

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

September 2020



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

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Office (919) 772-9044



WORSHIP
SCHEDULE

10:00 am Sundays
Virtual Worship
Livestream

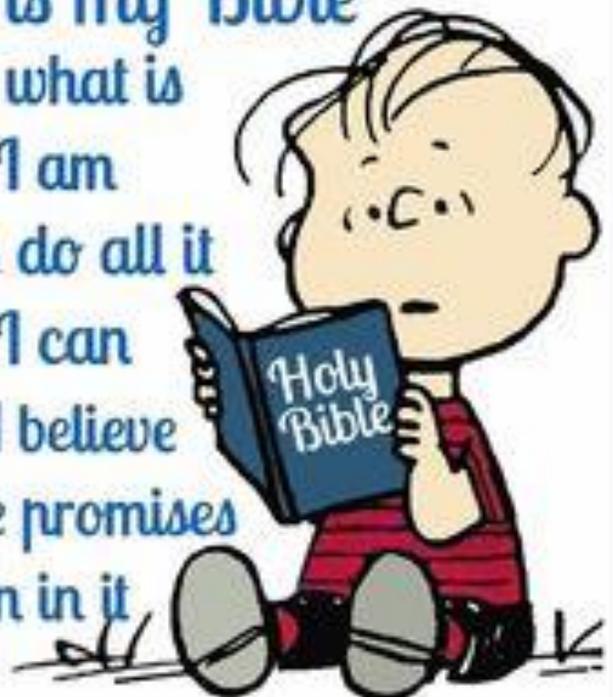
via Facebook Live

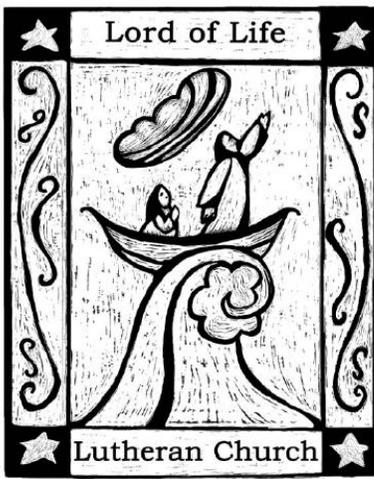
<https://www.facebook.com/LoLLCGarner/>

11:00 am Sundays



This is my Bible
I am what it
says I am
I can do all it
says I can
And I believe
all the promises
written in it





Life-Lines

(919) 772-9044
September 2020



WONDERMENTS FROM PASTOR WAYNE'S WORLD

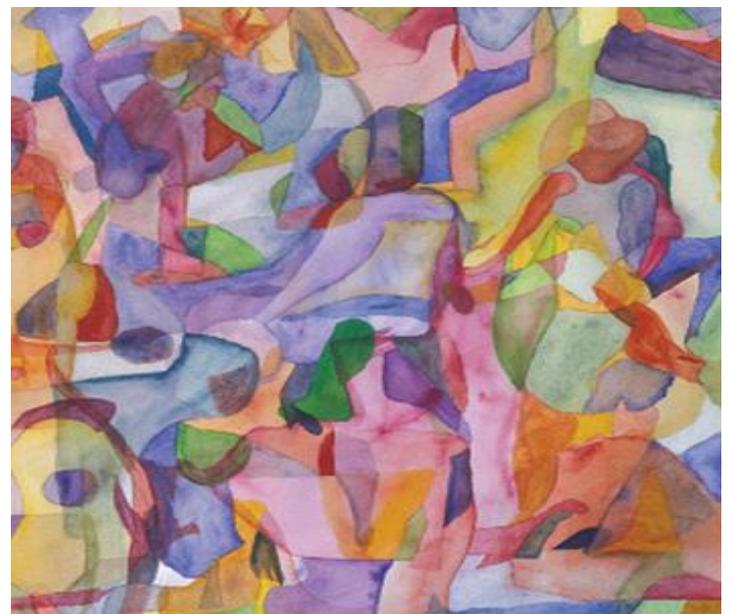
I recently acquired a wonderful book, "Bible Women, All Their Words and Why They Matter", written by Lindsay Hardin Freeman, an award-winning author who is passionate about sharing the stories of biblical women. I trust her on her numerical facts. For example, she says there are approximately 14,000 words spoken by women in the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible. You might think 14,000 words is a lot, but it is not a lot at all. The Bible Old and New Testament contains 66 books plus the 14 books of the Apocrypha totaling 80 books which comprise 1.1 million words total, approximately. Not a high percentage of words in the Bible are spoken by women - percentage wise only 1.2 percent.

By comparison, the novel "Brave New World" by Aldous Huxley was approximately 64,000 words long, Barack Obama's State of the Union speeches averaged 7,000 words, George W. Bush's State of the Union speeches averaged 5,100 words. The average speaker says about 120 words per minute; therefore, all the words that women speak in the Bible could be said in less than two hours.

Thus, it is good we have such wonderful female theologians like Amy Jill Levine, professor of New Testament and Jewish studies at Vanderbilt Divinity School whose study guide and video led us in our study of Jesus recently. Barbara Brown Taylor who is considered to be one of the top ten preachers in the United States today. Rachel Held Evans who is considered one of the most influential lay theologians of the 21st century even though her life only spanned 38 years.

We are fortunate to have Elizabeth Eaton as the fourth Presiding Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. She is in her second term as presiding bishop. You can read her articles in "The Living Lutheran" magazine. You have been led in worship by Pastor Marissa Krey. Recently she has taken on a new title "Mom". The 14,000 words spoken by women in the Bible has greatly expanded over the centuries illuminating their influence theologically and pastorally, and Church has reaped the benefits.

Pastor Wayne



BIBLE WOMEN

ALL THEIR WORDS AND WHY THEY MATTER

LINDSAY HARDIN FREEMAN



From the Desk of Your Council President

Your Church Council continues to meet monthly to review the business of the church.

We continue to worship by live stream at 10 am and by physical distancing in the Outdoor Worship Space at 11 am every Sunday. We met in the pavilion/picnic shelter, on the one day that was rainy. We continue to pray for every member of our Congregation and those in the community in need. We pray for everyone affected by the Coronavirus. We pray for Pastor Wayne!

Thank you for your continued support via prayers and financial support. We are current on all our financial obligations thanks to YOU! Please continue to pray for our congregation and the health of our church family!

We pray that we will be to gather again inside the Sanctuary, but we will do it safely. I know it is taking too long to get to the Governor's Phase 3 of reopening but we are committed to the health of our church family.

PS- Fall Festival planned for September 13th has been cancelled. We will try again for next year!

Be safe!

Blessings,
Alecia Harrison, Council President



Due to the Covid-19 shutdown, and due to the LOL Council's recent decision to not have a Rally Day or the Annual Church Picnic, the Men's Group has decided that we will not meet in September. Our next meeting is tentatively planned for Friday, October 2nd at 7 pm.

Gerry Havenstein,
Men's Group Secretary

Social Concerns Update



YARD SALE CANCELLED!

In our recent monthly meeting we had long discussions on how best to spend our money to help our community. We continue to support Garner Area Ministries, the NC ELCA Lutheran Synod, the American Cancer Society, Church World Services, the Interfaith Food Shuttle (that feeds children during the summer) and the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Lord of Life donated 82.5 pounds of food to Garner Area Ministries last month. Thank you everyone! Please continue to bring your non-perishable food items to the narthex for our weekly deliveries to the GAM Food Pantry.

We appreciate your continued support of our ministries!

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





the book of ROMANS

The theology of the Apostle Paul

Martin Luther deeply studied the book of Romans. These are the passages that led him to write the 95 Theses to complain against the tenants of the Roman Catholic Church. They are also the passages that allowed Martin Luther to stop his frequent self-beatings. Martin knew that he was unworthy of the unconditional love that God gives us all.

Our New Testament readings of late have come from the book of Romans. These passages are significant to all people but especially to Lutherans. If you have a chance, read through the book of Romans and think on each chapter. Maybe you will discover some insights that Martin Luther also discovered. Only do this if you have time AFTER you have read through Pastor Wayne's thought of the day, usually in Psalms. AND the NC Lutheran Synod did "Moments with Matthew" through the month of July. You can access these devotions on the NCLutheran.org website. Moments with Matthew is at the bottom left of the website.



You are no longer
enslaved to your
unhealthy desires

BY THE POWER OF
THE HOLY SPIRIT
YOU CAN OVERCOME
ANYTHING

¹ Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, ² because through Christ

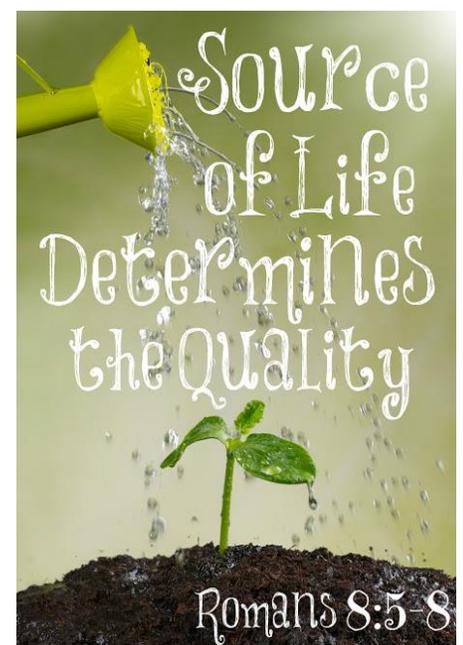
Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death. ³ For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit."
Romans 8:1-4, NIV

God gives us the free gift of unconditional love. We have no condemnation as long as we believe in Christ Jesus. How simple could that be? It still overwhelms me that God would send His ONLY Son to die for My sins! Seriously, what a deal! Nowhere else in my life is there such an extraordinary gift!

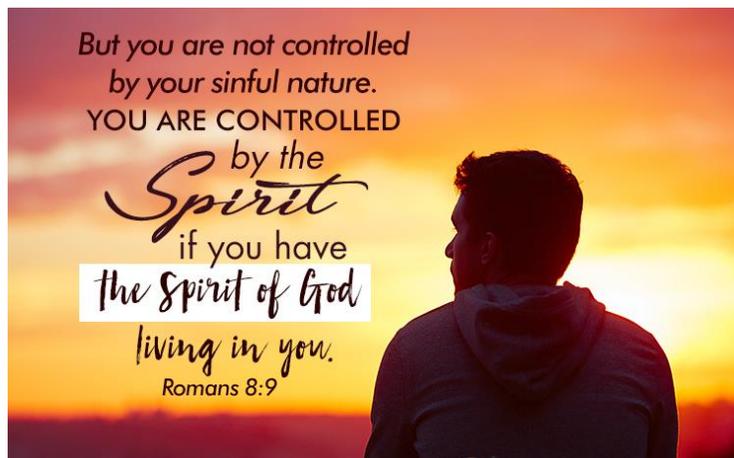
⁵ Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires.

⁶ The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ The mind governed by the

flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. ⁸ Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God." Romans 8:5-8, NIV

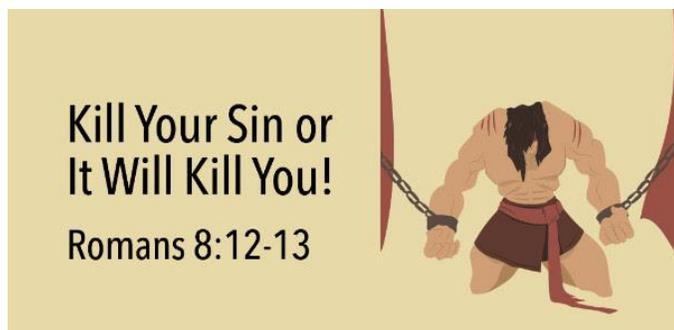


Again, we have a choice! Live in the world and be outside of God's will OR live for God each day. Of course, we are human and often make mistakes. Fortunately we have a loving God who will forgive us IF we ask for forgiveness. Again, what could be more simple! The skeptic part of me sometimes has a hard time believing that it is so simple, but God's love is endless, abundant, slow to anger and steadfast. What a promise!



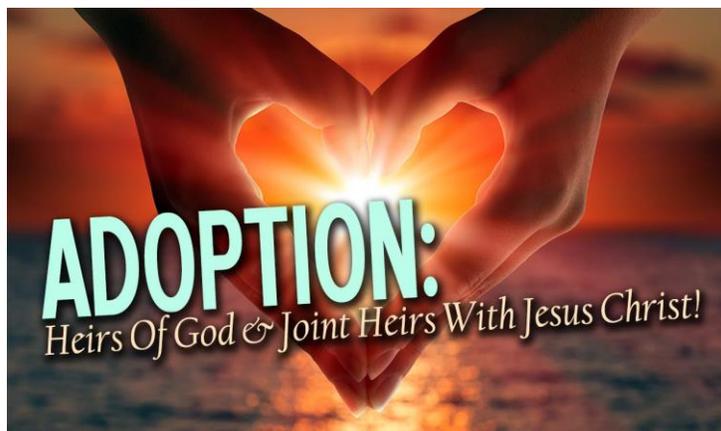
⁹ You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness. ¹¹ And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.” Romans 8:9-11, NIV

God is able to raise Jesus from death to life. Therefore, He can do ANYTHING!!!



¹² Therefore, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation—but it is not to the flesh, to live according to it. ¹³ For if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live.” Romans 8:12-13, NIV.

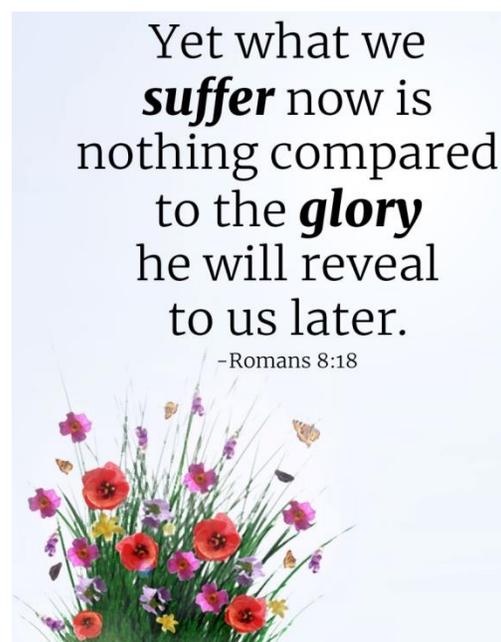
We are called to live for God, by the Spirit. Living in the flesh leads to death. Again, your choice!



¹⁴ For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. ¹⁵ The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.” ¹⁶ The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. ¹⁷ Now if we are children, then we are heirs— heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.” Romans 8:14-17, NIV

In an old movie, “To Each His Own”, a young boy told his friends that he was special because he was chosen to be in his family since he was adopted. His siblings were simply born into the family and you get what you get. A child's logic for sure, BUT I like the idea of being CHOSEN by God to be part of His family. We are all adopted in God's family by His Son, Jesus Christ. We are heirs of the Kingdom and will receive all the special benefits of being part of God's family to include eternal life in Heaven with God when God is done with our earthly work.

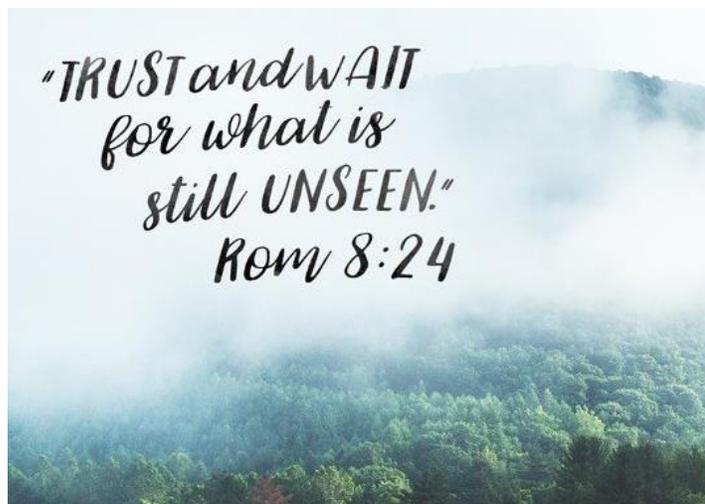
¹⁸ I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. ²⁰ For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be



liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God.” Romans 8:18-21, NIV

This is the part that so speaks to us today in the midst of the Coronavirus. It reminds us that God REALLY is in control. He NEVER said that bad things would not happen to His people, just that He is always by our side and He will give us a way out of our present circumstances. It can be very frustrating while we are going through trials but God gives us the gift of living through the trial and gaining perspective and building our faith and dependence on Him. I know some on you don't like to think about relying on God, but it really is easy to do this and gives me GREAT peace!

“²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. ²³ Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.” Romans 8:22-25, NIV



Waiting patiently for the gifts that God wants us to have....again, not always easy to WAIT! But God WANTS to give us gifts. He prepares us to receive them perfectly. Try to be patient!

“²⁶ In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. ²⁷ And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.” Romans 8:26-27, NIV



Pray! Ask God for help in your trials. Remember the Holy Spirit is ALWAYS by your side and interceding for you. Allow the Holy Spirit to help and guide you!

“²⁸ And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. ³⁰ And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.” Romans 8:28-30, NIV



We were chosen to be part of God's family before we were born. Glad you made it to our Lord of Life congregation so that you can see where YOU fit in God's family. We ALL are part of God's family. What a gift!!! I am SO glad you are my brothers and sisters!

“³¹ What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? ³³ Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ

Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?

³⁶ As it is written:

“For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”

Romans 8:31-36, NIV



What a blessing to KNOW that God is for us!!! So NO ONE can get to us because we are forever protected by God! Wow!!! And remember that ONLY God can justify! I struggle with judgment of others, but ONLY God can judge and determine who is worthy to be part of his family. Jesus died on the Cross for us; He is the only one who can forgive AND judge. I need to keep working on leaving that to Him, again, NOT my decision!

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Romans 8:37-39, NIV

In loving and honoring God, we are MORE than conquerors! Wow! That's amazing and a truth that we can hold onto! And NOTHING separates us from God! Not even pandemic, Coronavirus, physical separation, relationship silliness, financial strain, sickness, poor leadership, etc. NOTHING can separate us from God. Hold onto that! Know that God is beside you always, fighting for you and guiding you.

Rest comfortably in the arms of your Savior! And consciously decide to live for God as much as you can each day.

Blessings,
Alecia Harrison

Our Neighbors

(a series of short interviews with people in Garner and Beyond, by Dr. Brad Hunnicutt)

Pharmacist Curtis Illig operates White Oak Pharmacy at 501 Health Park Drive Suite 170 near the Rex Wellness Center and agreed to answer a few questions on 20 August 2020.

Name: Curtis Illig

Occupation: Pharmacist for 25 years

Born: Jamestown, NY, 1972

BH: Where did you go to school?

CI: Albany College of Pharmacy

BH: Please tell us a little about your family.

CI: My wife Melissa and I have been married for 20 years. We have three children, Isabella (17), Samantha (15), and Alex (13).

BH: What are your favorite things about Garner, and what factors played a role in your decision to open a pharmacy here?

CI: I chose to open in Garner because I like the idea of a more close-knit community. Small town feel.

BH: When I walk into your store, I get the impression that you have a very holistic approach to health. How would you summarize your health philosophy?

CI: I like to stress the importance of diet and exercise in staying healthy. Also supplementation with high quality vitamins. I offer a full line of pharmaceutical grade vitamins and other supplements as well as CBD (cannabidiol) products.

BH: I first found your store because you were offering Shingles vaccines. What other special services do you offer?

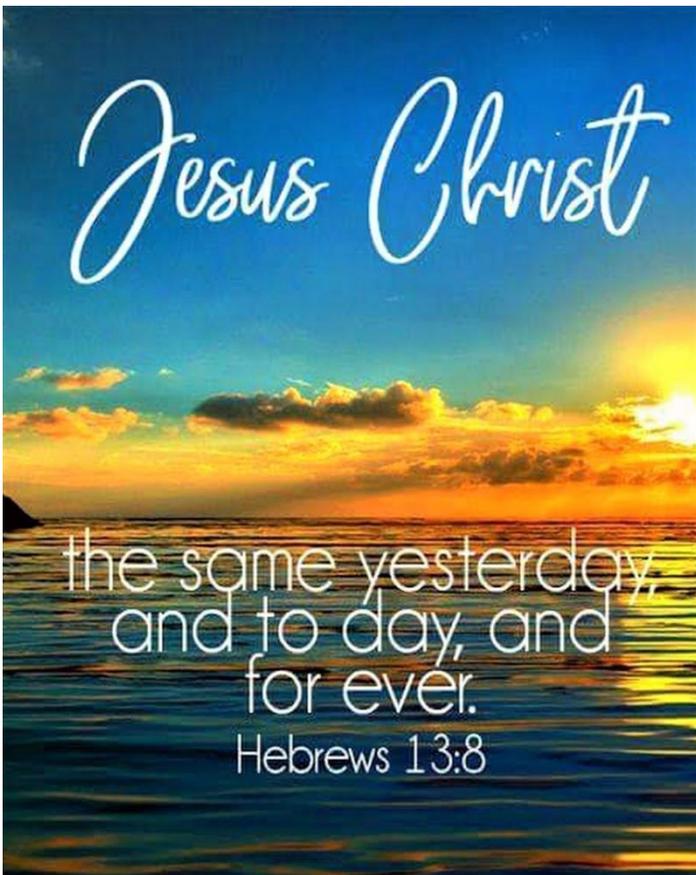
CI: In addition to shingles shots, I offer flu, pneumonia, and tetanus shots.

BH: I imagine your work keeps you very busy, but when you have free time, what are some of your favorite pursuits?

CI: I live on a horse farm and enjoy caring for our 14 horses and enjoy running and outdoor activities. I climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro a couple years ago.

BH: What is the best month to get a flu shot?

CI: The earlier the better with flu shots. I should be receiving mine next week.



Changes, Changes, Changes... Had Enough?

“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.” – Hebrews 13:8

Well, I think that this is one of those rare times (maybe the first) where the closet in your child’s room isn’t filled with new clothes for back to school, and the backpack emblazoned with the latest Disney character isn’t chock full of pencils, tablets, crayons and hand sanitizer. Perhaps, even, there was no trip to the beach, no being at camp for a week, and no hanging out with buddies for the entire summer! Nonetheless, it’s time for young minds to study again... school is back in the picture in a big way! To say “everything has changed” is both an understatement and at the same time a misnomer in this world that changes from minute to minute.

There’s a song (probably more than one) that says, ‘*everything must change*’ and though it’s a great song lyric, it’s not really a true phrase. Take significant memories for instance... memories are trapped in our brains and can neither be altered nor forgotten. Although some may be blocked due to traumatic circumstances, true memories cannot be changed for the simple reason that memories are a reality of the

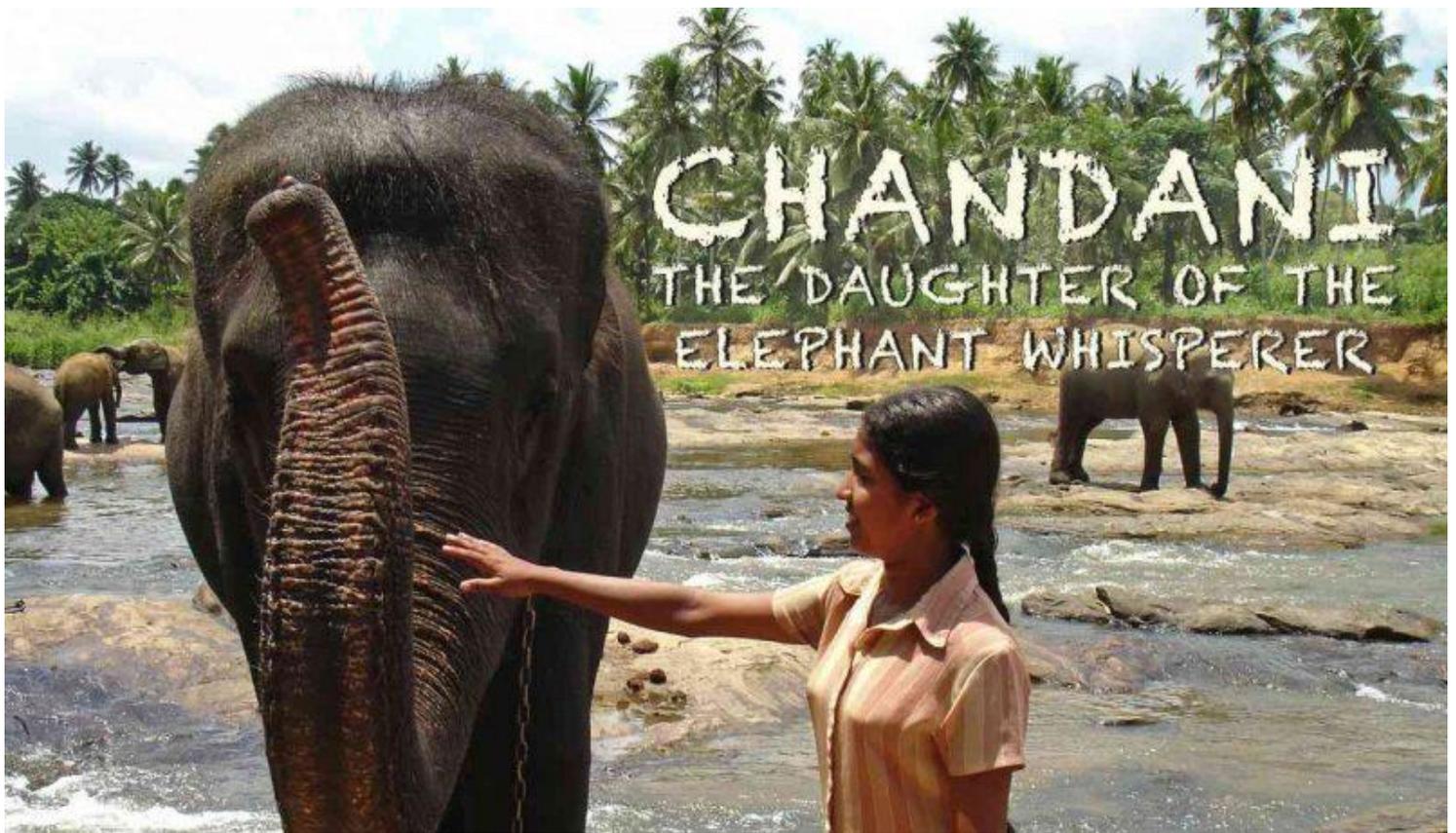
past (which also cannot be changed). *Ahhh*, the past, there are no real do-overs in life. Unfortunately, this can lead to regrets and wishes for different outcomes which, consequently, are a waste of time. On the flipside however, there IS tomorrow and therein we can endeavor to make a fresh start and not be at odds with the change.

Sure, we all have various changes in our lives; it’s the commonality of our current conditions that makes this 2020 change monumental. These past few months have, as the saying goes, “been one for the books!” and we’re all abuzz about the same things. The current pandemonium caused by the world’s pandemic is one of the times when we may question God’s providence... we might feel like He’s ‘done this to us’ for whatever reason, or at the very least, ‘allowed’ it to happen to us. But you know what?... we’ll get through... God will get us through because God never changes. To quote Malachi 3:6 He says, “*For I am the Lord, I change not...*”

So, we will meet the changes as they come, and as hard as it is, we will not walk in fear. We will walk in faith! We will trust God with all the changes, because we know that He can, and He will handle these changes... He always does! Because of this truth, when trepidation creeps in and everything seems to be flipped upside down, we can speak as did the Psalmist, “*God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in time of trouble...*” Yes, our places in the world and in our environs will continue to change; what we can do is try to change how we see the glass (half empty or half full)... you know, put on those rose-colored glasses and trust God! Be blessed.

Gale J. Isaacs

God
is our
REFUGE
STRENGTH



CHANDANI - DAUGHTER OF THE ELEPHANT WHISPERER: A REVIEW

Last month I reviewed the Australian film "Ride Like A Girl". A few years back I reviewed the documentary "The Eagle Huntress" telling the story about the first female Eagle Huntress in Mongolia. Just when I thought I heard it all, I discovered this documentary about Chandani, a Sinhalese girl who wants to be a mahout (elephant whisperer) like her father. This is all set in Sri Lanka. Her father gives her a chance and gives her an elephant calf she names Kandula to care for. She is trying to break into a male profession and many doubt her abilities. She first wins over, Mohammed, a ranger who is initially her sole supporter. He shows her the world of elephants in the jungle. Together they save an elephant baby from death.

Gradually she shows her developing skills and even the leader of the Mahouts in her community supports her so that eventually she is included in a very colorful, cultural festival in which she leads her elephant in the parade. Chandani and her family are Buddhists and so we are given brief glimpses into the religion and the culture of Sri Lanka, namely the worth that is given to elephants

We get a really positive picture of her relationship with her father and how proud he is that she wants to follow in his footsteps, learn from him, and his skills

with elephants will be passed on to his daughter. There is part in the film when her father describes the sensitive body parts of the elephant and how best to manage them. So we get an abridged anatomy lesson of elephants.

I did not quite get the value of elephants in Sri Lankan culture except the obvious, they can haul heavy loads, almost like trucks that don't need fuel but plenty of feed.

When the documentary first came out it garnered best Children's feature film at the German film awards (the director and film crew were German). It was also named best documentary at the Chicago International Children's Film Festival.

There are no actors in the film. We only get to know Chandani, her family and the community they are part of.

This is simply a beautiful, fun film to watch. Chandani is quiet but charming. However, I must make two disclaimers. First, at family meal times we see they do not use utensils or chop sticks, they use their hands. Secondly, if children watch it, and see how much fun Chandani has playing with Kandula, they will want to get an elephant.

~ 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.

Friends & family of Olivia Elizabeth Franklin, Gale Isaac's mother, who passed away 7/19; Friends and family of Carol Wallace, who passed away 3/20;

Dennis King – prayer of thanks for improvement; Shirley Poole; Monna Stamm; Ken Fillingim; Peg Stamp – myeloma and back surgery; Eric Roeser – rotator cuff surgery; Julie Roeser - eye surgery; Perry Connor – “old” friend of Dan Hayes; Dave & Linda Hash's son-in-law, Steven Burnett – hospitalized with chest pains; Leslie Jarrett's mother-in-law, Kim Jarrett Riley – hospitalized with Covid-19; Alice Austin's friend, Kathy Koonce – brain tumor; Ebony Avery and Stacey Foley, co-workers of Sarah Watkins – breast cancer; Julia Lochra's cousin, Les Salmon – 3rd spinal surgery; Tess Andrews brother, David Van Benschoten – multiple myeloma; Tess Andrews friend, Sarah Trustman – undiagnosed illness; 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; Holly Hans' mother, Carol Hardy; 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.



September

September 1	Deanna Leuenberger
September 2	Gerry Havenstein
September 5	Nancy Clifford
September 7	Ben Harrison
September 8	Emma Terrazas
September 16	Claire Dubnansky
September 17	Kerri Blanchard
September 22	Mike Kestner
September 23	Shannon Thomsen
September 27	Esther Bredell
September 29	James Stewart
September 30	Adia Hans

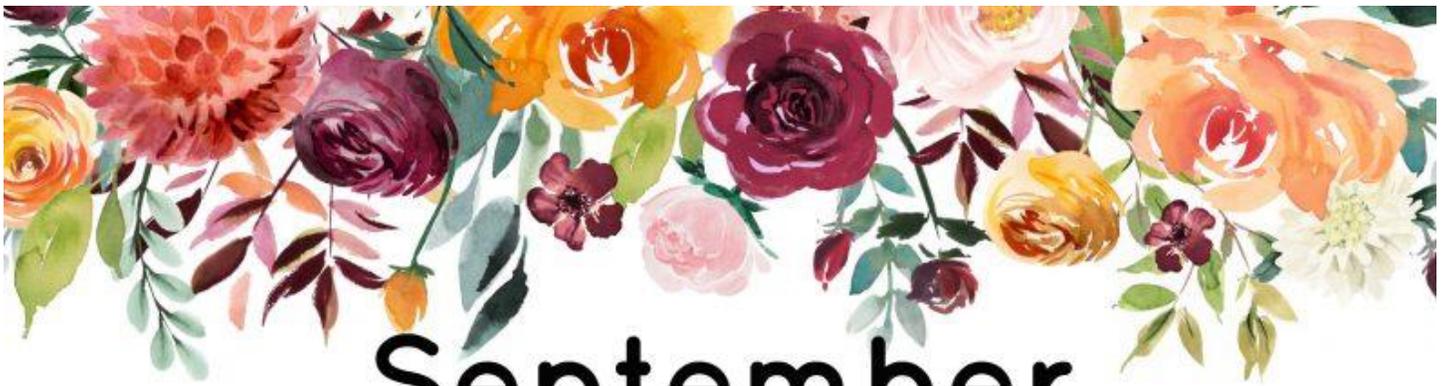
October

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

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

September

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5 
6 10 am Virtual Worship 11 am 	7 	8	9	10	11 PATRIOT DAY 	12
13 10 am Virtual Worship 11 am 	14	15	16	17	18	19 TALK LIKE A PIRATE DAY 
20 10 am Virtual Worship 11 am 	21	22	23 	24	25	26 
27 10 am Virtual Worship 11 am 	28 	29 	30	Sunday Worship Schedule Remains: 10 am – Live Stream Virtual Worship From the Sanctuary 11 am – Outdoor Worship in the Outdoor Chapel Eucharist – First Sunday of the Month		



September

SCRIPTURE WRITING PLAN

Encouragement

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Day 1: Exodus 14:14 | Day 16: Romans 8:37-39 |
| Day 2: Psalm 4:8 | Day 17: Romans 15:4-6 |
| Day 3: Psalm 23:1-6 | Day 18: Romans 15:13 |
| Day 4: Psalm 34:3 | Day 19: 2 Corinthians 1:3-5 |
| Day 5: Psalm 46:5 | Day 20: Galatians 6:2 |
| Day 6: Psalm 145:18 | Day 21: Galatians 6:9 |
| Day 7: Proverbs 16:24 | Day 22: Ephesians 3:20-21 |
| Day 8: Isaiah 40:31 | Day 23: Philippians 1:3-6 |
| Day 9: Isaiah 41:13 | Day 24: Philippians 2:1-4 |
| Day 10: Isaiah 43:1-2 | Day 25: 1 Thess. 5:11 |
| Day 11: Lament. 3:22-23 | Day 26: 2 Thess. 2:15-17 |
| Day 12: Acts 9:26-28, 31 | Day 27: Philemon 4-7 |
| Day 13: Acts 20:1-3 | Day 28: Hebrews 6:19-20 |
| Day 14: Romans 8:18 | Day 29: Hebrews 12:4-6 |
| Day 15: Romans 8:28 | Day 30: Hebrews 13:8 |

*Commit to spending 10 minutes every day to meditate and reflect on God's Word.
Write down what you have gleaned from each day's scripture.*

