overwhelmingly opened their hearts and made August a month to remember-

---Connie Fortmeyer
Social Concerns Ministry

Greetings from the men's group!

The Men's Group is currently working with the Swanson family and Camp Agapé to honor John Swanson by sponsoring the refurbishment and renovation of a room at Agapé's Kure Beach facility in his memory.

The Men's Group again sponsored the Rally Day picnic and provided hot dogs, hamburgers, and fixings.

Dave Hash and Gerry Havenstein dug two holes so the children's Sunday School class could plant the two apple trees that were given to Able to Serve.

Our next meeting will be our annual Oktoberfest, on October 13 at 7 pm. We will have German food and beverages! 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
Lord of Life Men's Group



God's work, our hands

October is here, a special month as we celebrate our Lutheran heritage as the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. The national church's Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) celebration culminates with a special service on October 31 in Washington, DC. "Freed and Renewed in Christ: 500 Years of God's Grace in Action" will be livestreamed online at: elca.org/livestream beginning at 9:45 a.m. Please plan to join us for this

October also commences our annual Stewardship Campaign. We have a number of activities in which we will celebrate our Lutheran heritage and reflect on the ways we are empowered by God's grace to live our faith, "Looking Back and Called Forward."

Please mark your calendars for these highlights of the 2017 Stewardship campaign :

- Sunday, October 8 – temple talk by Don Craig before the 10:00 a.m. worship service.
- Sunday, October 15 -- Ministry Fair held in the Fellowship Hall after the 10:00 a.m. worship service. Various ministries of Lord of Life will sponsor tables with information and volunteers to talk about their work. We will also have laptops and iPads available to demonstrate the Lord of Life web site features and Facebook page, and to share the Sign Up Genius app that will help us coordinate the after-church fellowship time each Sunday.
- Sunday, October 22 – temple talk prior to the start of the worship service.
- Sunday, October 29 – Pastor Wayne's sermon will focus on the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation.
- Sunday, October 29 – Reformation Sunday potluck dinner in the Fellowship Hall following the worship service.

We hope you can join us for this year's Stewardship campaign events!

The welcome brochures for visitors are updated, and copies are available by the visitor register in the narthex. The handouts include a welcome letter from Pastor Wayne, a schedule of weekly events at Lord of Life, and pages that give brief information on the various ministries of our congregation. Please feel free to take an extra copy to have at home or in the glove box of your car to share with anyone you meet who is looking for a church home.

For more information about the Parish Committee please speak with any member of the Parish Committee (Grace Barnes, Terry Barnes, Tim Clark, Dave Hash, Karen Wright, Vince Wright, Don Craig, Council representative; Rebecca Swanson) and we will be glad to answer questions. You are also welcome to join us at our monthly meeting, the third Sunday of the month at 11:30 a.m. in the church library.

For the Parish Committee,
Rebecca Swanson

The members of Lord of Life once again overwhelmed us with their gracious donations to the Back to School effort that supports Creech Road, East Garner, Timber Drive and Rand Road Elementary Schools. We were able to send two overflowing bins of school supplies to each school. The Social Workers and Guidance Counselors were excited to receive these gifts. I can only imagine the excitement the children will have when they are given their new school supplies. Such joy and hope for a great new year. Thank you for your part in making a child's day!

The Garner Rotary continues to be an excellent partner as many members also donated toward the Back to School giving event. We had an opportunity to share an overview of the Social Concerns activities for the year. Many Rotary groups meet at churches but Lord of Life and the Garner Rotarians are the only group in the United States that has the unique partnership that we enjoy. The members of the Rotary pay the committee for breakfast and we in turn use the money to give back to the community. This is a win for the Garner Rotary, Lord of Life Lutheran Church and, most especially, for Garner since she benefits from the variety of programs that the church sponsors. Thank you for your part in making this partnership a success. You can help by volunteering to prepare breakfast casseroles for casserole day (the end of the month) or by helping to clean up after the Rotarians leave.

We have another ongoing ministry to collect your change. We place a collection jar in the Narthex each week during worship. The North Carolina Women of the ELCA is collecting money to buy a farm for a food insecure family. We have (the whole state) already collected enough money to buy a water filtration system for a community that doesn't have clean water. So if you are able, we would love to hold onto your pocket change to make a difference in the world!

We have two opportunities to get organized exercise in the near future. Beat Breast Cancer will walk on Saturday, October 14 and the CROP walk on Sunday, October 22. See Pastor Wayne for more details.

We again sponsored Shannon Thomsen in his effort to beat Multiple Sclerosis by participating in the 2017 Historic New Bern Bike Ride. He will always welcome new supporters in his physical efforts. See Shannon for more information.

And as always we have an ongoing collection for nonperishable items for the Garner Area Ministries Food Pantry. We have collected kid foods early in the summer and personal care items for the late summer. Any foods will be gladly accepted at any time. Whenever you do your personal grocery shopping, consider grabbing an item or two for GAM. They will be grateful for your generosity.

Blessings,
Alecia Harrison and Gale Isaacs
Co-Chairs Social Concerns Committee



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

Grief . . . family and friends of Perry Proper who died August 11; and

Health Concerns . . . Corrine Wichti, Dan Stamm, Mona Stamm, Betty and John Nalepa, Dennis King, Betty Zapata, Bob Baxter; and

Family and friends . . . Karen Post's husband, Ken, snake bite; Geri and Paul Savolainen's friend, Dave, open heart surgery; Clyde Cook's brother, thyroid cancer; Lisa Grayson's mother, Betty Hooker, and uncle, Bill Winterbottom; Dan and Roxie Hayes' friends, Jacob and Cynthia Sterling; Susie, Benjamin and Bryce Lowe; Camille Morris' mother, Ola Morris-Jones; Don and Carol

Wallace's friend, Dan Grazewicz, lung cancer; Don Wallace's nephew, Chuck Wallace, and sister Marge; 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; 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; Darcee Wick; Jack and Alice Austin's friends, Bob Anderson and Sam Mansour.

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

Ahhh . . . The Musings of Solitude

"The happiest of all lives is a busy solitude." -Voltaire

I was a commuter for a number of years until my job change nearly two years ago. It seems longer somehow, because I wasn't the daily off-to-work and back-home-round-tripper. With the benefit of tenure, I could squeeze my full professorial workload into three days . . . leave home on Tuesday and return home on Thursday. This scenario comes to mind due to a recent conversation with a relatively new acquaintance who asked, with slight disdain, "How could you do that? Didn't you get lonesome being away from home like that?" And as she continued this line of questioning, it took a bit of willpower for me to respond kindly, "Why would I be lonely?" Now, this wasn't an unfamiliar chat; I've had the same one with others who were well-meaning, or curious, or genuinely concerned about my state of 'A-lone-ness.' So, let me say at the outset that I consider the circumstances of being alone (by yourself, on your own, unaccompanied) and being lonely (sense of isolation, bleak, forsaken) as two completely different things! Alone is more a state of 'being' and loneliness is more an 'emotional response' to a situation. I further surmise that being alone is beneficial! It's a great time to reflect; a time to consider competing viewpoints; a

time to focus; and equally important, a time to hang out with your spiritual side. Being alone means making conscious choices about many things including prayer, the power of meditation, and how our hearts can grow in love for God.

Those who see loneliness and being alone as synonymous, probably let their A-lone-ness develop into what I call isolation-solitude . . . not at all the kind of solitude that embraces reverie. All of us are alone in our uniqueness! No other person can completely think like we do, act like we do, or feel like we do; it defines our reverie of A-lone-ness and brings a sense of peacefulness. The flip side of that is being lonely . . . that sadness . . . that feeling that makes us cling in desperation to how some-one-thing used to be, or of some struggle that leads us down the path of despair. Loneliness allows us to wallow and disallows us to respect our uniqueness.

I've never heard anyone say 'I want to be lonely' but I've heard, plenty of times, 'I want to be alone' (not only from Greta Garbo, the star of black & white films). One is a struggle and the other is a pretty awesome place to be. So, embrace your alone time!

Be blessed!

---Gale J. Isaacs

Come on people -- what's your problem!

Everyone is aware of the "free" table in the fellowship hall. It is usually pretty full of good stuff that someone has no use for -- or room for -- any more. These items are welcome and, in most cases, disappear quickly.

BUT, some of us are being sort of careless with our after worship fellowship food and drink . . . drinks are spilled and food is left on the table. Let's be a little more careful. The items left aren't worth much if they have sticky drinks spilled on them or are covered with mustard!!!

And, while we're on the subject of food . . . and "what's mine is yours" . . . REMEMBER food left in any of the refrigerators or freezers is fair game UNLESS you write your name on the container. Don't come whining that your half of a sandwich is gone or that a piece of cake you were saving for later is no longer there! If there's

no name on it, it's up for grabs! And, periodically, the kitchen police check contents of the refrigerators and freezers and anything that looks suspiciously like a lab experiment gone bad is tossed, labeled or not.

Fact about La Voz de Dios Iglesia

La Voz de Dios Iglesia is an apostolic church following the teachings of the 12 apostles. This refers to the introductions of Paul's letters where he introduces himself as an apostle or as "called to be an apostle".



The Council met on September 3, 2017, in the church library with all members present.

Barry Brown reported that July contributions were over \$16,000 and expenses were about \$13,000.

Barry said these have been a light couple of months, but the budget is looking favorable in terms of servicing debt. Wade Jensen asked what cash reserve should be for our church and Barry said that we should have \$105,000, which is equivalent to one year of giving and we currently have this in cash reserve. Mary Cook asked about audit frequency. Wade will check the Lord of Life Constitution to see when the next audit is due. Differences between a Building Fund, Infrastructure Fund, and DF16 will be checked with Harry Albert before collapsing them into one fund.

Connie Fortmeyer gave reported concerns from the congregation about the state of the nursery which is currently in a state of disrepair, including odor concerns, lack of cleanliness, and lack of respect by those who use the facility. Connie suggested a list of rules and regulations for the nursery, and the necessity if getting it cleaned up.

Rules in the nursery must include age restrictions, require picking up after yourself, taking out trash, and turning off lights and fans. After discussion upon Patrick Niemann's suggestion, the Yard Sale will be used to organize this room and the Property Committee is authorized to come up with a bilingual list of rules; purge/refresh the excess items and clarify and confirm that John Ward should will maintain responsibility for cleaning the nursery countertops and bath.

Alecia Harrison said that the Mutual Ministry Committee is a liaison between church staff and congregation; or church staff and Council. Alecia gave specific examples and a handout. The Lord of Life Constitution requires a mutual ministry committee. The Constitution will be reviewed and potential members, suitable for this role, will be discussed. Wade Jensen and Alecia Harrison will look into another proposal for how to fulfill this function.

Wade Jensen brought up a vision message that he created, based around his vision to grow the congregation. He feels that the directive or message for Christian behavior comes from Matthew and has an interest in using Evangelism to grow the Congregation.

Don Craig suggested using the Parish Committee and other venues to let folks in the congregation know that there is a place for their voice. A discussion ensued about how to shape our future vision, how to welcome and encourage new membership, and how to reengage existing members. Karen Post mentioned mailings, flyers for nearby neighborhoods, and the internet.

All schools in the area got materials from the school drive, it was highly successful. Saturday September 30 is the next Yard Sale and fundraiser. A suggestion was made to have tax receipts available for donations.

The Property Committee reported that painting of the doors is ongoing. The drainage issue on hold due to rain and a Bocce Ball court renovation is being considered. The Committee is also discussing removal of a Pear tree.

The Worship & Music group is discussing the feasibility of inviting Los Voz di Dios to participate in one of our worship services. Pastor is planning to invite them to doing something with this group.

At the Ministry Fair, sponsored by the Parish committee, on October 15, there will be a website showcase.

AT&T installed Fiber for Able to Serve at no additional charge. On September 6 all the local Social Workers meet for Backpack Buddies kick off. Gale Isaacs is working on publicity for Backpack Buddies.

Michael Flickinger suggested tracking and reporting hits on the website and Karen Post suggested putting sermons electronically on the website. Michael also suggested putting a list of Council members and their pictures in the hall for identification on the Council and said to ask Tim Clark take a picture at the next council meeting.

The Council meets the first Sunday of each month right after worship in the church library. Meetings are open to anyone who wishes to attend. If you have anything you wish to discuss, please let the president of the Council, Wade Jensen, know ahead of time.

---from minutes submitted by Lindsay Crocker



Save the date!!!

The 2017 Raleigh CROP Walk is October 22 at NCSU campus.

The Lord of Life Lutheran Church team is currently looking for walkers and/or sponsors for the upcoming CROP walk which targets food insecure people locally and overseas. The CROP walk is a community-led fundraising event to end hunger. This is an interfaith event that impacts individuals and families in more than 35 countries. In many developing nations, people can walk up to six miles a day to get food and water. Collecting water is usually a "woman's" job. One in nine people worldwide lack access to clean water and a healthy diet. We walk in solidarity to bring awareness to this issue and raise funds for a permanent change.

One of the local organizations that will benefit from the Raleigh CROP walk is the Food Bank of Eastern and Central North Carolina. This is the largest food bank in North Carolina and they support 34 counties with food deliveries weekly. They can feed a person for \$2 a meal. I don't know about you, but I am challenged by that number! The Food Bank receives food from the government, local vendors and the community partners. Cree donated the lighting for the new Food Bank site on Capital Boulevard -- thanks Joe Clark, son of Tim and Rita Clark. The corporate sponsors cover the administrative costs so that dollars donated by us and other donors actually goes to who you wanted it to get to. Currently 97¢ of each dollar donated to the Food Bank goes to people in need. That's outstanding! The new facility is 23,000 square foot. They have a refrigerated area that can keep local produce so that the recipients have access to fresh fruits and vegetables. This has been a severe oversight in the past. The Food Bank supports five branch offices in Durham, Greenville, New Bern, Sandhills and Wilson. Another little known fact about the Food Bank of Eastern and Central North Carolina is that they donated the most food to the recovery effort of Hurricane Andrew than any other agency in the United States. Hurricane Andrew struck Florida and the Bahamas in 1992. A reporter from Miami came to North Carolina to see how this food bank could make such an impact.

(continued, next page)

All Saints: a review

All Saints is the title of a new movie that is not about holy people, or at least that is not why it is named "All Saints". It is about a small Episcopalian congregation in Smyrna, Tennessee. It was so small that a second career pastor was sent to them on a short-term basis for the sole purpose of closing the congregation.

He was not the most charismatic pastor nor the most confident pastor, but he cared enough for the people of the church that he found himself wanting to help "save" the congregation rather than "close" it.

There were 9-12 worship attendees when he began, then some Burmese men came through the church's fields and worshipped with them. They were already Christian. And then their families joined them and their friends. Then they decided to use the fields that used to be baseball fields in the congregation's heyday and make hay again, that is, grow crops to feed the Burmese refugees and gain funds to help pay off the church's mortgage. And in this regard, the pastor's skills willing to get down in the dirt with the Burmese who would work the fields early mornings and then work a 12-hour shift at the chicken factory. The Burmese refugees in this

movie remind us of the persecutions.

What I liked about this film based literally on All Saints Church is that it is a mainline denomination church with a success story based on the hard work of some dreamers. It was not a flashy congregation, a showy congregation (except for the pastor wearing a chasuble during worship). God was indeed with them but one was not always sure how as when the pastor's son asks him, "you were sure God spoke to you to plant the seeds, then why did that same God flood our harvest?" I wished they would have shown more of the worship, the communion, intercessions, and creeds. However, that was not the focus, the focus was community; the church's, the refugees', and the community of Smyrna.

Most importantly was the camaraderie between Pastor Michael and Ye Win, who we might call the spiritual and financial leader of the Burmese, played wonderfully by John Corbett and Nelson Lee respectively. When Forest, the church's curmudgeon, turned right hand man, the Three Musketeers are complete.

Ten years later Sunday attendance often tops 150 necessitating two worship times. But numbers isn't the point, the point is the community.

---Pastor Wayne

CROP WALK, continued

The Food Bank has a long history of helping ALL who are in need. They intend to do more with the expanded new space. Their focus is on the long-term needs of poverty and hunger. They hold children's camps during school breaks to enlighten children to the benefits of good nutrition and healthy snacks. They also have a cooking school for adults to learn to cook the local produce donated by local farmers. And finally they have resume writing courses to encourage their participants to apply for and obtain better jobs.


The three mile walk on Sunday, October 22, 2017 will start at the Court of North Carolina on NCSU campus near the bell tower. The course will go to Cameron Village and return to the start site. Parking will be available at Reynolds Coliseum. Police will be stationed along the walk route to ensure safe crossing of roads. The entire course will be on sidewalks and suitable for strollers and wheelchairs. The fenced track at Broughton High School will also be available for young children.

The average woman walks three miles one way to get the water needed for the family each day, so the CROP walk is also three miles. Church World Service, the sponsor of CROP walks, has a focus of providing clean water, medical clinics and schools to under-served areas across the world. Twenty-five percent of the money raised by the Wake County CROP walk stays in Wake County. In addition to the Food Bank, Catholic Parish Outreach, Dorcas Ministries, North Raleigh Ministries, Urban Ministries and Interfaith Food Shuttle will receive funds from our walk.

What will you do to help?

---Blessings,

Alecia



October 7 • 10 a.m.

Bring Derrick Dog, Clarissa Cat, Henry Hamster, Penelope Parrot, Gertrude Guinea Pig, Gladys Goldfish, Isabella Iguana, Percival Puppy, Keith Kitten, Herman Horse and any other pets you have (You can leave Beatrice Boa at home). Pastor Wayne has a special blessing for them!

Please bring a bag of pet food for the SPCA Food Pantry. Monetary gifts will also be accepted.
(make checks payable to SPCA)