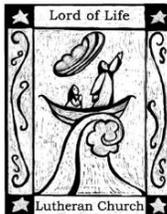


## November 2021

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

### Congregational Council

Alecia Harrison ..... President  
Open ..... Vice President  
Julie Bogle ..... Secretary  
Lindsay Crocker ..... Treasurer  
Tess Andrews ..... Deputy Treasurer  
Terry Barnes ..... Financial Secretary  
Sarah Watkins, Steven Brantley, Lindsay  
Crocker, and Dan Hayes



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

Email: [LordofLife2100@gmail.com](mailto:LordofLife2100@gmail.com)  
Pastor's Email: [wdubnansky@gmail.com](mailto:wdubnansky@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.lordoflifechurchgarnernc.org](http://www.lordoflifechurchgarnernc.org)  
Office (919) 772-9044

No Matter What  
Happens or Whatever  
We Face Ahead of Us  
God The Almighty Is  
With Us Always :)



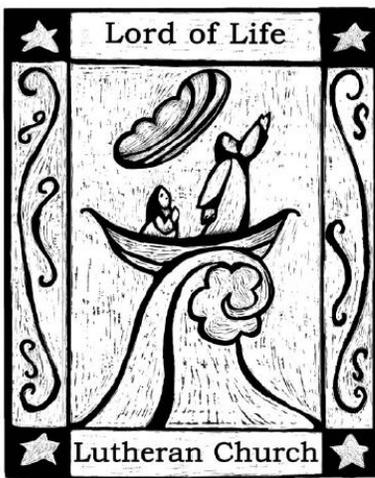
## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**Sundays:** 10 am – In-Person Worship

10 am - Live Stream Virtual Worship via Facebook Live

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

**Eucharist:** Every Sunday



# Life-Lines

November 2021



## WONDERMENTS FROM PASTOR WAYNE'S WORLD

One sermon title in the Reformation Month sermon series was Sola Gratia, Grace Alone. Another Latin word similar to Gratia is Gratiarum which means Thanks. Let me relate briefly some of Martin Luther's thoughts on Grace. Luther held high that God is a God of Grace. Luther sees God as a gracious God Who does not require His people to fulfill a set of prerequisites in order to receive God's gift in Christ or to reciprocate God's giving in order to continue to receive Christ's benefits. For Luther, to have a God of Grace means to believe and trust that through Jesus Christ, God has already met all prerequisites and reciprocations as well. Through Luther's emphasis on Grace (Gratia), he was breaking new ground or recovering lost ground God's people's understanding of divine Grace. Divine Grace is not dependent on human willing and doing. It is not dependent on any "human actions" at all.

Because of God's Gratia (Grace) our human response is that of Gratiarum (Giving Thanks). Luther saw "giving thanks" as a basic attitude that we carry around as a natural part of our make-up. He was said to have called it the "Mold that shapes life". When someone does something for us, we feel that a thanks is due. Luther called unthankfulness "theft". Giving thanks just simply by taking time out of our ordinary lives to just appreciate what we have received.

Even more so when we think of all that we have received from the God of Grace, we take time out to worship the God Who has been so Gracious to us by corporately coming together in worship to give Him thanks and praise. Meister Eckhart said, "If the only prayer you ever said in your whole life was "Thank You" – that would suffice.

Jesus gave thanks for food and to God for answering His prayer to bring Lazarus back to life.

Jesus commended the one leper who came back and said thank you for his healing. Paul starts many of his letters with thanksgiving for the community of faith to which he is writing: the Corinthians, Ephesians, and Thessalonians. You know the others. He tells them to give thanks for all things.

He links giving thanks with rejoicing and praying. In 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 he says, "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

The actual Greek term for Holy Communion, Eucharist, means Thanksgiving. It is a thanksgiving for the life, death and resurrection of Jesus that opened up a new relationship of us with God through the forgiveness of sins.

~ Pastor Wayne





## From the Desk of Your Council President

Your Church Council is still working hard for everyone at Lord of Life Lutheran Church. We have seen some really good people leave our congregation this past year. The Pandemic has affected Lord of Life just as much as it has affected every church in the world! We are grateful for our visitors and all the members of the congregation that have stepped up to fill the needs of the church. The entire Council has increased their presence to assist with worship assistants. YOU can also volunteer to be a Reader, Greeter, Usher, and/or Assisting Minister. Training is available upon request.



Thank you to Lindsay Crocker who has accepted the Treasurer position! We thank Lindsay and Becky Babel, former LOL Treasurer, who worked tirelessly to

close the 2020 financial records and are currently working on the 2022 Budget. This new budget will be presented to the Congregation at our January Annual Meeting.

We are looking for FIVE new Council members! Two will fill a one year term and 3 will fill a three year term. Please talk with a Council member if you are interested in working for the congregation in this way. A copy of the Council Member Job Description is included in this Newsletter for your reference.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Small Group sessions to discuss the 2022 goals. Your Council is still assembling this information to form measurable goals. We hope that these measurable goals are also available very soon.

I hope that everyone who attended the 2021 Ministry Fair learned something interesting about a ministry group at Lord of Life. We are all looking for new members. Can you help?



Our Annual Christmas Party, sponsored by the Men's Group, will be held on Friday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. We will hold our annual White Elephant Gift Exchange that night. This event is SO fun and I hope that everyone will be able to attend!!!!

As a reminder, the Camp Agapé O Holy Night will be held on Friday, December 10<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, December 11<sup>th</sup>.

Tickets are on sale now through the Camp Agapé Ministries website. We will not have group tickets this year. But this is an awesome event to help you get into the mood of Christmas.



And finally, everyone enjoys fellowship after church. Please consider sponsoring a fellowship either by yourself or with a friend. The sign-up sheet is posted in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you to Sheryll Albert for providing a dessert for many weeks during the year!

*"A wife of noble character who can find?*

*She is worth far more than rubies.*

*Her husband has full confidence in her and lacks nothing of value.*

*She brings him good, not harm, all the days of her life.*

*She selects wool and flax and works with eager hands.*

*She is like the merchant ships, bringing her food from afar.*

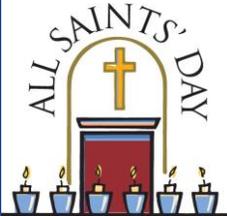
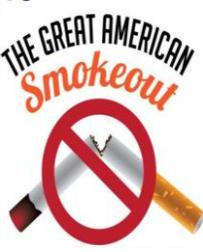
*She gets up while it is still night; she provides food for her family*

*and portions for her female servants."*

Proverbs 31:10-15, NIV

Blessings,  
Alecia Harrison, Council President



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 	2 	3 	4	5	6
7 	8	9	10	11 	12	13 
14 Every Sunday 9 am Coffee & Old Testament Bible Study w/Pastor Wayne 10 am Worship	15	16	17  NATIONAL TAKE A HIKE DAY	18  THE GREAT AMERICAN Smokeout	19	20
21  National Stuffing Day	22	23	24	25  IT'S THANKSGIVING...	26	27
28 National French Toast Day 	29	30 				

## ***It's Genteel to Choose Wisely... Words, That Is***

Wow, "genteel," now that's a word straight outta *Gone With the Wind*! So, let's put it in the framework of my intent. If you simply heard, with no contextual cues, that "*the tongue is a pen*," what would you think? You'd probably categorize it similarly to a few related phrases we've heard many times before including: "*The tongue is mightier than the sword*," "*The pen is mightier than the sword*," and "*The tongue cuts like a knife*", etc. Whether it's the former or the latter, or the third, WORDS are the focus; more specifically, how we utilize words, be it in a graphic or verbal sense.

I was sure that these phrases had been introduced to me in the form of adages or poems in an undergraduate English class, all while reading some sort of heavy literature... WRONG! It seems that the Book of Psalms and the Book of James are the front-runner catalysts (of course, there are others but far be it from me to claim biblical scholar status). Okay, so this is how it all started (this time)... one of our LOL spiritual email messages talked about what the Psalmist called "*secret faults*." After reading that message, the term added a bit of fodder to my mental hamster wheel. You see, I was dealing with my reaction about a 'Reply to all' email that was sent out, so I've been trying to express my feelings about it in a reverential, considerate, and non-sarcastic way and, thereby, trying not to create yet another personal *secret fault*. Besides, if there is something to be said to A person, then say it to that person because, honestly, it's just *Gi-Go* (garbage in- garbage out) for the rest of us.

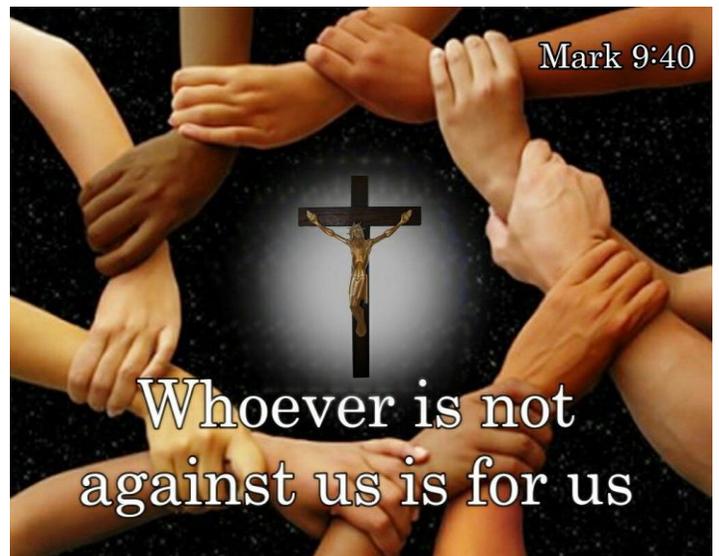
I started thinking about the things we do which can be considered *secret faults*... you know, those things that we do wherein we waltz gaily through life without even a hint of impropriety. I think they can be considered *secret faults* because we aren't aware of the remotest probability of fallout... of any kind! We just say whatever we want to say, however we wish to say it, to whomever we want to say it! Be it in writing or voice and, Voila! We told him/her! And we're betting he/she won't dare do that again! Well, one thing to consider is that words are very important... they can do harm for quite a long time, or forever (yeah, most of us claim to be forgiving folk, but...). Often it's how we do a thing. When we're full of moral indignation to defend a slight offense (real or

imagined), it's then that we are eager to throw acrimonious words to avenge that slight. Of course, a little zinger here and there is going to pop out (alas, we're fallible humans) so it's extremely important to select wisely from our mental vocabulary; find a worthy substitute that doesn't sting as much, OR we could just remain silent. Let's face it, we can make reconciliation very hard.

We all are guilty of passing our judgments on other people just because we think we know what is better for others. We totally forget that the only judgment that we should ever be worried about is the judgment of our God above us. So, we can compartmentalize petty issues (yeah, I said it) and if that's difficult, we can choose to remain silent... zip-the-lip as it were.

Be blessed.

Gale J. Isaacs



**Whoever is not against you,  
is for you!**

This is what Mark 9:40 tells us....look it up! The world tells you to fend for yourself and forget what everyone else is doing because everyone has an agenda. God tells us that our actions have consequences. I personally think this is the most important lesson that a parent can teach their children. Every decision that you make will result in an outcome... some of them will be beneficial and some will be disastrous. But you will HAVE to live with ALL the results of your actions. It is the same within our church. The results of the pandemic have been devastating to our congregational life. We are slowly rebuilding. You have a choice to be part of the problem OR the solution! I hear many of you say that

you just want everything to go back to the way it was. Sorry! That will not happen. We DID live through the pandemic and unfortunately we are not completely out of the woods yet. We are tired of wearing masks and not worshipping as we did before. I ask you to continue to do what is reasonable to keep you and your family safe. This will look differently for each of you.

It is our instinct to focus on the Lack within our church instead of the bounty. It is easy to miss the members of the Congregation that have decided to worship at home or at other churches. We miss our family members! Life can be messy. And it currently feels very messy.



The blessings are being able to worship with your church family even when you are not home. We can watch most of our services online. That was evolving a year ago and now a widespread option. This also means that you can watch your extended family's church or your childhood home church. I have been

able to "attend" Bible Studies with other churches and friends that I have met from other adventures. We have been very creative with music and worship styles to keep our videos interesting.

Remember your baptism. Jesus looks at us and says YOU are MY child, named and loved. And He gives us a FREE gift of grace. Share this grace and mercy and love with everyone around you. Especially the people who are difficult to love! We have HOPE in the Lord and we get to REST in the Lord. He is always with us. He walks through the fire with us!

*"So the king gave the order, and they brought Daniel and threw him into the lions' den. The king said to Daniel, "May your God, whom you serve continually, rescue you!"*

*A stone was brought and placed over the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet ring and with the rings of his nobles, so that Daniel's situation might not be changed. Then the king returned to his palace and spent the night without*

*eating and without any entertainment being brought to him. And he could not sleep.*

*At the first light of dawn, the king got up and hurried to the lions' den. When he came near the den, he called to Daniel in an anguished voice, "Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to rescue you from the lions?"*

*Daniel answered, "May the king live forever! My God sent his angel, and he shut the mouths of the lions. They have not hurt me, because I was found innocent in his sight. Nor have I ever done any wrong before you, Your Majesty."*

*The king was overjoyed and gave orders to lift Daniel out of the den. And when Daniel was lifted from the den, no wound was found on him, because he had trusted in his God."* Daniel 6:16-23, NIV

There is someone in the fire with you. YOU are NEVER Alone! We have been adopted into God's family. That is an awesome privilege with many responsibilities and blessings. When you are discouraged, run to Jesus. He will help you! We are surprised that we can accept Jesus in our life but He has already accepted us into His. Think about that!

Blessings,  
Alecia Harrison



All Sundays of the year are festivals of our Lord Jesus Christ. This year the festival of Reformation coincides with Halloween, October 31<sup>st</sup>. The paraments are red, then change to white for All Saints Sunday, November 7<sup>th</sup> and then back to green for the end of Pentecost.

Thank you to Sarah Watkins for serving during October. Grace Barnes will serve for November.

Advent and a new church year will arrive soon.

We always welcome new members if you would like to serve.

Ginny King  
(919) 763-0445

**Cheerful Giving  
with The Right Heart  
Motive ... Thank You!**



*"If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person?"*

– John 3:17

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! Social Concerns has entered this autumn season riding a wave of giving with heartfelt thanks and appreciation to everyone who contributed to the success of the return of our Annual Yard Sale! And, an ongoing special thanks shout-out to Nancy Cahoon who is always willing to help out.

Since we just held the Lord of Life Ministry Fair, I'm sure that you are well aware of the ongoing, regular outreach ministries that are sponsored by Social Concerns Ministry. As a reminder, the season of most rigorous giving is upon us and we are thanking you in advance for your imminent participation; thank you. *The Town of Garner Fire Department and the Town of Garner Police Department* have both been added to the list of worthy causes to which we donate and ELCA Good Gifts is designated for the month of November. We are communicating with Wake County Social Services regarding our Angel Tree so that we can add to the delight of a Garner area family.

This month begins the Holiday Food Collection Initiative for Garner Area Ministries; we accept all donations but especially turkeys and hams for the holiday season.

Yep, we Social Concerns Folk always seek your assistance and in turn, we always help out local and international donation efforts. This generous exchange of giving is the hallmark of every Christian outreach effort. Social Concerns is simply the "middle-man" for your outreach enterprise... in this exchange of hope and help, we are all blessed.

Social Concerns Ministry  
Gale Isaacs and Alecia Harrison  
Co-chairs



Continuing this fall on Sunday mornings at 9 am, before our 10 am Sunday worship, there will be a time for Coffee & Old Testament Bible Study with Pastor Wayne. You don't have to be a coffee drinker. Just like our Sunday morning fellowships – tea, hot chocolate, and other beverages will be available.

Each Sunday morning we will view a 30 minute video on the Old Testament followed by discussion.

*All are welcome.*



In the US, Black Friday occurs the day after



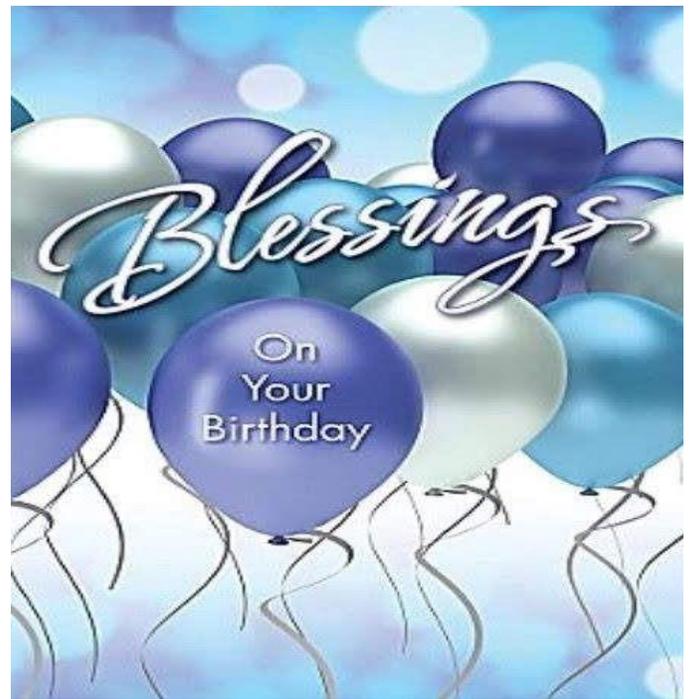
Thanksgiving. It is one of the busiest shopping days of the year marked by massive crowds and discounted prices, and it signals the beginning of the holiday shopping

season. But did you know that this day is also known as Buy Nothing Day? Buy Nothing Day was founded in 1992 and seeks to protest consumerism and encourages people to save their money by not purchasing unnecessary items. It also encourages people to live their lives by spending quality time with family and friends instead, and to practice self-restraint in the face of numerous advertisements.





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



Family of James Nielsen Andrews – Harry Albert’s Uncle; Jim Powers; Shirley Poole; Joan Stuart – broken hip; Mary Langworthy’s mother, Evelyn Peterson – broken femur; Eric Roeser, MS; Julie Roeser, eye surgery; Julie Roeser’s brother, Paul Panek; Shannon Thomsen – bicycle accident; Jim Powers; Jonathan McCoy; Bob Savoysky – pancreatic cancer; Karen Morassi, cousin of Anne Marie Dubnansky; Ingrid Albee, long-time friend of the Dubnansky’s; Lora Clark’s friend, Rebecca Bowman, breast cancer; Sheryll Albert’s father, John Pope, and his wife, Barbara Pope; Kevin & his family, stage 4 cancer; Dennis King; Ginny King’s niece, Robin Littleton – recurrence of breast cancer; Peg Stamp, myeloma & back surgery; Julia Lochra’s friend, Tom Chism - ALS; Tess Andrews brother, David Van Benschoten, multiple myeloma; Tess Andrews friend, Jon Driggers – heart surgery; Karen Rodgers, stage 4 cancer; Lindsay Crocker’s Nephew, Daniel Harman, health and healing; Karen Wright’s mother, Carol Goodford, heart issues; Pam Klawiter’s co-worker, Carolyn Harbertson, breast cancer; 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; Susie, Benjamin and Bryce Lowe.



## **November**

November 2	Maddie Terrazas
November 2	Carolyn Watkins
November 3	Pastor Mike Deal
November 4	Paul Savolainen
November 5	Michael Eggert Tess Andrews
November 7	Dennis King Benjamin Gerald Lowe
November 8	Jeremy Hans
November 11	Mark Macurdy
November 15	Ryan Johnson
November 17	Kari Britt
November 21	Ryan Roof
November 22	Bobby Grayson Brad Hunnicutt
November 23	Christopher Hayduk Don Wallace
November 24	Jason Blanchard
November 28	Terry Barnes
November 29	Lindsay Crocker

## **December**

December 5	Rebecca Swanson
December 7	Amanda Babel Jim Rebbeor
December 8	Lisa Grayson
December 9	Neil Brennecke
December 14	John Nalepa
December 20	Pastor Dave Brooks
December 26	Becky Babel Drew Cook
December 28	Karen Wright
December 30	Verity Eggert



The best and **most beautiful things** in the world cannot be seen or even touched - they must be **felt with the heart.**

– *Helen Keller*

through the sensations of touch, smell, and vibrations. This was depicted in the movie CODA where the deaf father feels the vibrations of Ruby's throat while she is speaking. Ruby is the only hearing member of the family.

Helen continued to

## **BECOMING HELEN KELLER: A Review**

Near the beginning of this 2-hour documentary, the narrator gives us this contrast: Napoleon wanted to conquer the world by force and failed. Helen Keller wanted to conquer the world by the power of the mind, and succeeded.

This remarkable documentary was narrated by Rebecca Alexander who herself had Usher Syndrome which caused her deafness and blindness. Thus, by her narration we indirectly learn about Rebecca; however, we are introduced to others. Laura Bridgman, whom I knew as the first deaf, blind, American child to get an English education at the Perkins School for the Blind in Watertown, Massachusetts, which is still considered the leader in education for the blind and other disabilities. Much of Helen Keller's success is also attributed to the Perkins School.

Most of us already knew of Anne Sullivan; nonetheless, she had Trauma which caused loss of vision which was improved by eye surgeries. A fun fact, her hometown is the same as Anne Marie, my wife – Feeding Hills, Massachusetts. Anne was Helen's teacher and long-time companion.

Polly Thompson was Keller's other long time interpreter and companion. She has been called the third Musketeer, beautifully complimenting Helen and Anne and so very important to Helen from the time Anne died in 1936 until Polly's death in 1960.

As expected, so much was covered of Helen's extraordinary life that I will only mention some of what I saw as significant. Her first major writing was the book "The World I Live In" published in 1908 when she was only 28 years old. It was the first time the world could get a sense of the beauty of the world perceived

write all her life, and she was constantly on "speaking" tours with an interpreter of course. For much of her early life, Helen's mode of communication was finger spelling. Even when she had learned to vocalize, she needed an interpreter similar to our need for subtitles when we watch a show with a strong Irish brogue. Helen was involved with the ABF (Association for the Blind Foundation) for much of her adult life, and she championed several social justice causes including women's suffrage.

A fun fact, she was close to Alexander Graham Bell, whose wife was deaf. Additionally, she is perhaps best known from the movie Miracle Worker, in which Patty Duke won an academy award for her depiction of Helen in the Miracle Worker. The documentary said that scene was "way over the top" in its dramatization.

She travelled the world as a diplomat at important times such as following the nuclear devastations Nagasaki and Hiroshima where she could give survivors hope. She died in 1968, and like Anne and Polly before her, her ashes were interred in the National Cathedral.

Even though the documentary did not include this, Helen was an ardent Swedenborgian, a Christian denomination influenced by the writings of Emmanuel Swedenborg who lived in the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

I will close with a quote of Helen's as she was approaching death, which I used in the October 24<sup>th</sup> sermon. "I can't understand why anyone would fear death. Life here is more cruel than death. I believe when the eyes behind my physical eyes shall be open upon the world to come, I shall simply be consciously living in the country of my heart."

Then I explained "The country of her new heart would be a new life, leaving behind her life of darkness and silence.

~ Pastor Wayne

# LOL Council Member Job Description

## All LOL Council Members must:

1. Be a member of Lord of Life Lutheran Church.
2. Regularly attend worship services.
3. Regularly attend extracurricular church activities, including Sunday School.
4. Attend monthly Council meetings, date and time TBD. One excused absence per year.
5. Read emails and be prepared for discussion of topics identified prior to the meeting.
6. Act as a liaison to one of Lord of Life's ministries and give a monthly update to the Council.
7. Lead devotion for a Council meeting at least once per year.
8. Be a Greeter and Offering Counter at least two months of the year.
9. Attend the Annual Meeting if possible, usually held in January.
10. Attend the Annual Leadership meeting, usually held in February.
11. Pray regularly for the Pastor, Council and Congregation.

With the exception of the pastor(s), the members of the Congregation Council shall be elected by written ballot at a legally called meeting of the congregation during the month of January. Their terms shall be for 3 years or until their successors are elected.

## Council Officers:

**President**: Chairs all meetings of the Council and Congregational Meetings.

**Vice President**: Presides in the absence of the President.

**Secretary**: Records minutes of the Council and Congregational Meetings.

**Treasurer**: The Chief Financial Officer of the church & Chair of the Finance Committee submits monthly reports to the Council and presents the annual budget at the Annual Congregational Meeting.

The Council will elect its officers at the Annual Leadership Retreat, usually held in February each year. The officers shall serve for one year or until their successors are elected. Their terms shall begin at the close of the Council meeting in which they were elected.

No officer shall hold more than one office at a time. No elected officer shall be eligible to serve more than 2 consecutive terms in the same office.



# November

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## SCRIPTURE WRITING PLAN

# Thanks & Giving

Day 1: Colossians 3:15-17

Day 2: Philippians 4:6

Day 3: Psalm 106:1

Day 4: Ephesians 2:8

Day 5: James 1:17

Day 6: Psalm 100:4

Day 7: Hebrews 12:28-29

Day 8: 2 Corinthians 4:15-16

Day 9: Romans 1:21

Day 10: Isaiah 12:4-5

Day 11: John 10:10

Day 12: 2 Timothy 4:4-5

Day 13: Luke 6:35-36

Day 14: Psalm 107:8

Day 15: Colossians 1:12

Day 16: 2 Timothy 3:1-5

Day 17: Ephesians 4:31-32

Day 18: Hebrews 6:4-6

Day 19: Micah 6:8

Day 20: Deuteronomy 16:17

Day 21: Proverbs 3:27

Day 22: Proverbs 11:24-25

Day 23: Matthew 6:3-4

Day 24: Luke 6:38

Day 25: Acts 20:35

Day 26: 2 Corinthians 9:6-8

Day 27: 1 Corinthians 13:1-8

Day 28: 1 Corinthians 13:9-13

Day 29: Matthew 5:10-12

Day 30: Galatians 6:2

*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.*



*The Ruffled Mango*

