

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

Congregational Council

Don Craig President
Alecia Harrison Vice President
Lindsay Crocker Secretary
Becky Babel Treasurer
Tess Andrews Deputy Treasurer
Terry Barnes Financial Secretary
Sarah Watkins, Shannon Thomsen, Julie Bogle,
Linda Garoutte, Dave Hash, and Dan Hayes

January 2020



**Lord of Life
Lutheran Church**
2100 Buffaloe Road
Garner, NC 27529

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Website: www.lordoflifechurchgarnernc.org
Office (919) 772-9044



WORSHIP
SCHEDULE

9:00 am
**Bible Study &
Discussion Group**

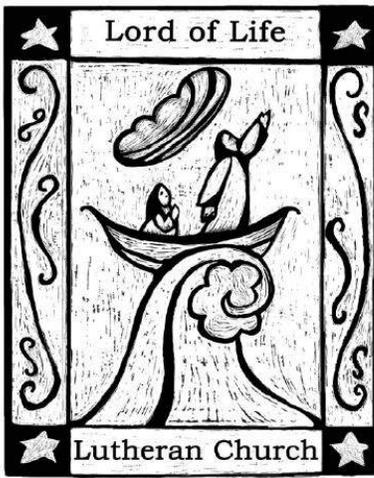
10:00 am
Worship Service

7:00 pm
Advent Midweek Worship

**MARTIN LUTHER
KING JR** (1929-1968)

The ultimate measure of a man
is not where he stands in moments
of comfort and convenience, but
where he stands at times of
challenge and controversy.





HAPPY NEW YEAR

Life-Lines



(919) 772-9044

January 2020

WONDERMENTS FROM PASTOR WAYNE'S WORLD

Most of you probably know I volunteer for certain events regularly, traditionally throughout the year. I volunteer as a site manager for First Night Raleigh. Why do I do it? I do it because I enjoy getting know the behind the scenes civic leaders. I know some of Garner's via the breakfast rotary club which meets Wednesday mornings - namely Garner's new mayor. Most importantly I believe in First Night as a wonderful family to ring in the New Year.

In July I volunteer at the Wild Goose Festival in Hot Springs, North Carolina, a festival of music and presentations centering on social justice. Why do I do this? I do this because it helps reinforce who I am as a Christian and as a pastor. A similarly important benefit is renewing friendships with the Green Team, a sugarcoated term for trash pick-up team.

When Jesus called Peter, James, and John from their fishing boats He was not offering them more money. In fact, it was a drastic cut in pay from the paltry fisherman's livelihood to probably food and lodging as the traveled with Jesus and no regular salary.

You are volunteer disciples modeled by Jesus' disciples. If you believe in our Lord Jesus and Lord of Life as a community of faith sharing God's love with

all and already serve in a volunteer role here, I thank you for that. If not, consider taking on a role that will that impact our church community and/or the community of Garner.

~ Pastor Wayne

One Hour, Once a Month

Your Rotary Crew is asking for your help. We are looking for someone to help clean up after the Rotary breakfasts on the second Wednesday of each month from 8 am until 9 am, sometimes even less time. If you are willing, please contact Alecia Harrison, Don Craig or Helen Holderman. It would be a HUGE help.

Thanks in advance!
Helen Holderman



On a Sunday

Epiphany is January 6th, and January 5th is a Sunday; therefore, we will celebrate Epiphany on Sunday, January 5th. We will celebrate the journey, generosity, and adoration of the wise men on January 6th.

volunteer
do good, feel good



Social

Concerns

Ministry



Gratitude & Thanks from Social Concerns Ministry

We must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters, as is right, because your faith is growing abundantly, and the love of every one of you for one another is increasing.

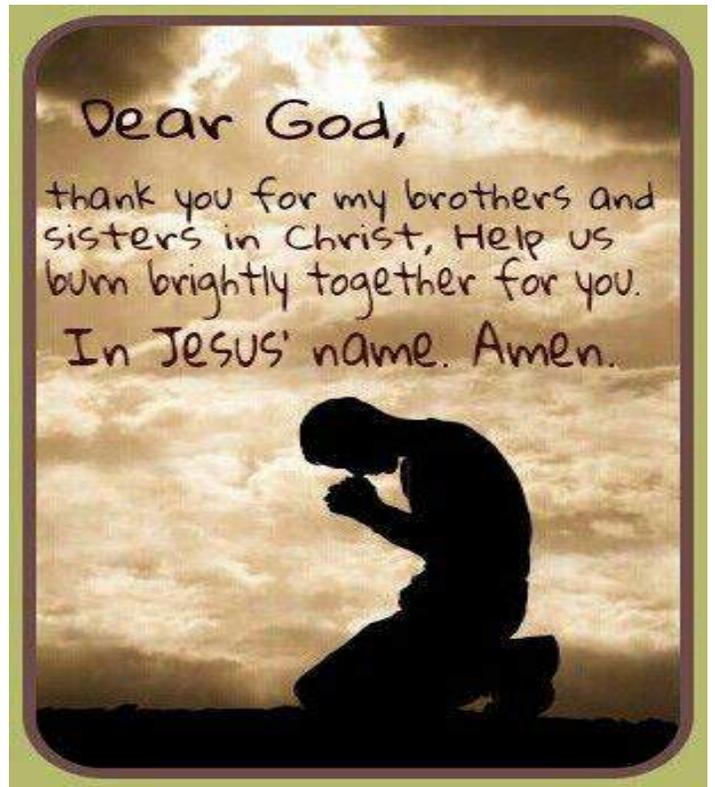
~ 2 Thessalonians 1:3

We've had a banner year! We called upon this wonderful Lord of Life Congregation and you came; we asked, and you gave; we reached out and you reciprocated!

You really supported our new Angel Tree initiative by supporting FIVE families in the Garner area! You gave everything from bikes, to queen-size bedding... from gift cards to clothing for children and adults! THANK YOU for whatever donation you made... large or small, tangible or good thoughts; it was most appreciated.

We are always in the fight against hunger as we contribute weekly to Garner Area Ministries. We put smiles on the faces of children with school supplies and Christmas gifts. Our partnership with the Music and Worship Committee sponsored the annual *Mary Jo Albert Memorial Christmas Concert* as they introduced a new musical genre in the form of a Celtic band. They lifted our spirits and spurred on the Christmas holiday.

Social Concerns Ministry is looking forward to a bountiful year of giving, with your continued rise-to-the-occasion support. Remember... *"No person was ever honored for what he received. He was honored for what he gave."*



Social Concerns Ministry

Gale Isaacs and Alecia Harrison, Co-chairs

Rita Clark, Treasurer

Helen Holderman, Rotary Liaison

Carolyn Watkins,

Sarah Watkins, Council representative

Pastor Wayne, Ex Officio

Connie Fortmeyer, Emeritus

Paula Pickler, Emeritus

NC SWO

One-Day Women's Retreat

Lord of Life will be hosting the NC SWO Annual One-Day Retreat on February 15, 2020 in the Fellowship Hall. The subject of this year's retreat will be Elder Care Hospice. More information to follow as it becomes available.





Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Hope that everyone is enjoying the holiday season.

Thank you to those who came to the church on Saturday, December 7th to help set up the tree and any other Christmas decorations. Your help was greatly appreciated! If you came over to church on Monday, December 22nd to help decorate the church for Christmas Eve and future Sunday's, Thank you!! I have appreciated all that everyone has done this past year.

The next meeting of the Altar Guild will be January 12th at 10:00 am in the church library followed by a covered dish luncheon. Hope that everyone will be able to attend.

God Bless everyone.

~ Carol Wallace



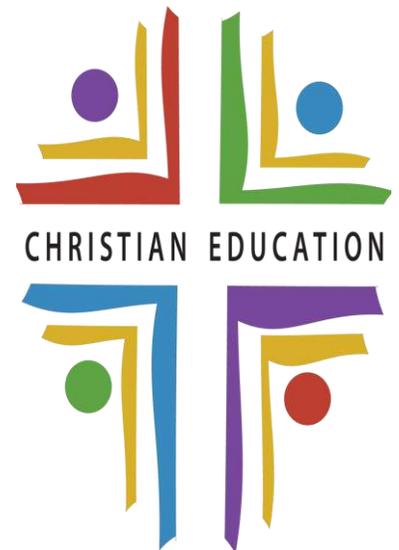
Our sincere thanks go out to everyone who contributed to the very successful Congregational Christmas Dinner that was held on Friday, December 6th. Great food and fellowship made for a most enjoyable evening for the nearly 60 Lord of Life members who participated. We thank Dave Hash for running the White Elephant Gift Exchange, as well as all of you who helped with the cooking of the main course and the desserts, with the decoration of the hall, and especially with the clean-up afterwards. Wonderful things happen when so many contribute to this seasonal celebration.

Several of our members traveled to Camp Agapé on December 10th to help put out the trail luminaries for Agapé's O Holy Night pageant that took place on December 13th and 14th. About 40 Lord of Life

members attended the 7:15 pm session of the pageant on Saturday night.

The next Men's Club meeting will be held on Friday, January 3rd at 7:00 pm in the LOL Fellowship Hall. The business meeting will include discussions about the annual Valentine's Day dinner that will take place in mid-February, and the annual Pine Straw Sale that will be held in late March. Come join us for an evening of fellowship as we begin to lay out our plans for 2020. Spouses and others will gather to Meet and Eat at a local restaurant while the men have their meeting. Other church women are welcome to join them. They leave the church shortly after 7 pm.

Gerry Havenstein,
Men's Group Secretary



Christian Ed

Thank you for all the support of Lord of Life's annual Sunday School Christmas Program and we appreciate everyone who stayed after the service to attend.

Thank you to Brad who always makes everything extra special with his musical talents. And Tony who played The Willow to begin our event.

Thank you to our readers Sam, Charlie and Gavin, our angels Adia and Sara, and Mary & Joseph Ella and Tony.

A special thank you to our Council for fellowship. Our tradition of serving Christmas cookies and hot cocoa added to the holiday spirit.

I truly appreciated Rita, Lora, and Kathy for helping costume, photograph and lead our actors.

We would love to have anyone interested in helping with Christian Education to join us! Please let us know of your interest.

Linda Hash



MIDWAY: A REVIEW

Someone asked me how I would compare the movie “Midway” to the movie “Dunkirk”. My response was “Dunkirk” was a desperate situation. The British troops were trapped on French beaches and it took a herculean effort by British civilian boat owners to rescue the troops.

“Midway”, on the other hand, was all about the American response to the Japanese surprise attack on Pearl Harbor. What was unique about it was that it focused totally on the war in the Pacific. Those leading it and fighting it were not even mentioning what was happening in other “theaters” of the war. Much of it was about intelligence and knowing the enemies’ next move. Much of it was about strategy that was predicated on the notion that intelligence had Japan’s movements right.

Given that, it was about the men making decisions such as the Chief Admiral Nimitz depicted as a very knowledgeable and capable leader who cares for those under him, even “second-in-command”. Admiral Halsey depicted as reluctant to leave his command until he was directly ordered to by Nimitz because he had a severe case of shingles. Any of us who experienced shingles knows his pain.

Two other heroes among scores of others are, first of all, Bruno Gaido, a machinist mate, portrayed

by none other than Nick Jonas, one of the three Jonas Brothers singing group. The second was Richard Best played by Ed Skrein, a pilot who managed to disable three carriers despite contaminated air coming through his face mask which ended his flight career. As I stated in a sermon his wife said, “Now you will have to find something else you are good at.”

Throughout the film the action battle scenes are “Riveting”... pun intended. Without being too graphic it is no surprise that it shows “war is hell”.

What I liked most about it was the total focus on the war in the Pacific. Nothing is ever mentioned about what was happening in Europe. For the sailors in the Pacific the war they were involved with is all they cared about and focused on. What happened in other fronts did not concern them. The other aspect of the film I liked was the depiction of US intelligence and its place in the strategy.

Although I am glad I saw it since my father was in the army in the Philippines, I would only recommend it to someone interested in films depicting historic events and okay when the mayhem and horrors of war are depicted.

For a “feel good film”, Frozen II would probably be a better choice.

~ Pastor Wayne

PLEASE review this Prayer List and let Laura or Pastor Wayne know of any updates, deletions, or additions.

thank you!

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



Dennis King; Carol Wallace; Shirley Poole; John & Betty Nalepa; Monna Stamm; Nick Vietri; Ken Fillingim; Peg Stamp, myeloma; Bob Watkins – pace maker & kidney issues; Jerry Hart’s mom, Ruby – bad fall; Family of Michelle Sidebottom whose Aunt

Dianne passed away 12/11; Alice Austin’s friend, Kathy Koonce – brain tumor; Camille’s friends, Mike Hargett & Helen Williams – Both recovering from surgery; Bill Lewis – recurring cancer; Ebony Avery and Stacey Foley, co-workers of Sarah Watkins – breast cancer; Mindy and family after death of Randy – friends of Kate Beck; Keith Howard – isolated, lonely, depressed, requesting prayers to regain strength of spirit; Mary Cook’s sister-in-law, Linda Wrightson – broken femur; Tess Andrews brother, David Van Benschoten – multiple myeloma; Marge Rhodes, friend of the Phil & Linda Garoutte – cancer with bone metastases; Darcee W. – cancer has returned; Karen Rodgers – stage 4 cancer; Karen Post’s friends: Blanca Hernandez – ovarian mass; Dr. Steve Rushton – lymphoma; and Sandy Murphy; Karen Post’s cousin, Mike Harris – recurring prostate cancer; Lindsay Crocker’s Nephew, Daniel Harman – health and healing; Karen Wright’s mother, Carol Goodford – heart issues; Steve Klawiter’s mother, Marylou – heart failure; Pam Klawiter’s co-worker, Carolyn Harbertson – breast cancer; 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; Shannon Thomsen’s niece, Kylie Gardner – tumors and Turner Syndrome; 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; Carol Wallace’s sister, Martha – shoulder surgery; David Andrew Duty, son of Mary Langworthy’s friend – spondyloarthritis; Becky Bandy, sister of Mary Langworthy – Crohn’s Disease, bleeding; Mark Schmidt, brother of Mary Langworthy – heart attack, blood clot, complications of OWRD; Christine Brennecke - Corticobasal Syndrome; Susie, Benjamin and Bryce Lowe.



January

January 3	Dave Hash (the daddy)
January 6	Holly Hans
January 7	Becky Roof
January 8	Grace Barnes
January 9	Anne Marie Dubnansky
January 13	Carol Wallace
January 14	Jamie Bredell
	Becky Von St. Paul
January 15	Rita Clark
January 18	Gere Savolainen
January 21	Ryan Macurdy
January 24	Barbara Kyles
January 25	Pastor Wayne Dubnansky

February

February 3	Daniel Cook
February 9	Paul Finger
	Lisa Hash Burnett
February 12	Daniel Jordan
February 15	Clyde Cook
	Vince Wright
February 16	Josh Kestner
February 17	Antonio (Tony) Smith
February 21	Patrick Niemann
February 24	Helen Reeves
February 29	Paul Blanchard

Please let Laura know of any Birthdays that need to be added! Thank you!!



Lord of Life Council

At our December meeting, we discussed the HVAC instillation and the increased security measures that we have adopted. We lock the Fellowship Hall doors after the 10 am worship service has started. We have a security camera on the HVAC units behind the building and have increased the lighting. More cameras will be installed next month.

Kitchen renovations are still in the planning phase. Becky has added a line item to the budget for Kitchen Renovations.

We also talked about things being moved throughout the church. If you use something, please put it back where you found it. Thanks!

And don't bring your unwanted items to the church without talking to someone first. Each room in the church is assigned to a committee. Other than the "Free Table" or the Annual Yard Sale, please discuss your donations prior to bringing them to the church.



January 26th

The Congregational Meeting will be on Sunday, January 26th immediately after worship. PLEASE plan to attend! We will vote on our new Council members, Constitutional changes and approve the 2020 Budget.

And please get your Committee end of year reports into Laura so that she can prepare the Annual Report. Copies will be available at the Congregational meeting.

Outgoing Council members are Don Craig, Shannon Thomsen, and Alecia Harrison. The

Nominating Committee has selected Tess Andrews, Stephen Brantley, and Alecia Harrison for the new Council members. Current Council members include- Dave Hash, Dan Hayes, and Sarah Watkins for one more year AND Julie Bogle, Lindsay Crocker, and Linda Garoutte for 2 more years.

Thank all your Council members for their hard work! And please bring your concerns to any member of your Church Council.

The Church Charter and the Statement have been damaged by sun exposure. Many years ago, Chip Kyles moved these documents to the church library and placed them in special frames. Unfortunately, the damage was already done and now some of the names are very difficult to read. The Council, led by Don Craig, is working on a restoration of these documents.



Also, please put the Leader's Retreat on your calendar! Saturday, February 8th from 10 am-1 pm in the Fellowship Hall. All Council members and Committee Chairs are encouraged to attend. BUT everyone who would LIKE to attend may do so! If a Committee Chair is unable to attend, then a committee representative should be present. This is the annual planning meeting for the church and we need everyone's input to make a strong plan for the future of Lord of Life.

In this season of Advent, please remember WHY we celebrated Christmas! It is so easy to get caught up in the commercialism and busyness of the season. Resist! Remember to pray and reflect on our weekly worship message. We are all gathered together as your Church Family. I am glad YOU are here!

Blessings,
Alecia Harrison,
Council Vice President

It's Here! ...



Now What?

Well, it's over... the Christmas and New Year's celebrating I mean. All the Christmas gifts have been opened and considering our take-it-or-leave-it attitude with gifts (like our fun White Elephant gift exchange), they can meet various fates. The gifts have either been exchanged for something you like, returned for a full refund, or in the case of toys, they could be broken already. Hey, you can't please all the people all the time!

And as for New Year's entrance, well, another year has come and gone... pull out that gym membership card! The one from last year may still have a couple visits on it and be assured that with the new gym memberships across the country, there will be a huge spike in exercise activity... at least until February. Throw in a couple of New Year's resolutions from our old list and we're all set... bring it on 2020!

On the first day of a new year we usually wish each other a "Happy New Year" and while it's a great greeting, maybe we can come up with a more hopeful gesture for those we know as we begin this new year; something a bit more original (maybe).

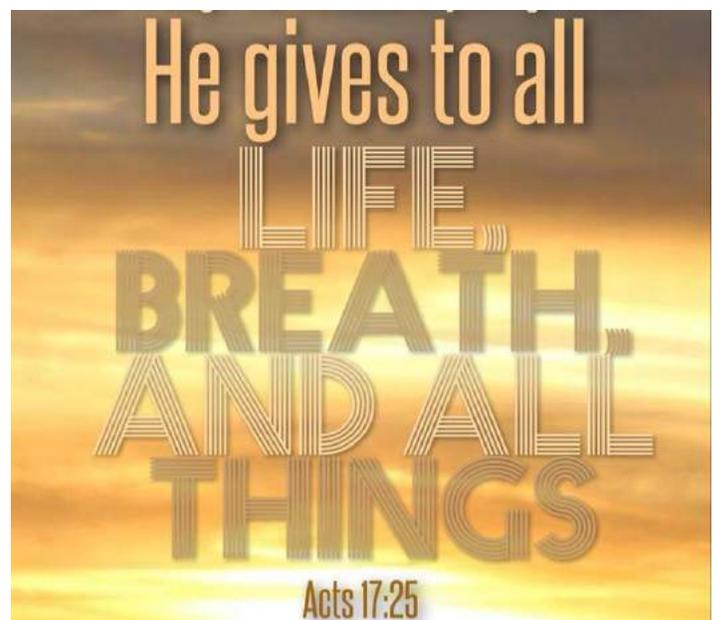
Why should every year be the same as the one before with nothing really changing? After all, the New Year resolutions may or may not get accomplished. But wait, we can do something different... we can look at our spiritual lives as well because we just left THE Christmas birth. We can make big promises about the things we plan to do for God, and we can try to impress Him with our acts to show that we are deserving of His grace.

However, this life is not about what we can do for God; it's about what He can channel in and through us. You see, according to Acts 17:25, God does not need us... nevertheless He wants to use us to

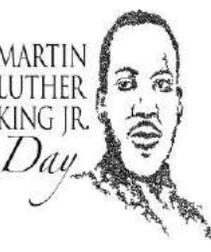
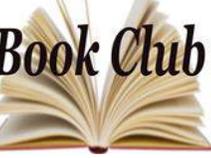
complete His purposes as is written "...nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things."

So, as some wise soul once said, "No one can go back and start a new beginning, but anyone can start today and make a new ending" (Unknown). I really thought a lot about that sentiment and my conclusion was that we don't start over; we simply begin again right where we are... making things better in our lives by making better lives for others.

Be blessed.
Gale J. Isaacs



JANUARY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 	2	3	4 9 – 11 am 
5 9 am Adult Bible Study & Discussion Group 10 am Worship Epiphany Sunday	6 	7	8 7 am Rotary Breakfast 7:30 Choir Practice	9	10	11 9 – 11 am 
12 9 am Adult Bible Study & Discussion Group 10 am Worship 11:30 Council	13	14	15 7 am Rotary Breakfast 7:30 Choir Practice	16 	17	18 9 – 11 am 
19 9 am Adult Bible Study & Discussion Group 10 am Worship 11:30 Parish	20 	21 7pm <i>Inspirational</i> 	22 7 am Rotary Breakfast 7:30 Choir Practice	23	24	25 9 – 11 am 
26 9 am Adult Bible Study & Discussion Group 10 am Worship 11:30 Property	27 	28	29 7 am Rotary Breakfast 7:30 Choir Practice	30	31	

Meet Your 2020 Council Nominees

Steve Brantley

Hi – My name is Steve Brantley and I am a native of North Carolina, growing up just a few miles down the road in the small town of Spring Hope. After high school I moved to Raleigh where I met my husband, Ken Fillingim, and we have been together for 36 years. Ken used to design and install computers in hospitals until he retired. After Ken and I had been together for about a year, Ken suggested that I get myself a career. I decided to become a hair dresser and have now been doing hair for 32 years and really enjoy my profession.

Both of us grew up in the Baptist faith, but as with many Christian faiths, we were condemned because of our sexual preferences and had been told by many churches that there was no place for us there. Then one day Ken was talking to one of his old friends about us having trouble finding a church. The friend suggested we try a Lutheran Church so we just picked a Church out of the phone book, called and left a message, and to our surprise we actually got a call back and Pastor Wayne came over to meet us.

Finding Lord of Life has been a life altering event and all for the best. We were readily accepted and now feel right at home with all our new friends.

For several years, I have been the deputy treasurer here at Lord of Life, responsible for the accounts payable. After retirement, I was able to begin assisting with the Rotary breakfasts one or two weeks a month. I look forward to continuing to serve my Church Family.



Alecia Harrison

Hello! My name is Alecia Harrison. I have been married to Tom for the last 35 years. We have 2 wonderful children, Ben and Lori. Ben is a teaching assistant for Special Needs elementary students in Wilmington, NC. Lori is an ED Nurse serving the US Navy in Yokouska, Japan. Tom is a Registered Nurse but has been retired for 5 years. I am a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist working at the Raleigh Orthopaedic Clinic Surgery Center.

I grew up Episcopalian and Tom grew up Presbyterian. We became Lutheran (a compromise) and joined Lord of Life Lutheran Church in 1995. Both my children were baptized and confirmed at LOL. We also renewed our wedding vows here for our 25th Anniversary.

I have served on many committees at LOL, but currently serve on the Council, Social Concerns, and Mutual Ministry. I have cooked breakfast for the Garner Morning Rotary for the past 15 years for their weekly meeting at LOL. I am active in the NC Women of the ECA, serving on the Discipleship Committee.

I am currently a Bible Study Fellowship Children's Leader in Smithfield and continue to serve my sorority, Sigma Sigma Sigma, at UNC-Chapel Hill, as an Advisor. I retired from the US Army Reserves after 22 years of service.

I look forward to continuing to serve my Church Family.



Tess Andrews

Hello! My name is Tess Andrews. I grew up in the Hudson Valley region of New York State, the 5th of 10 children. I moved to North Carolina in January, 1983.

I was a software engineer for 25 years, working for IBM and SAS Institute. In 2005, I went back to school to earn a Master's in Library Science, and began working for Wake County Public Libraries. On August 1st of this year I became a retired librarian and a retired software engineer.