

Life-Lines

(919) 772-9044
March 2018



Wonderments from Pastor Wayne's World

We have just begun Lent and seen how Ash Wednesday happened to fall on Valentine's Day. That is unusual but it is okay because the ashes placed on our foreheads are reminders of Christ's love for us.

Perhaps even more unusual is the fact that Easter Sunday is April Fool's Day. However, it may not be that unusual. Think of it. An itinerant rabbi is challenging much of what Judaism and its leaders stood for, and they desired to get rid of this undesirable rabbi. But they need the secular leaders, Pontus Pilate and King Herod to go along with carrying out the gruesome task of this rabbi's execution. And they get this compliance with a little help from the screaming crowds.

He is executed by crucifixion publicly which everyone could see. The kindness of a previously unknown religious leader, Joseph of Arimathea, provided a tomb for His burial. Guards were posted at the tomb because it was thought His disciples might attempt to steal His body. His body was in that tomb for 3 days. Yet on Easter Sunday, the tomb was empty. Jesus was resurrected.

That might be considered foolishness, at least as the world sees it, appropriate to April Fool's Day. Up till Jesus' time and after Jesus' time, no one had ever been raised from death to life, except of course Lazarus, but he would die again. Thus, the fact that Jesus had risen from the dead, the Jerusalem of Jesus' time would say, "April Fools".

Secondly, Jesus appeared to the women and the disciples, and it changed them from former followers cowering behind locked doors in fear to emboldened witnesses of the Good News of their Lord, Jesus the Christ. The people who heard Peter preach on the first Pentecost and Paul bear witness after his conversion on the road to Damascus must have thought "April Fools".

Then there are the Christians since St. Paul and Peter who read the written witness of Jesus'

Resurrection through Scripture including ourselves. We read the Easter Gospel, we read of Peter preaching amongst the Jews and Paul travelling amongst the Gentiles spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ; and we believe. At each death of one of God's special people, I share the same Good News Peter and Paul shared with their hearers, and my hearers leave the sanctuary in praise and thanksgiving because "just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too will be raised to life eternal." Those who do not believe that say "April Fools".

April Fools is a perfect day to celebrate Easter on. God has "Fooled" the world and many of its people. Death is not the final word for us, but life, life eternal which comes to us only through the love and grace of God, our heavenly Father.

Pastor Wayne

Len 
REFLECT REPENT REJOICE
Events

LENT IS UPON US

Join us for any or all of the activities preparing us for Easter.

Mid Week Lenten Worship, February 21-March 28

- **Simple Suppers** at 6 pm. A sign-up sheet is on the board in the Fellowship Hall for those who can sponsor a meal.
- **Holden Evening Prayer** at 7 pm. The theme will be travelling with St. Paul through Scripture.

CHURCH COUNCIL



From the desk of your congregation council:

We recognize that 2017 was a unique year regarding your Church Council and that there is room for improvement. I would like to state that we recognize that there needs to be better transparency with the congregation and the ministries, thus communication and transparency will be our top priorities moving forward.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who attended the annual meeting on January 28th. Although I was “all hopped up on cold medicine” things seemed to have gone pretty smooth. The six meeting agenda items included affirming by vote four new members to the Church Council, affirming by vote the 2018 nominating committee, the presentation of the annual report, an update regarding the Lord of Life Media policy, a presentation by Carlton McDaniel from Able to Serve, and the presentation of the 2018 operating budget for discussion and approval.

Congratulations to Lindsay Crocker, Sarah Watkins, Dan Hayes, and Dave Hash who were selected by the nominating committee, and affirmed by the congregation. On behalf of the congregation, I want to take this opportunity and thank those who completed their terms of service: Patrick Niemann, Lindsay Crocker, Carolyn Watkins, and Barry Brown.

The 2018 nominating committee was affirmed by the congregation and will consist of outgoing council members, a congregation representative and the Pastor. The 2018 nominating committee members are Karen Post, Mary Cook, Rebecca Swanson, and Pastor Wayne Dubnansky.”

The new Council kicked off the year with a Leadership retreat, which was held in the fellowship hall on Saturday, February 3rd. Congregation Council members and ministry leaders were in attendance.

The following items were addressed during the retreat: Leadership discussion, communication discussion based on Myers Briggs personality types (mine is ISJT), assigned ministry liaisons, and each of the ministry leads shared their top three goals for 2018. We also reviewed the 2018 operating budget with focus around the ministry budgets. The 2018 Council ministry liaisons are:

- Social Concerns (Sarah Watkins)
- Men’s Group (Dave Hash)
- Property (Michael Flickenger)
- Worship & Music (Mary Cook)
- Christian Ed. (Shannon Thomsen)
- Parish (Don Craig)
- Able to Serve (Mary Cook)
- Website (Karen Post)

We reviewed in detail the Lord of Life by-laws and the Lord of Life officers and committee roles & responsibilities. We reviewed and discussed parliamentary procedure and elected 2018 officers. Your 2018 officers are as follows:

- Shannon Thomsen (President)
- Don Craig (Vice President)
- Lindsay Crocker (Secretary)
- Becky Babel (Treasurer)
- Tess Andrews (Deputy Treasurer)
- Dave Hash (Financial Secretary)

Installation of the Church Council occurred during February 4th worship service. I believe that we have a strong team and I look forward to conducting many productive meetings on behalf of Lord of Life.

Gray Anthony has accepted the position of Technology Coordinator for Lord of Life. Gray attended the meeting to get an understanding of Lord of Life’s technology and social media needs. There is a need for us to assign a 2018 audit committee and a mutual ministry committee. If anyone is interested in being part of either of these committees, please see Pastor, myself, or anyone on the council for more information. We agreed to move our council meetings to the second Sunday of each month immediately following worship.

As I begin my second tour as your Council President, I would like to thank each one of you for your support and encouragement over the years. I appreciate open communication and welcome your feedback. 2017 was a unique year; 2018 will be a year of communication and transparency.

Peace be with you,
Shannon J. Thomsen (2018 – 2019)
on behalf of your Church Council

Lindsay Crocker (2018)
Mary Cook (2018)
Karen Post (2018)
Michael Flickinger (2018 - 2019)
Don Craig (2018 - 2019)
Sarah Watkins (2018 - 2020)
Dan Hayes (2018 - 2020)
Dave Hash (2018 - 2020)



Matters of the Heart

February is the month of Love! Especially for me since I celebrate my Anniversary and my Mother's birthday in addition to Valentine's Day. I also learned that Pastor Wayne and Anne Marie celebrate their Anniversary in February. I bet there are others! I was able to spend two days at Myrtle Beach to celebrate my Anniversary. What spectacular weather! And a nice repose to reset for my busy life!

"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres." 1 Corinthians 13:4-7, NIV

This is a bible verse that I like to remind me how fortunate that I am to have my husband, family and church family. We should never take each other for granted! And I shudder to think what would happen if the whole world was KIND every day! Make it a goal to practice an extra dose of kindness daily. And as with every goal, sometimes you are successful even excellent and other days you are thankful that someone granted you a little kindness when you're not at your best.

"Love never fails" 1 Corinthians 13:8a, NIV.

This is a guiding principle for our Church Council and your Social Concerns Committee. When you love people in Christ, even those that you don't know, you give generously to Garner Area Ministries and the Angel Tree. We have designated February as Soup Month. Social Concerns has been overwhelmed (again) with your outpouring of love extended in our efforts to restock the food pantry at Garner Area Ministries. It is also wonderful to know that so many area churches are doing the same thing. How wonderful when we come together as the Body of Christ and respond positively to the people in need! Our small efforts combined truly turn into BIG things!

"Then hear from heaven, your dwelling place. Forgive and act; deal with everyone according to all they do, since you know their hearts (for you alone know every human heart)" 1 Kings 8:39, NIV

Thanks again to the Men's Group for providing a wonderful Valentine's Dinner celebration on February 10th. How wonderful to see so many new faces! This is a

perfect time to show off your church family to friends and neighbors. Thank you to all those who invited you family and friends to join us. The fellowship hall was full. A great time was had by all! My candy on the table was a Dove chocolate. The inside wrapper said, "Love is closer than you think". Good thing!

"Turn my heart toward your statutes and not toward selfish gain." Psalm 119:36, NIV

And finally, I would like to thank everyone who assisted with the One Day Retreat. Pastor Wayne was here to offer a prayer utilizing a hymn which was the program of the day! Dr. Brad donated his time to play the opening hymns even though he felt terrible and immediately when home to bed! Carol Wallace donated brownies for dessert. Rita Clark made chili for lunch. Gale Isaacs donated bread to go with lunch. Gale and Sarah Watkins were the Registrars for the event; they were awesome and kept great records. I could not have made it through the day without my Sous Chef, Rita Clark. She remained in the kitchen for most of the day ensuring the appropriate food was put out at the correct time. Sarah and Gale also helped to clean up the kitchen. And finally, a newcomer, Susan Steckel agreed to help with the craft portion of the day. Susan and I set up craft baskets ahead of time and the crafts on Saturday went smoothly. It was a highlight of the day! And Susan got a new name; since there were several Susans at the Retreat, Susan Steckel became "Crafty Susan" when someone had a question. It turned out to be a great day! Thanks to all that made it successful!

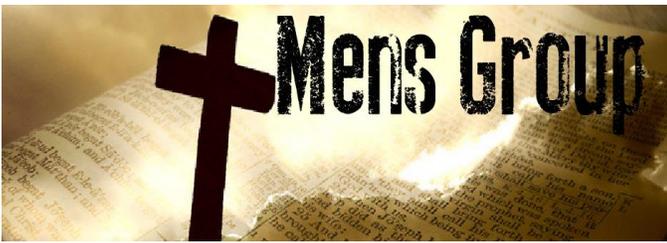
"he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will—⁶to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves.⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding" Ephesians 1:5-8, NIV

"And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love." 1 Corinthians 13:13, NIV

Go out and do great things! God has your back. The world needs a lot of LOVE and a whole lot less hate.

Blessings,
Alecia Harrison





It was decided that the men's group will meet on the 1st Friday of each month instead of the 2nd Friday. This move was made in order to facilitate the needs of many group members.

An election was held and the following officers approved:

President	John Leuenberger
Vice President	Tim Clark
Secretary	Gerry Havenstein
Treasurer	Dave Hash

It was announced that the Shredding Day for the community will be held sometime in April. The date will be established according to the availability of the shredding company.

The Annual Pine Straw Distribution will be held on Saturday, March 17th and Saturday, March 24th. All available men and women will be needed to assist with the straw distribution.

On February 10th the Men's Group hosted it's Annual Valentine's Day celebration. The ladies were treated to a traditional Italian Dinner which featured many specialty foods along with a wide selection of desserts. Each lady present received a red rose in celebration of Valentine's Day.

The Men's Group continually looks for new participants.

John Leuenberger



Thank you to Deanna Leuenberger for setting the altar for February; Ginny King for baking bread; and to the men's group for the donation of wine.

The altar guild will meet on Saturday, March 24th in the church library and will clean all the communion vessels and dust and polish parts of the sanctuary. We will meet again on Saturday, March 31st to set-up for the Easter services.

There will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the hallway for those wishing to donate Easter lilies.

Carol Wallace

MARCH-ing Into



Social Concerns ministry is in full-swing as we sashay into the month of March, teetering on the brink of the spring season. Our most recent Garner Area Ministries (GAM) drive was for SOUP! Yes, canned, dry, jars, mixes, and all kinds of fixin's. The collection was targeted for the month of February but we're always in an accepting-food-any-month-mood! This month we distribute summer camp scholarship applications for 2018. The application underscores financial need as well as participation in the life of the church. The Agapé-Kure Beach Ministries sponsor faith-based camps that integrate church ministries with the experience of going to camp... it's a win-win situation that our youth fully enjoy, and an experience that we love to see duplicated here at Lord of Life.

Stay tuned for information coming soon regarding Relay-for-Life. We continue our efforts in providing the breakfasts for the Rotary Club which enables Social Concerns to expand our community reach and support, and we are readily available for the Back-Pack Buddies program. "So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith" - Galatians 6:10.

Social Concerns Ministry

Resurgence of the Resurrection

Many times I've heard someone say, "It doesn't matter what you believe in, as long as you believe in something." Well, that's faith... BUT, that's also kind of ridiculous! Faith is only as good as its purpose; it's simply not a matter of having faith-in-faith! You can throw your cell phone out of your car window, accelerating at 100 miles an hour, all the while believing with every fiber of your being that it will fly... but believing that it will fly doesn't make it so. It wasn't built to fly, so why would you ever believe, under any conditions, that it could?

This brings me to my pre-Easter point. Some folk believe in the Immaculate Conception but find it difficult to believe in the resurrection. Well, it's sort of useless to say you believe in Jesus if you don't believe that He was raised from the dead. If He is not risen, then His death is no different from any other death and, as such, faith in Him would be unsupported and our sin problem would stay forever among us. The reason for Easter Sunday is not based on a myth of the resurrection; it's not concocted to make us feel all warm and fuzzy, filled with hope and inspiration for the coming of a budding spring. It's an historical fact as foretold by the writers of the New Testament; surely they all can't be misrepresenting that period in time! You'd have to throw out the entire Bible!



We know that the resurrection united the spirit of Christ to the body of Christ. His physical body could be touched... could eat... and could drink. According to Corinthians 15:13-14 *"If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain."* So, when separated from the reality of the resurrection, the reality of faith in and of itself, is no good at all. Be blessed.

Gale J. Isaacs



March

March 4	Sophie Nora Clark
March 5	Daniel Klawiter
March 7	Steven Babel
March 8	Larry Langworthy
March 14	Bryce Douglas Lowe
March 15	Gale Isaacs
March 20	Brandi Bredell
March 22	Lora Clark
March 24	Harry Albert
March 27	Wes Roscoe
March 28	Michael Hayduk
March 28	Heather King
March 29	Rob Weisenburn
March 30	Camille Morris

April

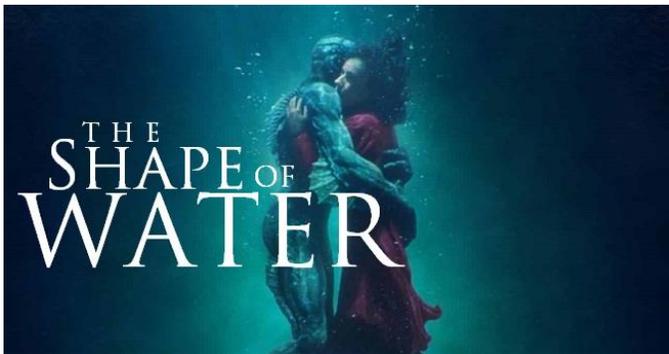
April 2	Don Stang
April 4	Dan Sorenson
April 7	Gray Anthony
April 9	Aaron Casey
April 11	Trent Ryden
April 15	Andrew Green
	Shari Rebbeor
	Enid Weatherwax
April 19	Arthur Kyles
	Roland Kyles
April 21	Jeannie Stang
April 24	Shirley Poole
April 26	Sara Melanie Bollinger
April 29	Alecia Harrison
	Chris Thomsen
April 30	Sarah Rebbeor

**Habitat
for Humanity®**



Habitat for Humanity Volunteer Opportunity

We need five representatives from Lord of Life for the Habitat for Humanity project on Saturday mornings, April 14th for the opening ceremony and May 12th. Contact Pastor Wayne if interested.



THE SHAPE OF WATER: Movie Review

A reviewer described “The Shape of Water” as partly a code-scrambled fairy tale, partly a genetically modified monster movie, and altogether wonderful. I would agree with 2 out of the 3. It is a wonderful romantic fairy tale.

The movie is set in 1950’s cold war era Baltimore where the Amphibian man, referred to as the Asset by the government, is kept in a tank in a research lab where he is subjected to abuse in the name of science and national security since this unusual specimen was found in the rain forest of the Amazon, and nothing is known about him.

The characters around him vary; a sinister, self-absorbed government agent who is in charge of “confining the Asset”, a benevolent scientist, Elisa, a mute custodian, and her friend, Zelda, also a custodian who also translates Elisa’s sign language. Both work at the lab and look out for each other, and Giles whose advertising career has been derailed. Even some Russian spies are thrown into the mix. After all, in the Cold War Russia could “do anything and do it better than the USA and that means get anything the USA has regardless of the value. The movie has deservedly racked up 13 Oscar nominations albeit some minor; nonetheless, it is indicative of just how good this movie is.

However, it has to be said, I cannot recommend it for families since there is “rough language” mainly because several of the characters are lonely making them appear somewhat perverse, and there is a vulgar, but comical “signing scene” directed by Elisa to the government agent, and there are some sensual scenes. These characters are meant to be lonely as many people in the 60’s and even now would be, whether one is single, Elisa and Giles characters, or married, Zelda and the government agent characters. With the

exception of the government agent, they are there for each other.

If there is any “must take away”, it is when Elisa says the Amphibian Man sees her for whom she is and she sees Amphibian Man for whom he is. They bond over the senses they have, the smell and taste of hard boiled eggs which is Elisa’s typical breakfast and music when Elisa brings in her turntable to allow the Amphibian Man to listen to the music she likes. Although both cannot verbalize, they communicate.

Sally Hawkins, who actually has Lupus in real life, should win the best actress award, and Richard Jenkins the best supporting actor award. Octavia Spencer is up for best supporting actress, but “great” describes everything she is in. After all, who could move from playing God in “the Shack” to playing a custodian in a research lab who befriends a mute?

I conclude by uplifting the spiritual dimension of the film. There are healings, emotionally of course, but also physically. There is also new life most notably for Elisa and Amphibian Man, but also for Zelda and Giles.

Because of aspects of the movie mentioned above, it will not be on our summer spiritual cinema series.

Pastor Wayne



Some of our former infants are no longer infants, and as we have stated previously regarding "First Communion", when parents feel their child is ready to receive communion, we should briefly get together to determine the child's understanding of the sacrament.

My proposal is that any child "ready to receive" their "First Communion" should plan on doing so on Easter Sunday which just happens to be April 1st this year.

Speak with Pastor Wayne if you wish your child to receive communion at this time.



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

Dan & Monna Stamm; Dennis King; Jack Austin, brain tumors; Paula Pickler, hospitalized and now rehab; Shirley Poole,

fall; Bud Holderman, surgery; Family of Pam Dumas, Linda Hash's cousin, who passed away 1/14; Family of John Bergman; Family of Betty Zapata, who passed away January 5th at age 89; Larry Watson, Joan Stewart's son-in-law, ICV Stroke; Ruth Sigmon, age 94, Stage 4 bone cancer – Very close friend of Dan & Roxie Hayes; Dennis King's sister, Beverly, several serious health issues; Holly Hans' sister, Heather House and her family; Tom Miller, friend of Karen Post, undergoing treatment for pancreatic cancer; Dr. Steve Rushton, friend of Karen Post, lymphoma; Corrine Wichtl; Darcy Williamson; Sian McLean, friend of Julia Lochra, cancer; Joe Warren, Terry Barnes' friend at work, stage 4 cancer; Paul & Kerri Blanchard's son, Jason, mental disability; Fred Whitfield, Amy Macurdy's step-father, health issues; Pamela Chrissinger, Shirley Poole's niece, breast cancer; Joyce Bredell, breast cancer; Carol Sclafani, daughter of Don & Carol Wallace, hip replacement; Marge L., sister of Don Wallace, health problems; Dan Grazewicz, friend of the Wallaces, lung cancer; Claudia Bossen, Carol Wallace's sister, health issues; Chuck Wallace, Don Wallace's nephew, health problems; Evelyn Peterson, Mary Langworthy's mom, surgery for extensive arthritis in lower back; Tom Schmidt, brother of Mary Langworthy – hospitalized; Becky Bandy, sister of Mary Langworthy – Crohn's Disease, bleeding; Mark Schmidt, brother of Mary Langworthy – heart attack, blood clot, complications of OWRD; Cathy LaBianca, Mother-in-law to Mary Langworthy's daughter - surgery for burst vertebrae; Christine Brennecke, TBI with complications; Susie, Benjamin and Bryce Lowe.

Please review this Prayer List and let Laura or Pastor Wayne know of any which can be deleted, information updated, or additions to be added.

thank you!



Saturday, April 7, 2018

5-7pm

Fellowship Hall

Relay for Life Fundraiser Event!

Reverse Raffle

- tickets are \$5 each
- #'s called until the last 2 tickets are left
- 2nd place prize - \$10
- 1st place prize - \$50

Silent Auction

- Please donate items that you no longer use
- Baked goods will be accepted
- Items will be displayed in the Fellowship Hall
- Bids will be accepted Saturday night until just after church on Sunday morning



BBQ Sandwiches

- \$5 includes slaw, chips and a drink
- Eat in only!
- Donations of baked goods will be gladly accepted and sold for \$1 on Saturday night.

ALL PROCEEDS go to the Lord of Life Relay for Life team.

Big event at Lake Benson Park starts Friday, April 27th at 4pm.

We will need **LOTS** of volunteers for this event!

Look for further details on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.



A decorative border of various colorful Easter eggs surrounds the central text. The eggs feature different patterns such as stripes, polka dots, and solid colors. A white bunny is visible behind a large red egg in the central image.

Annual Lord of Life

A central graphic for the Easter Egg Hunt. It features a large red egg in the foreground, a white bunny peeking over it, and the text "Easter EGG HUNT" in a mix of red and green fonts. The background is a field of green grass.

Easter EGG HUNT

Saturday, March 24th at 10 am

We will meet in the Fellowship Hall. We invite children in 5th grade and younger to bring their Easter Basket to collect eggs. After the hunt we will have treats in the Fellowship Hall.

Donations from the congregation are appreciated. Just fill a dozen or two plastic eggs with a wrapped candy or another treat (stickers etc.) We will collect eggs in a basket in the Narthex until Wed., March 21. Children may invite their friends or relatives to join them!

Older children are welcome to come and help us hide eggs. We will meet at LOL about 8:45 am.

March EVENTS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 7 pm 	3
4 3 rd Sunday in Lent 9am Sunday School 10am Worship	5	6	7 7am Rotary  6pm 7pm Worship 7:30 Choir	8	9	10
11 4 th Sunday in Lent 9am Sunday School 10am Worship 11:30 Council Meeting	12	13	14 7am Rotary  6pm 7pm Worship 7:30 Choir	15 6:30 Social Concerns	16 Pine Straw Sale → 17 th	17 St. Patrick's Day 
18 5 th Sunday in Lent 9am Sunday School 10am Worship 11:30 Parish Committee	19	20 7pm <i>Inspirational</i> 	21 7am Rotary  6pm 7pm Worship 7:30 Choir	22 11:30 	23 Pine Straw Sale → 24 th	24 10 am 
25 Palm Sunday 9am Sunday School 10am Worship 11:30 Property Committee	26  7 pm	27	28 7am Rotary 7:30 Choir	29 MAUNDY THURSDAY 	30 	31

Pastor Wayne Dubnansky
Minister of Music Dr. Brad Hunnicutt
Office Administrator Laura Raun
Web Master Gray Anthony

Congregational Council

Shannon Thomsen President
Don Craig Vice President
Becky Babel Treasurer
Tess Andrews Deputy Treasurer
Dave Hash Financial Secretary
Lindsay Crocker Secretary
Mary Cook, Michael Flickinger,
Karen Post, Dave Hash, Sarah Watkins, Dan
Hayes

February 2018



**Lord of Life
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Website: www.lordoflifechurchgarnernc.org
Office (919) 772-9044



WORSHIP
SCHEDULE

9:00 am
Sunday School
Discussion Group (Library)

10:00 am
Worship Service

Annual Pine Straw

SALE

March 17th and 24th

**All available men and women are needed
to assist with distribution!**

Opportunity to Join Lord of Life

Traditionally, Lord of Life has made the last Sunday of each quarter a time when anyone interested in formally joining Lord of Life Lutheran may do so. Therefore, Palm Sunday, March 25, will be the next opportunity to join Lord of Life. Anyone who wishes to do so should speak with Pastor Wayne so any concerns or questions can be addressed. You may email him at wdubnansky@gmail.com or call him at (919)-358-1751

