

Life-Lines

(919) 772-9044
September 2018

WONDERMENTS FROM PASTOR WAYNE'S WORLD

Approximately a month ago we had four visitors at worship in addition to Lauren Levesque's mother. Lauren is the mother of the twin boys Logan and Roman. Looking over the bulletin inserts, and the Guest Register I saw no information about any of them. Just a review of what I do when we have visitors. I greet them and only get their first name because I want to be able to address them when they receive communion. I rely on getting their information through our bulletin inserts or the Guest Register. Then I send them a personal note including our Welcome packet put together by the Parish Ministry Committee, and the most current newsletter. Thus, it is imperative that I get an address. Now quite honestly 3 of the 4 visitors that day did not linger after worship. However, Michelle Bana did. She fellowshiped with us after worship, so I wanted to be able to contact her. So when she came the next week I had the Guest Register in hand and got her information even before worship began.

To Michelle's credit, she seems to sit at different tables in the fellowship hall each Sunday attempting to get to know us even though she sits in the same place in the sanctuary for worship.

My point is, I need your help to insure we get addresses of visitors. The council has talked about this and is contemplating a return to the red books. They can be passed from one end of the pew to the other. Granted some may still choose not to enter their information, but at least the opportunity is there.

Nonetheless, we need to be respectful of all visitors. This may be a surprise, but some may visit and after one visit, decide Lord of Life is not for them.

That's ok. Even so, we still want them to know us. As the men were parking cars July 3, a driver recognized me and said they had worshipped at Lord of Life BC (before child) whom they brought to his first July 3rd ceremony. They acknowledged we may see them again. They are the Knudsens and I could look back in the Guest Register and recall how long ago they had visited and their address.

Those who attended the memorial worship of Jack Austin cannot help but remember the dignified way the Honor Guard conducted themselves. The leader, Staff Sergeant Farmer, after first talking with me with just my clerical collar on, looked with awe when I had on my alb and stole and cross. He said how colorful that looked. I then gave him the one minute explanation of what it means to be "high church" including the significance of the paraments. The sad part was all three were from the north and did not yet acquire a taste for barbecue as I tried to entice them into the fellowship hall after the memorial.

In a sense they were visitors, but we made them feel very much at home because many people took the time to greet and thank them for their service that day as they honored Jack.

~ Pastor Wayne

Welcome
To Our
Church



CHURCH COUNCIL



From the desk of your congregation council:

The Lord of Life Church Council met for the August monthly meeting on August 12th. Regular business included review of committee reports, financial reports, and minutes.

Council also discussed property updates such as a new sump pump, well and tree removal efforts, and the Able to Serve building, all of which are at or nearing completion. It was reported that the Eagle Scout who plans on completing some outdoor updates just received approval and should be starting soon.

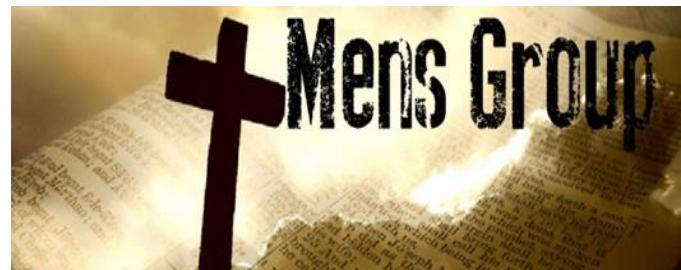
Pastor reported that he will be evaluating interest in opportunities for mothers of preschoolers at Lord of Life. Opportunities include a meet and greet and potential future mother's morning out option during the holidays. Council discussed how to grow youth opportunities at length, and decided to investigate supporting a stronger presence in the nursery during worship service.

Additional discussion occurred about the newly formed mutual ministry committee, improving opportunities to reach out to visitors with a different contact method, office cleanup, identifying successors for some Council Committee liaison positions, and website updates.

Outdoor services are planned for September 16th, where camp scholarship kids will provide a presentation. Council is hopeful that Able to Serve renovations may allow Congregation to tour at that time. The Yard Sale is planned for September 29th, and the Altar Guild pool is getting low so Council encourages members of Congregation to join in those efforts.

Yours in Christ,
Lord of Life Council Members:

Shannon Thomsen, Lindsay Crocker, Don Craig,
Karen Post, Mary Cook, Alecia Harrison,
Sarah Watkins, Dan Hayes, Becky Babel,
Dave Hash, and Pastor Dubnansky



The Lord of Life Men's Group will hold its monthly Meeting on Friday, September 7, at 7:00 pm. This meeting is open to all men of the congregation and we encourage all men to participate.

We have one major event occurring in September and that is the Congregational Picnic which begins with an outdoor service and culminates with a picnic luncheon served by the men's group. We will be responsible for setting up for the outdoor service and then serving lunch which includes hotdogs and hamburgers and other goodies.

We had a very successful fund raiser parking cars for the 3rd of July concerts and fireworks display sponsored by the Town of Garner. All of the proceeds from the evening were donated to Camp Agapé for their summer camping program.

At the September meeting we will be making plans for our remaining years' programs.

John Leuenberger,
President



"See you In September" Well now it is that time. It has been a long, hot and rainy summer -- can fall be far behind? I certainly am ready for nice cool crisp weather, a breath that refreshes. So does a Sunday morning in church. All of us need the breath of forgiveness that church brings to us. Just try it, you may like it!

Thank you to Karen Post for setting up for communion each week and to Ginny King for picking up flowers and baking bread.

There will be a meeting of the Altar Guild on Saturday, October 6th in the church library at 10:00 am. If you would like to be a member of the Altar Guild please attend. New members are very much needed.

On Sunday, September 16th we will have an outside worship. This is a very special worship, outside in God's wonderful creation. We hear the birds singing and chirping and occasionally will see a deer pass by. Just to sit out under the trees that God has created for us is a memorable experience. Try not to miss out on this opportunity. So dress comfortably, bring your lawn chair, and enjoy worship and fellowship in God's creation.

~ Carol Wallace



As usual, the Annual Yard Sale is scheduled for the last Saturday in September which is September 29th this year. Please donate your goods toward this effort! We welcome all items of clothing that are clean and in a wearable condition (shoes & purses included); appliances, computers & other electronics that are in working condition; tools; books, CDs, & DVDs (no VHS tapes or analog TVs please); housewares, dishes, etc. ... the list is endless, so if you can no longer use it, and we can sell, BRING IT IN! Thanks in advance!

Last year we started a new activity with our Camp Scholarship Recipients and it was a joy to see how well they represented themselves and Lord of Life. We seek to make this an annual event as well, and they will again participate in our Outdoor Worship Service! They will share their camp experiences through a song or other activity that they learned while away during the summer.

Social Concerns Ministry engages our community outreach efforts on a continuum and your donations to our efforts are appreciated, greatly.

Social

Concerns

Ministry



"In this life we cannot always do great things. But we can do small things with great love." - Mother Teresa

Excitement is in the air... it's waning a bit but still present! The congregation piled on the gifts for our Back-to-School-Giving activity; the campers experienced another wonderful spiritual cohabitation with nature at Camp Agapè and Kure Beach, and (for the children and the parents), school is in full-swing. Garner Area Ministries has received your donations throughout the entire summer; keep in mind that frozen items no longer pose a problem. Back-to-School-Giving activity; the campers experienced another wonderful spiritual cohabitation with nature at Camp Agapè and Kure Beach, and (for the children and the parents), school is in full-swing. Garner Area Ministries has received your donations throughout the entire summer; keep in mind that frozen items no longer pose a problem.

Gale Isaacs & Alecia Harrison
Co-chairs, Social Concerns Committee



"In this life we cannot always do great things. But we can do small things with great love."

Mother Teresa
1910-1997



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

Billie Jean Buffaloe, very close friend of Dan & Roxie Hayes - tumor in stomach; Darcee W. – cancer has returned Family of Jack Austin, who passed away 8/20; Family of Tom Miller,

friend of Karen Post, who passed away 8/9; Ginny King's niece, Robin, breast cancer surgery 8/22; Camille Morris's friend, Brenda Jiggetts – Stage 4 stomach cancer; Lindsay Crocker's Nephew, Daniel Harman – health and healing; Rebecca Swanson's Niece, Brenna – pregnancy complications; Karen Wright's mother, Carol Goodford – heart issues; Elena Cabrera's daughter, Stephanie; Tess Andrews brother, David Van Benschoten – multiple myeloma; Deanna Leuenberger's sister, Charlene Beno – auto accident; Jeff Holden's wife, Christa, and baby, Miller; Nick Vietri; Dan & Monna Stamm; Dennis King; Shirley Poole; Bud Holderman - surgery; Larry Watson, Joan Stewart's son-in-law - ICV Stroke; Dennis King's sister, Beverly - several serious health issues; Holly Hans' sister, Heather House and her family; Dr. Steve Rushton, friend of Karen Post - lymphoma; Sian McLean, friend of Julia Lochra, cancer; Terry Barnes' friend/co-worker: Michael Boykin – stroke; Paul & Kerri Blanchard's son, Jason, mental disability; Fred Whitfield, Amy Macurdy's step-father, health issues; Joyce Bredell, breast cancer; 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, alzheimer's disease; 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!

Dear Lord of Life family,

On Monday, August 20th Jack Austin passed away. This year, I will not only ride for Jack, but I will also honor him. I was looking forward to sharing this year's ride with both Jack and his wife Alice. During his Celebration of Life, I learned that Jack had donated his body to science, hoping to help with both MS and cancer research. I thought by sharing this experience with Jack it would in some way help him during his health challenges, but in the end Jack is inspiring me to do more to find a cure.

On Saturday, September 8th and Sunday, September 9th I will participate in the 30th annual Historic New Bern MS Bike Tour and celebrate my fifteenth consecutive year of participation. Over the past fourteen years, I have ridden 2,605 miles (not including training miles) and you have donated on average more than \$2000 each year, in support of finding a cure for MS.

This year I will dedicate my ride to Jack Austin who suffered from MS. Jack's MS diagnosis was over 25 years ago and began with double vision. The Neurologist ran a battery of tests, with 2 of the 3 tests pointing to MS. He was always very fatigued, and received a steroid infusion every 28 days for over ten years! Over the past year Jack has had a number of health challenges.

This year my goal is to raise at least \$3,000. As a faithful sponsor, you know that I traditionally ride a double century - 100 miles on Saturday and 100 miles on Sunday. However, considering that this is my fifteenth consecutive year of participation, I plan on celebrating and going "retro"; riding the original 150 miles - 75 miles on Saturday and 75 miles on Sunday. It was the original distance I completed when I participated in my first MS Bike Ride. Please help me reach this goal!

With each pedal stroke, supported by you my faithful sponsors, we have all moved closer to finding a cure.

Sincerely,
Shannon Thomsen



Adios Dear Summer

Well it's that time of year again. Summer is wrapping up and the kids are either back to school or heading there soon; they don't have a choice. It's also the time of year for us to shake off some of the 'spiritual dryness' that we may have experienced over the past couple of months. You know what I mean... summer came and with it that built-in permission slip to skip church. We can call



it something like a spiritual vacation where we replace church with a trip, Sunday summer sports for the kids, diminished prayer time, or maybe just a bit of well-deserved R&R. Whatever the skip is/was, we usually tend to incorporate reduced

church-going time into the mix.

Yes, we all need a respite from day-to-day stuff, but it's hardly ever (well, never) prudent to take a vacation from our spiritual center; God. He's our ever-ready-always-willing-twenty-four-seven call center for all four seasons; He takes no breaks.

God is Always at work

Since we were a little slack these past couple of months, perhaps we can jump full-fledged into the coming Fall season much as the kids will do with their return to school. Let's try to get up on Sunday; it's the one day of the week away from our demanding schedules. We can worship our Creator who provides for us because, as we all know, simply coming to church is the bare-bones minimum. Maybe this is the church season that you will volunteer to work on some committee, or engage in a specific ministry, or attend Bible Study, or even sing with the choir!! Besides, there is no

better place to connect with other people and interchange shared experiences than in the Fellowship Hall after church! As children of the Father, we mostly struggle with similar problems and delight in similar accomplishments; accordingly, we can share by way of fellowship.

For the most part, we manifest our spiritual properties throughout the year; but if, at the end of summer, a spiritual-commitment-reawakening will be beneficial to you, well, hang on... the Christmas observances are right around the corner! As Christians we are obligated to be steady on the pathway to spiritual wellness year-round; how else will the children learn if we fail to lead by example? Be blessed.

~ Gale J. Isaacs

Lutheran Youth Day at **LENOIR-RHYNE UNIVERSITY**

September 15th is Lutheran Youth Day at Lenoir Rhyne University. All interested middle school or high school youth are invited to attend.

Pastor Wayne will drive the bus and would love to fill 'er up! So please let Pastor know if you would like a seat. We will leave church at noon to arrive at Lenoir Rhyne by 3 pm. There will be music, food, and a football game --- all for **FREE**.





NEW MEMBER SUNDAY

We will receive new members on September 30th. Please see Pastor Wayne as soon as possible if you're ready to become a member.



Chase Thomas McGrath, son of Thomas and Kerri McGrath, born January 4, 2018 will be baptized September 9th during our morning worship.



***"For I know the plans I have for you" says the Lord.
"They are plans for good and not disaster, to give
you a future and a hope." Jeremiah 29:11***

I continue to thank God for blessing us in 2015 with a home and a partnership with Lord of Life Lutheran Church. But I have to admit that my best efforts to plan and vision our future has been and will always fall short of God's amazing plan for our ministry together.

~ Carlton McDaniel
Able to Serve



September

September 1	Deanna Leuenberger
September 2	Gerry Havenstein
September 7	Ben Harrison
	Timothy Eggert
September 8	Betty Nalepa
	Emma Terrazas
September 14	Donald Bredell
September 16	Claire Dubnansky
September 17	Kerri Blanchard
September 22	Mike Kestner
September 23	Shannon Thomsen
September 26	Bob Baxter
September 27	Esther Bredell
September 29	James Stewart
September 30	Adia Hans

October

October 1	Kristin Hayduk
October 2	Tim Clark
	Connie Fortmeyer
	Page Gough
October 5	Keara Grayson
	Doris Weden
October 8	Avery Britt
October 9	Ella Little
October 10	Scott Lokken
October 14	Tom Harrison
October 25	Amy Macurdy
	Thomas Isaacs



Surprise: World's Most Committed Christians Are in Africa, Latin America... and the U.S., Survey Finds

The world's most committed Christians reside mostly in Africa, Latin America and the United States – the latter being an outlier among wealthy nations, according to a new Pew Research Center report.

Pew examined 84 countries with large Christian populations and asked self-identified Christians a series of questions to gauge their commitment to their faith. In 35 of those countries, “at least two-thirds of all Christians say religion is very important in their lives,” Pew reported Aug. 22. Among those 35, all but three countries reside in Africa or Latin America. The three exceptions are the United States, the Philippines and Malaysia.

The data reflects the “broader pattern of Christianity’s ‘march southward’ from wealthy countries to developing ones,” the Pew report said.

The U.S., though, is an “outlier” among wealthy countries in its commitment among self-identified Christians, with 68 percent saying religion is very important in their lives. Among European countries, it's:

- Greece, 58 percent.
- Spain, 30 percent.
- Italy, 23 percent.
- France, 12 percent.
- Germany, 12 percent.
- United Kingdom, 11 percent.

Ethiopia has the world's most committed Christians, according to Pew, with 98 percent saying their faith is very important. In the Philippines, it's 91 percent.

According to Pew, Africa, Latin America and the U.S. also lead the world's Christians in daily prayer. In weekly worship attendance, though, the U.S. and most Latin American countries trail Africa. Pew also found, forty-seven percent of American Christians say they attend church at least weekly. In every African country surveyed, that percentage topped 60 percent.

Michael Foust is a freelance writer. Visit his blog, MichaelFoust.com.



Sunday School has been a part of church culture for years. Unfortunately, its importance has been severely diminished and underestimated. Some people do not believe that Sunday School is important while others believe that Sunday School is only for children. This is seen as adults drop children off at church instead of going inside with them. But why is Sunday School important?

1. Sunday School is the place where you really learn how to dig in the Word. Have you ever heard your Pastor say something or reference a passage of scripture that left you scratching your head in wonder? You can't stand up in the service to ask him to clarify. After the service, you may not have the chance to ask. So how do you get your question answered? Go to Sunday School! Sunday School is the place where you can dialog and interact with others about the scriptures. Since the class is usually small, it is a safe place to ask questions, express doubts and get clarification on things that confuse you.

2. Engage in real conversations about God and His Word while making friends and establishing bonds of love and fellowship. Since Sunday School classes are typically small, it is the perfect environment to engage in real conversation about the Word. By engaging in dialog with other members of the class, listening to their questions and hearing the answers, you learn that you are not alone in your struggles in understanding the Word and living out your faith in a world that is increasingly hostile to Christians. As you recognize and embrace that common bond, you develop friendships that will last a lifetime. Those friendships will also help keep you accountable and connected to the Body of Christ, especially during times of storm and crisis in your life.

Sunday School at Lord of Life resumes on September 16th. Won't you join us???

MERYL
STREEP

PIERCE
BROSnan

COLIN
FIRTH

STELLAN
SKARSÅRD

JULIE
WALTERS

DOMINIC
COOPER

AMANDA
SEYFRIED

CHRISTINE
BARANSKI

MAMMA MIA!

THE MOVIE

A mother.
A daughter.
Three possible fathers.
A trip down the aisle
you'll never forget.



MAMMA MIA! 2: Here we go again: A REVIEW

Both of the elder Dubnansky's, myself and Anne Marie, give this film a huge recommendation for all to go see. It has it all. Great music, you don't have to be Swedish Lutheran to enjoy the music of ABBA. Creative storyline that spanned 3 generations with typical heavy discussions but always resulting in a positive outcome. An outstanding travel log of the Greek Isles. No lead actor carrying the film but all playing their parts well with humor.

In the last film Donna dies and now this time around Sophie, her daughter, has remodeled the place where her mother first lived, which is now a resort, when she arrived on the Greek Islands and is planning a grand reopening. The film does not limit itself to "Sophie's Era" but goes back and forth between Donna as a young college graduate including the "making" of Sophie.

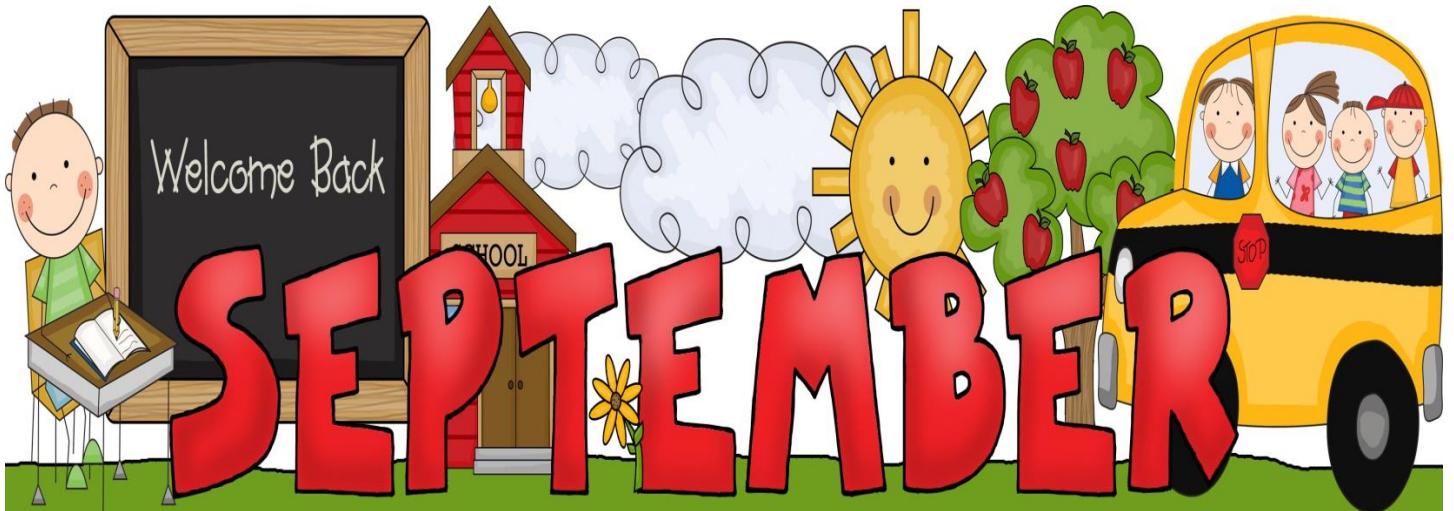
Thus, we are introduced to three young male friends of Donna resulting in three questionable mature fathers of Sophie who get along, as the English would say, "swimmingly". Confused? Go see the movie. I do not want to be giving away anything. Even a tough critic, Anne Marie, responded after seeing the movie, "I can't wait to see it again." Her friend said "they must have had fun making the movie."

A movie featuring the songs of arguably the top international music group of the 20th century risks fabricating scenes in which to place the songs. That is not the case here. Where the songs were placed was very appropriate, and it seemed that all of ABBA's songs I am most familiar with were used. As a musical movie "Mamma" let all the characters of all three generations take their bows at the end. One character that must be mentioned is Sophie's grandmother played by Cher who, despite limited time on screen, showed she can still belt out a song.

The only aspect of the film keeping me from describing the film like "Greatest Showman" with no cursing, no sex and no violence is the fact that young Donna had sexual encounters which resulted in her giving birth to Sophie with, as mentioned above, three questionable fathers who get along "swimmingly". The lesson for us is, "if they can get along, what's to prevent others from getting along."

If none of the above has been convincing, then watch it for the baptisms, yes, baptisms because even that connects the generations "swimmingly". See the movie, you won't be disappointed.

~ Pastor Wayne



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Time after Pentecost 9am Spiritual Cinema 10am Worship	3 	4	5 7am Rotary Breakfast 7:30 Choir Practice	6	7 7 pm 	8
9 Time after Pentecost 9am Spiritual Cinema 10am Worship	10	11	12 7am Rotary Breakfast 7:30 Choir Practice	13	14	15
16 Time after Pentecost 9am Sunday School 10am Worship	17	18 7pm <i>Inspirational Book Club</i> 	19 7am Rotary Breakfast 7:30 Choir Practice	20 6:30 Social Concerns Ministry 	21	22
23 Time after Pentecost 9am Sunday School 10am Worship	24 2 	25	26 7am Rotary Breakfast 7:30 Choir Practice	27 11:30 Cleveland Draft House 	28	29
30 Time after Pentecost 9am Sunday School 10am Worship	<p> We will receive new members on September 30th. Please see Pastor Wayne as soon as possible if you're ready to become a member.</p>					

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

September 2018



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WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9:00 am
Sunday School
Discussion Group (Library)

10:00 am
Worship Service



MATTHEW 11:28



September 3, 2018