

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

Congregational Council

Alecia Harrison President
Linda Garoutte Vice President
Julie Bogle Secretary
Ken Fillingim Treasurer
Tess Andrews Deputy Treasurer
Terry Barnes Financial Secretary
Sarah Watkins, Steven Brantley, Lindsay
Crocker, Dave Hash, and Dan Hayes

March 2020



**Lord of Life
Lutheran Church**
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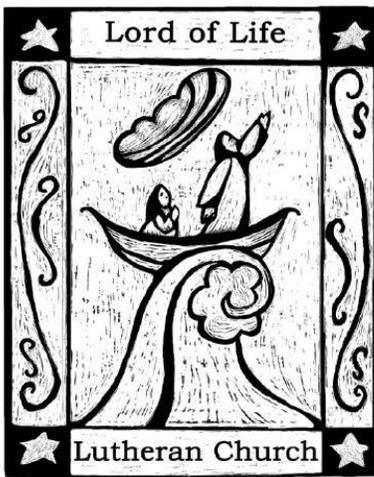


**9:00 am Sundays
Bible Study &
Discussion Group**

**10:00 am Sundays
Worship Service**

**7:00 pm Wednesdays
Lenten Worship**





Life-Lines



(919) 772-9044
March 2020

WONDERMENTS FROM PASTOR WAYNE'S WORLD

Groundhog's Day, February 2, was on a Sunday, and now the Ides of March is on a Sunday. What does this portend for us? Not much. During the Roman Empire it was marked by several religious observances and time for settling debts. It was also the time when Julius Caesar was assassinated thus becoming a turning point in Roman history.

This church year it can be seen as the turning point toward Holy Week, half way between Ash Wednesday and Holy Week, leading to the assassination of Jesus the Christ. Christ, same amount of letters as Caesar, starts with a C and that is where the similarity stops. We do not see the name Caesar any more, except for a comedian with the first name Sid. The reason we do not is Caesar means "emperor, autocrat, dictator". The German equivalent of Caesar was Kaiser (Wilhelm) who brought the German people great suffering in World War I. Then if that was not enough, another German Caesar in the form of a fuhrer, a tyrannical leader. None of these wordly offshoots of Caesar are still used today. Christ is on the lips of billions of people daily, and Jesus the Christ, the anointed One, was anointed in ways that any human caesars would cower from.

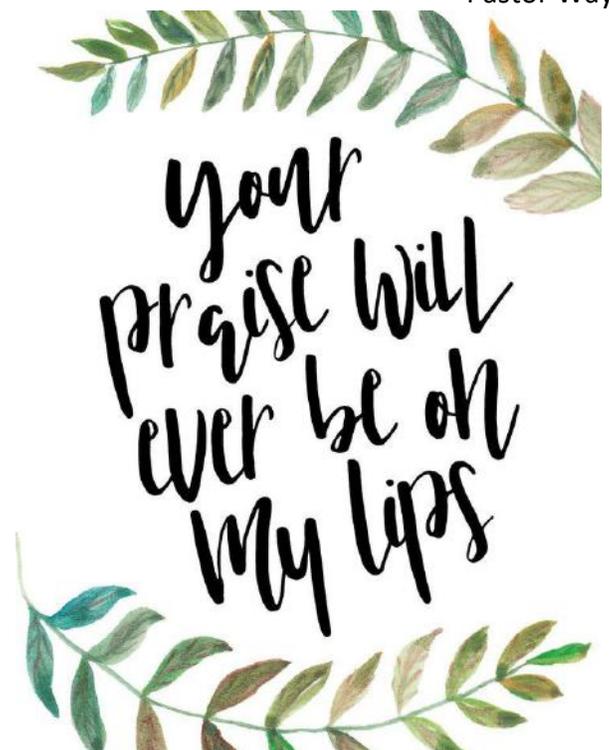
- He spent 40 days in the wilderness resisting temptations that would have given him an easy way out.
- He reinterpreted the Law and emphasized the Gospel of Love as He taught and healed His and God's people.
- He faced His caesars (Pilate and Herod) and the crowds who would do Him harm.

- The Christ went to His death to save us, and yes even those who would do Him harm.
- And then Christ, the anointed One, came to life and walked out of the tomb, meant to hold His lifeless body, alive.

As a result, the name of Christ is always on our lips, and describes communities of faith which we call churches: Christ the King, Christus Victor, and Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral.

Speaking, praising, and giving thanks in the name of Christ will go on for eternity. It will not get old, not get dull, but will always bring life and excitement to those who follow Him, after all, the Christ is also the Lord of Life.

Pastor Wayne



***March In Like a Lion,
or Like a Lamb...
your Choice!***



"Each one must do just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7

True giving is grace-giving and must be expectant; grace-giving is a miracle that mirrors God's character so when you give, you are dealing with God. Social Concerns Ministry strives to address concerns of giving in our community, country, and abroad. We do it in a myriad of ways... through contributions and donations, through volunteer efforts, and with your support.

We recently hosted *the Triangle Conference of WELCA One-Day Retreat*. It was very well attended with 29 participants from throughout neighboring towns, and a few members from right here at home. The theme was, *"How Can Hospice Help?"* The day consisted of workshops, hymn-singing, making blankets for Hospice patients and just plain ole camaraderie. The food and hospitality were greatly appreciated by those who attended.

Our customary GAM designated-donations period for February is aptly called 'SOUP-er Bowl' month. Contributions of soup in various forms were given (who knew there were soooo many kinds?! This month of March is officially designated to collect personal care and household items to aid GAM. However, any and all donations aside from the month's theme are welcomed; look for the labeled bins.

Summer camp scholarship applications for 2020 are ready for distribution and, literally, there is no place quite like summer camp! The Agapé-Kure Beach Ministries sponsor faith-based camps that integrate church ministries with the experience of going to camp. Together, the Men's Group and Social Concerns encourage our young folks' participation in the camp experience which in turn fosters their participation in the church. Camp has it all; they can swim, hike, sing, meet new friends, reconnect with the camp staffers; it's a grand time!

And before you get too busy, please mark your calendars to volunteer at least ONE time this month to help out with the Rotary Breakfast activity; consider it a 'bare-minimum-sacrifice'. Also, coming soon is the Relay for Life Fundraiser... donate a worthy item to be auctioned. As always, thanks for your support!

Reminder: March is Women's History Month... hug one!

Gale Isaacs & Alecia Harrison, Co-chairs



"Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."
-2 Corinthians 9:7 ESV



Parish Committee

LOL Parish Committee met on January 19th and February 16th. We reviewed all activities from 2019, including; LOL Directory updates, Welcome Packets for visitors, Emergency Planning (including locking of doors and Medical 1st response), LOL List (list of contractor resources), after service Fellowships and picture updates for Fellowship Hall AND LOL Directory.

We had discussion around the completed "Time & Talents" worksheets, which were distributed to LOL members in October and received back their submissions. Tim suggested ensuring that these worksheets get forwarded to the committees Chairs of the particular talents/gifts people noted. For



Rotary
Garner



The LOL Men's Club did not have an official meeting in February because we hosted our **Annual Valentine's Day Dinner** for the congregation that was appropriately held on Valentine's Day, Friday February 14th. About 45 LOL members and Guests enjoyed the evening that featured Italian type foods, and a table setting contest that was won by Roxie Hayes. All of the ladies participating received recognition for their efforts. Michele Sidebottom did a wonderful job of entertaining us by playing numerous well known songs on the flute that were a great addition to the evening. At the end of the meal, all of the women present received a beautiful red rose from the club members for Valentine's Day. We want to thank everyone who provided the main course dishes and desserts, as well as those who contributed to getting the room set up and decorated. The food was great, and plenty was left over to cover fellowship following the worship service on Sunday morning. Most of all, we really appreciate all of you who jumped in to work cleaning up the Fellowship Hall, both following the Friday dinner as well as following the Sunday fellowship.

Shredding Date for 2020: The next annual "LOL Shredding Day" Fund Raiser has been planned for Saturday, April 18th. Terry Barnes has secured the Shredding Truck for that date.

Next Men's Club Meeting: The Men's Club will hold its March meeting at 7:00 pm on Friday, March 6th. The main topic of business will be centered around our plans for the **Annual Pine Straw Sale** that is set for two Saturdays, March 21st and 28th. **We need everyone's help from about 8 am until about 2-3 pm to get our orders loaded and delivered on those two dates.** We also need trucks and/or trailers to do the hauling. The Pine Straw truck holds 1400 bales, so it's a lot of work, and we will need your help to get this fund raiser done. Dave Hash will also discuss possible dates for the Mudcats Game, and a possible project to help camp Agape. Come join us and enjoy the fellowship. Club wives and other church women will join together for their monthly meet and eat.

Gerry Havenstein, Men's Group Secretary

We need your help, please.

Two years ago, I joined an important team for Lord of Life; I started with the breakfast preparation team led by Helen Holderman and Alecia Harrison. Garner Morning Rotary club pays us to provide the meal so they can plan their projects. This partnership funds our Social Concerns programs with 80% of that budget coming from Rotary.

Where can we use your help?

Preparation starts around 5 am each Wednesday, when we converge on the Fellowship Hall and prepare eggs, a meat and a starch for up to 35 people; serving at 7 am. There are three of us and when one of us is away we alter our plans and work harder to fill the hole. If you'd be interested in learning how to help as needed, we'd love to have you!

A second opportunity is clean-up. Rotary is finished by 8 am, and we must breakdown the serving table, stow the equipment, clear the tables and load the dishwasher. To help here you need to arrive about 7:45. Individuals were assigned a week; first Wednesday, second, etc. so if you'd like to help once a month, this is your chance.

The third area for help; the last Wednesday of each month we do casseroles to break up the flow. If you have a favorite recipe or a new one you need to try out, we ask that you bring it to the church sometime Tuesday and the preparation team will put them in the oven. This is upon request, so if we have enough names you may only do it once or twice a year.

When can you chip in this important activity? Let Helen, Alecia or Don know. Thanks for your consideration!



CHURCH COUNCIL



Lord of Life Council

Your Church Council got off to as quick start with the Leader's Retreat on Saturday, February 8th. First order of business was a review of Robert's Rule of Order presented by Don Craig. Then we elected Council officers:

Alecia Harrison, President
Linda Garoutte, Vice President
Julie Bogle, Secretary
Ken Fillingim, Treasurer

Council members are:

2018-2021: Dave Hash, Dan Hayes, and Sarah Watkins

2019-2022: Julie Bogle, Lindsay Crocker, and Linda Garoutte

2020-2023: Tess Andrews, Steve Brantley, and Alecia Harrison

We also set Ministry Liaisons for 2020:

Mutual Ministry	Alecia Harrison
Social Concerns	Sarah Watkins
Property	Dave Hash
Worship/ Music	Tess Andrews
Men's Ministry	Dan Hayes
Christian Education	Lindsay Crocker
Parish	Steve Brantley
Able to Serve	Linda Garoutte
Technology/Social Media	Julie Bogle
La Voz de Dios	Pastor Wayne

Each ministry gave a report of their current activities. We began to identify strengths and weaknesses in our church. The Council will identify 2-3 areas to work on this year.

The NC Synod decided last year to NOT have an Assembly EACH year. We will alternate Synod Assembly with a Synod Gathering. The FIRST Annual Synod Gathering will be held at Lenoir Rhyne University Thursday, May 28th-Saturday, May 30th. Pastor Wayne and I are planning to attend, but EVERYONE should attend at least ONE Assembly or Gathering in your life. It is wonderful to gather with that many North Carolina Lutherans assembled in one place!

We have budgeted to send 2 people to the Gathering which includes food and housing, but remember LRU is a campus....it is student housing, i.e., twin beds and small showers. But again a wonderful experience overall. If you are interested, please talk to either myself or Pastor Wayne! Council members will be given first priority to attend the statewide event, but the bigger the group from Lord of the Life, the more fun!

Our next Council meeting will be March 8th in the Church library. Anyone may attend.

Blessings,
Alecia Harrison



Thank you to Grace Barnes for setting the altar for February, to Ginny King for baking bread for Sunday communion, and to Gerry Havenstein for repairing the two tables in the narthex that hold the communion trays. I really appreciate all the volunteers who enable us to run the services smoothly.

We are now in the penitential church season of Lent. Lent is the forty day season of preparation for Easter. Traditionally, Lent has two primary themes, baptism and penitence -- both in preparation for a worthy celebration of the paschal feast. Lent does not focus on our Lord's passion; that is the focus of Holy Week.*

Paraments for Lent are purple - the color of penitence.

Flowers, being a symbol of joy, are appropriately omitted during Lent in order to help the congregation absorb the penitential character of the season.*

The next meeting of the Altar Guild will be Saturday, April 4, in the church library at 10 am. At this time we will polish silver and dust off all furnishings in preparation for Palm Sunday and Easter. If you are interested in working with the Altar Guild please plan on attending. We will be very happy to have you join us!

God Bless everyone.
~ Carol Wallace

*Altar Guild and Sacristy Handbook, S. Anita Stauffer

example, if someone expressed an interest in social programs; we should make sure their interest is forwarded to the Social Concerns committee chair.

We're planning to continue updating of pictures in Fellowship Hall and working at getting a member directory with pictures. Rest assured, if we create a hard copy directory, it would only be used internally for our members and nothing would be posted online.

We discussed increasing our membership and "growth" within our LOL family. Many similar discussions have taken place in our Leader Retreats and Council discussions over the years. I would like to say we had some "earth shattering" breakthroughs that would lead us to unexplainable growth, ample people and financial resources. I can't say that, this was not the result. However, we can take comfort with a God who loves us and is always in control. We can take comfort in a Church Family who cares for each other, despite the melting pot of differences we all have. These differences help us each offer something different and unique. These varieties of perspective provide a synergy within the church that meet people's needs even though we might not always see these things transpire.

Yours in Christ,
Parish Committee Chair, Terry Barnes

PARISH COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Rebecca Swanson, Grace Barnes, Tim Clark, Dave Hash, Vince Wright, Barbara Kyles, Steve Brantley, Julie Roeser & Pastor Wayne



A Birthday Jam-packed with Grace

Birthdays are a wonderful time to celebrate the life God has given us. Okay... you got me! It's my birthday month; yep, I take the whole month (followed by a 15-day grace period). Each March, I eagerly await my special day, I LOVE MY BIRTHDAY! It's my precious gift for which I thank God. He did all this for me so how can I not observe it to the fullest extent of my being? I don't have to *throw* a party, being born IS a party!

Despite sporadic reminders from my friends that other folk were born in March as well, I hang a banner over my fireplace that reads, "March is All About Gale!" And while it's tongue-in-cheek true, I'm well

aware that I don't have sole ownership of the jubilation associated with my birthday; I must give praise and thanks to God for this ceaseless grace and mercy. Psalm 139:13-14 is the perfect description of our birthday bond with Him, "For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well." Wow! He has watched me grow from conception to birth... all the stages of my life were an open book spread wide; and even before I had lived even a single day, the days of my life were all prepared. Other than Job, I've not heard of anyone cursing his day of birth, ever. Moreover, *Puh-lease*, don't believe that only the young wait with great anticipation of their day! To 'children' of all ages, a birthday is a reason to celebrate.

Oh, how I love my birthday! Some of my *Ides of March* mentality can be based on the premise of the unpredictability of life. We can be happy one day and sad the next, healthy one day and sick the next, rich one day and poor the next, alive one day and dead the next! So, I'm of the ilk that mostly feels the need to get going and get on with things. And even when I falter (as I often do) I am always conscious of the fact that I have someone to hold on to... to feel secure with... and to trust; it's my "blessed assurance." Yeah, it's the same for you as well! A recent Sunday sermon posed a situational highlight of the one who plants, and the one who waters, but the growth comes only from God. Plus, there are so very many people who let me know they are thinking of me... they pray for me; they give me hope; they wish me good health; and most importantly, they show me love. So, I ask you, how can I possibly NOT love everything about my yearly phenomenon?

If today is your birthday, I thank God for all the good things He has put in your life and I ask that He continue to bless you! As for MY birthday... well, you know... be blessed!

Gale J. Isaacs



Can Christians Become Discouraged?

Life has many unexpected twists and turns. Just when you think you have it all figured out, something completely unexpected happens. When the snowball effect occurs, multiple unanticipated events, discouragement could occur. This does NOT mean that you have lost your Christian witness. Your faith has taken a sucker punch and you rebound when you remember to keep your eyes on God.

Those of you that know me well, know that I listen to Contemporary Christian Music whenever I am in the car. I find that it gives me a positive attitude when there are many challenging drivers on the road. There are several current songs that are applicable to being discouraged and remembering that God is in control!

Defender, by Francesca Battistelli

"You go before I know
That You've even gone to win my war
Your love becomes my greatest defense
It leads me from the dry wilderness
And all I did was praise
All I did was worship
All I did was bow down
All I did was stay still
Hallelujah, You have saved me
So much better Your way
Hallelujah, great Defender
So much better Your way
You know before I do
Where my heart can seek to find Your truth
Your mercy is the shade I'm living in
And You restore my faith and hope again"

Francesca reminds us that God goes before us. He knows what will happen in every situation. God sometimes relieves our difficulty, and other times allows you to live through it.

This is an opportunity to reveal God's glory to the watching world. Keep your eyes on Jesus and He will guide you through your difficult time.

Safe, by Victory Worship

"Under Your grace, Your mercy amazes me
Under Your wings, Your shadow covers me
Your promise of love, where my heart is safely undone
Speak to me Lord, Your servant is listening
Over the noise, I hear You whispering
My hope has come, and my heart is safely undone
I found my fortress, in You

And my soul is anchored, with You
My resting place is in your name – Forever safe"

Victory Worship reminds us that God is our safe shelter. You can trust God's promises! He is always before you, beside you and behind you.

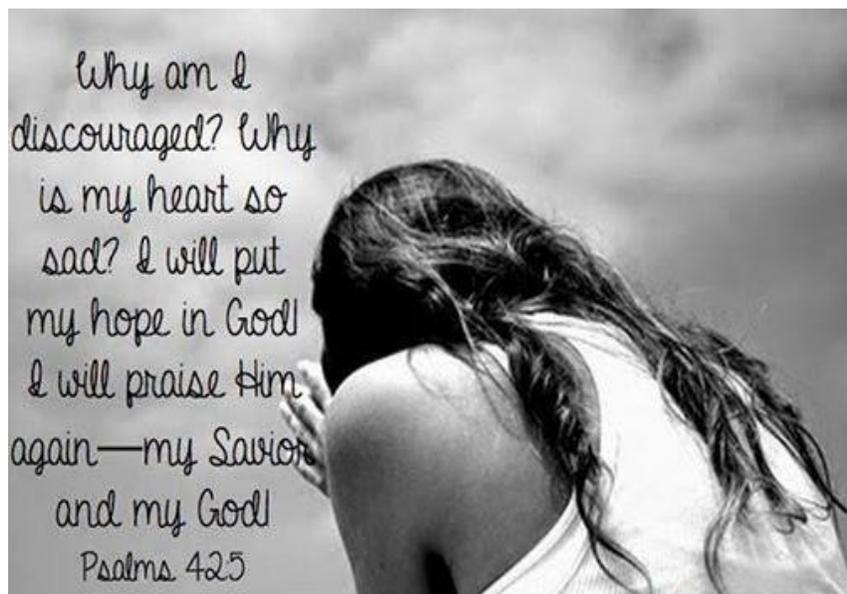
Rescue, by Lauren Daigle

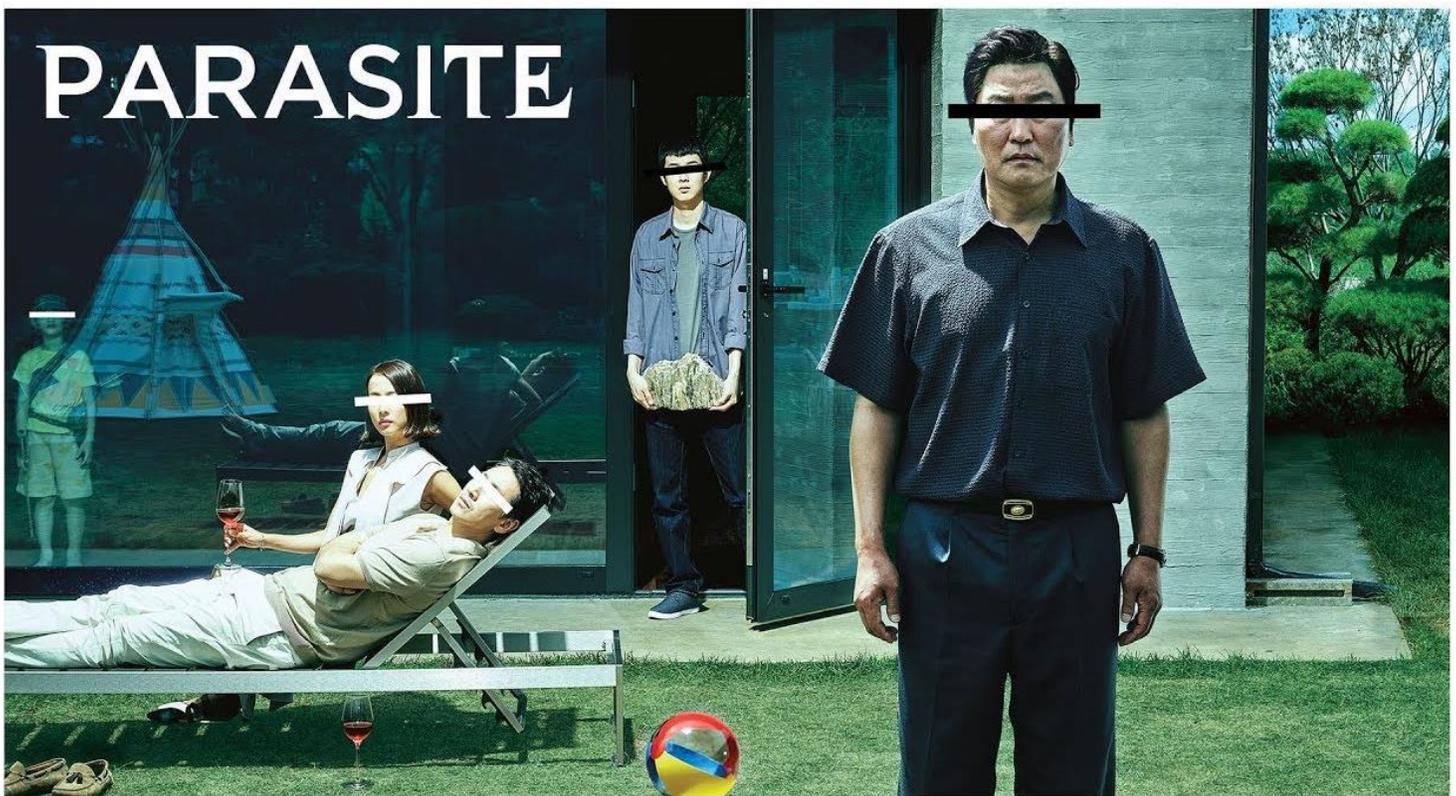
"You are not hidden
There's never been a moment
You were forgotten
You are not hopeless
Though you have been broken
Your innocence stolen
I hear you whisper underneath your breath
I hear your SOS, your SOS
I will send out an army to find you
In the middle of the darkest night
It's true, I will rescue you
There is no distance
That cannot be covered
Over and over
You're not defenseless
I'll be your shelter
I'll be your armor"

Lauren Daigle reminds us that God is our rescuer. Remember the story of the one lost sheep and the Shepherd did not rest until that one lost sheep was found. That is how God is with His children. WE are His Children! Yay! We are inheritors of God's kingdom. We are adopted into His family! How wonderful it is to be a Kid of the Kingdom!

I pray that these few words will encourage you even if you are currently happy and satisfied, but especially if you are discouraged. Take time to pray and listen to God's quiet voice guide you through your challenging time.

Blessings,
Alecia Harrison





PARASITE: A REVIEW

“Parasite” won four academy awards. The first one it received was the award for best screenplay. The second award was for best director. Very few people were expecting much more than that. The director even said later that he felt he “could sit back and relax, they had a good night”. Subsequently, it won best foreign language film and then best film overall, the first foreign language film ever to win the best film award.

It is a tale set in South Korea about two families from opposite ends of the socio-economic spectrum. It is set in South Korea, but it could be adapted to any country and its economic gap. The upper-class family, the Parks, have a wonderful home high above the slums of Seoul. Their lifestyle relies on hired help: a tutor, a chauffeur, and a housekeeper. The Kims, on the lower rung of society, live in an underground apartment that is susceptible to flooding.

The Parks turn their noses up at the people who ride the subway, and are shown to be less concerned about family than their status. The Kims are every bit as smart as the Parks, and a lot more united as a family.

While Mr. Park is depicted ascending up the stairs of his ultra-modern home, the Kims are shown descending down into their underground apartment. The film leaves it to the filmgoer as to which family

holds the high ground. The distinctions between the living situations of the Parks and Kims are obvious as are the distinctions between the two family units. However, the film does not sentimentalize the Kim’s togetherness or their poverty, but contrasts it to the isolation of the Parks who are seldom shown together seemingly sharing little as a family.

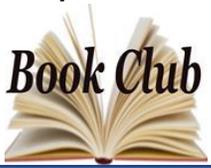
The Kims begin their parasitic actions toward the Parks when the son takes advantage of an opportunity to home tutor the daughter of the Parks. He gets his artistic sister to forge a college certificate whereby he can bluff his way into the Parks house. Once he is in, other members of his family find their way in by discrediting the help and assuming roles as the Park’s hired help; art tutor, housekeeper, and chauffeur.

The director has described it as a “Comedy without Clowns”. I hope to eventually see it again because there is so much in it to miss. For example the lower class Kim family taps into the neighbor’s Wi-Fi and their best reception is near the window in the bathroom above the toilet, a statement about the internet?

Even though I liked the film’s creativity, the violence at the end I did not think was necessary.



March

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9 am Adult Bible Study & Discussion Group 10 am Worship	2	3	4 7 am Rotary Breakfast 6 pm Simple Supper 7 pm Lenten Worship 7:30 Choir Practice	5	6 	7 9 – 11 am 
8 9 am Adult Bible Study & Discussion Group 10 am Worship 11:30 Council	9	10	11 7 am Rotary Breakfast 6 pm Simple Supper 7 pm Lenten Worship 7:30 Choir Practice	12	13	14 9 – 11 am 
15 9 am Adult Bible Study & Discussion Group 10 am Worship 11:30 Parish	16	17 St. Patrick's Day 7pm Inspirational Book Club 	18 7 am Rotary Breakfast 6 pm Simple Supper 7 pm Lenten Worship 7:30 Choir Practice	19  Social Concerns Ministry 6 pm	20 <i>International Day of Happiness</i> 	21 9 – 11 am 
22 9 am Adult Bible Study & Discussion Group 10 am Worship	23 Happy  Puppy Day!	24	25 7 am Rotary Breakfast 6 pm Simple Supper 7 pm Lenten Worship 7:30 Choir Practice	26	27	28 9 – 11 am 
29 9 am Adult Bible Study & Discussion Group 10 am Worship 11:30 Property	30 	31	Relay for Life fundraiser for your Lord of Life Team Saturday, March 28, 2020 LOL Fellowship Hall, 5-7pm Barbecue Sandwiches (from Ole Time BBQ) Reverse Raffle, Silent Auction PLEASE go thru your closet, garage and storage unit to reveal your treasures that you are willing to part with and bring them for the silent auction!			

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.

Friends & family of Bob Watkins, who passed on 2/12; Friends & family of Betty Nalepa who passed on 1/19; Dennis King; Carol Wallace; Shirley Poole;

Monna Stamm; Ken Fillingim; Peg Stamp, myeloma; Linda Hash's Aunt and Cousin, Viva and Ellen Dumas – burns from a kitchen fire; Alice Austin's friend, Kathy Koonce – brain tumor; Ebony Avery and Stacey Foley, co-workers of Sarah Watkins – breast cancer; 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; Chuck Wallace, Don Wallace's nephew, health problems; Mary Langworthy's son Kyle's Father in Law, Jim Jackson - Multiple Myeloma; Mary Langworthy's nephew, Blake Evans - Chron's disease, surgery for severe fistulas and going through a bad divorce/child custody battle; Christine Brennecke - Corticobasal Syndrome; Susie, Benjamin and Bryce Lowe.



March

March 4	Holly Niemann 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 7	Gray Anthony
April 15	Andrew Green Shari Rebbeor Enid Weatherwax
April 19	Arthur Kyles
April 19	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

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