

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

**Congregational Council**

Alecia Harrison ..... President  
Tim Clark ..... Vice President  
Julie Bogle ..... Secretary  
Lindsay Crocker ..... Treasurer  
Tess Andrews ..... Deputy Treasurer  
Terry Barnes ..... Financial Secretary  
Steven Brantley, Gale Isaacs, Sylvia Lambert,  
Sarah Watkins

**June 2022**



**Lord of Life  
Lutheran Church**  
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**WORSHIP**  
**SCHEDULE**

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

10 am - Virtual Worship via Facebook

Live [https://www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/LolLCGarner)

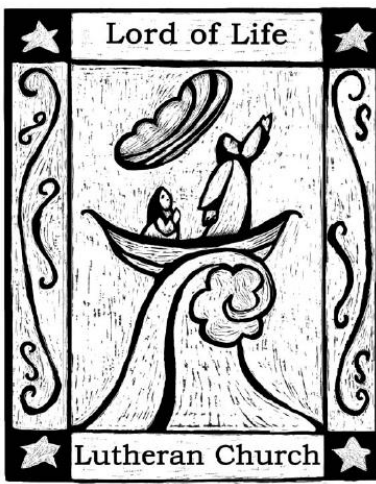
LoLLCGarner OR on YouTube Channel

(search for Lord of Life Lutheran  
Church ELCA)

**Eucharist:** Every Sunday

Hello God, we need your help  
down here. The world has gone  
crazy. Please hear our prayers.  
Thank you, we trust you. Amen.





# Life-Lines

June 2022



## WONDERMENTS FROM PASTOR WAYNE'S WORLD

For this newsletter, I am focusing on those who were not looking for attention initially, but they could not help but be noticed. Kempton Bunton, the main character in the film "The Duke", which I have reviewed for this newsletter, just wanted to be able to watch TV with no fee.

Most of you know that from 7:30 am till 12:30 pm I job coach a 30 something young man with autism at Walmart. As I am there, I notice the magazines, and there is a special edition on Ann Frank, 75 year anniversary of her diary being revealed to the world. Ann Frank was not looking for attention; she merely wanted to live maybe till now when she would have been in her late eighties. Instead, she just might "live forever". She will be remembered as the girl who wrote of a world in the most positive way exhibiting her faith in the goodness of people in general. Her name may forever be spoken, because that diary she wrote as a teenage girl was found and published in a great many languages as a somber testimony of living in hiding in order to survive during the Nazi years.

One of the first female Christian martyrs was aptly named Perpetua, a name so close to "perpetual" meaning "never ending". She along with Felicity, which means "happiness", were martyred March 7, 202. Just as Perpetua and Felicity are synonymous with Christian Martyrdom, Ann Frank represents all those millions martyred during World War II.

We can think of biblical characters who were not looking for attention foremost in the Old Testament. David anointed when he was just a "boy shepherd". Peter and his disciple colleagues who did not step forward giving any semblance of a volunteering spirit. The disciples are not described as eagerly awaiting the

opportunity to carry on Jesus' ministry. Paul described himself as "One untimely born. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me." (1 Corinthians 15:8) Nonetheless, Peter and the disciples, Paul and early Christians like Perpetua became zealous for spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

These followers of Jesus have been long gone, and throughout the generations, others have been handed the baton of the Gospel until that baton now has been passed to the followers of Jesus today. We, along with all of Jesus followers, are given the responsibility of passing the Gospel of Jesus Christ along to the next generation and the next generation after that.

This Memorial Day weekend will mark the 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Lord of Life Lutheran Church. Forty-five years of spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ in Word and Deed. That has not changed in the past, nor will it change now or in the future. Earlier I had stated that Ann Frank will "live forever" because of the diary she kept. I am confident that we all want Lord of Life Lutheran Church to "live forever", spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ as a Lutheran presence in the community of Garner, North Carolina by our words and our deeds. The question we all have to ask ourselves is "what parts will we play in making that happen?"

~ Pastor Wayne



I want to go on living even after my death! And therefore I am grateful to God for giving me this gift, this possibility of developing myself and of writing, of expressing all that is in me. I can shake off everything if I write; my sorrows disappear, my courage is reborn.

(Anne Frank)



## From the Desk of Your Council President

We had a good turnout for the **First Annual Dave Hash Baseball Outing!** Pastor Wayne came through with the reasonably priced tickets. And the weather held out! The rain came after we had all left the ballfield. The 9<sup>th</sup> inning was the most exciting one. The Woodcocks had steadily increased their lead through the earlier innings. And being the home team, the Mudcats batted last. They loaded the bases for the first time in the game with no outs! They managed to get one batter into home, but ended up leaving the bases full. The last batter was the Designated Hitter, Jesus! We were hopeful for a saving hit but it just didn't happen. We did however continue to root, root, root for the Home Team at the Old Ball Game! Hope to see you there next year!



Do you enjoy fellowship after church? I do! The Parish Committee has done an excellent job to ensure that we always have something available after worship. But every small contribution helps! Consider bringing something once a month to continue to make Fellowship enjoyable for all.

On Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup> after worship, we will have a TRAINING session for all things to enhance worship. If you are interested in doing more during our worship services, I ask you to plan to hang out in the Sanctuary for a few minutes after worship. Training for Rotary service on Wednesday morning will be in the Fellowship Hall.

We will have a Church wide Work Day on Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup>. Each committee will provide a list of cleaning chores. I hope you can come to help. Many hands make light work!



Thank you for participating in our Small Group sessions on Communication. The Council is still working through the data and will communicate the results to the Congregation next month.

I have been working with the Synod about some of our more pressing issues. We had a Coach come to work with the Council a few months ago. We developed our goals for 2022 and continue to work on some issues identified by our small group sessions. We continue to have fewer people at worship than we did before Covid. This cannot be the sole responsibility of the Pastor. Everyone needs to look into our community and think about where we can serve those in need. And be kind to our visitors, answer questions, welcome them to worship, invite them to join us for Fellowship.

There is a concern that we do not have young families or a youth program. Our strengths post-Covid are online presence and online giving. We continued worship during the entire pandemic by utilizing our beautiful outdoor worship space until we could come back into the Sanctuary. And we are current on our bills. However, we are behind in our budget and will continue to struggle without a significant change. We have great congregational members and currently have great ministries but we have not changed to adapt to the needs of our community. We need to grow our Youth ministry and our overall membership. And we need new ways to meet the needs of our Congregation and our community.

I am grateful for every one of you! And want you to know that I will continue to work hard for Lord of Life Lutheran Church.

***"Teach them his decrees and instructions, and show them the way they are to live and how they are to behave."***  
Exodus 18:20, NIV

Blessings,  
Alecia Harrison, Council President





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Sundays</b> 9 am Coffee & Bible Study 10 am Worship			1 7 am Rotary Breakfast  7 pm Choir Practice	2	3 7 pm 	4
5  Pentecost Sunday	6	7  NATIONAL CHOCOLATE ICE CREAM DAY	8 7 am Rotary Breakfast  7 pm Choir Practice	9	10	11
12  Trinity SUNDAY	13	14  FLAG DAY	15 <b>NO</b> <b>Rotary</b> <b>Breakfast</b>  7 pm Choir Practice	16	17	18
19  Happy Father's Day!	20	21	22 7 am Rotary Breakfast  7 pm Choir Practice	23	24  TAKE YOUR DOG TO WORK DAY	25
26	27	28	29 7 am Rotary Breakfast  7 pm Choir Practice	30		



With the help of the Men's Group, we will be sending one child to camp this Summer. Unfortunately we only had one child complete an application. We are prayerful that more children will apply next year.

The focus for the Garner Area Ministry Food Pantry this month is "Ants in your Pants". Consider getting individually wrapped snack items and picnic foods. Peanut butter and jelly, fruit snacks, fruit cups,



nabs, etc. And the Food Pantry needs ANYTHING that you would like to donate. We appreciate any and all donations. Thanks!

And we are still looking for a few people to assist with the Rotary breakfasts each Wednesday morning. Ideally, we would like to have a rotation of 4 people so that would mean you would help with breakfast once a month. We need cooking help that would arrive by 6 am and clean up help that would arrive by 8 am. Helen Holderman will lead a training session in the Fellowship Hall after worship on Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup>.

The NC Lutheran Women will hold their Annual Gathering at Lenoir Rhyne University on June 24-26, 2022. To reach more people, the Gathering will be available by live stream. Consult the [nclutheranwomen.org](https://nclutheranwomen.org) website for more information.

And the Women of the ELCA of North Carolina will host a Fall Retreat at the Blowing Rock Conference Center September 30<sup>th</sup> to October 2<sup>nd</sup>.

*"Hezekiah spoke encouragingly to all the Levites, who showed good understanding of the service of the LORD. For the seven days they ate their assigned portion and offered fellowship offerings and praised the LORD, the God of their ancestors."*

2 Chronicles 30:22, NIV

Blessings,  
Alecia Harrison and Gale Isaacs  
Co-chairs of Social Concerns Committee



## North Carolina Synod ELCA

The first NC Synod Gathering will be held at Lenoir Rhyne University June 2-4, 2022. Daily worship will be live-streamed at 10 am on Thursday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 5 pm Friday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 2 pm Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup>. You can find the link at [nclutheran.org](https://nclutheran.org)

The NC Synod summer online Bible Reading Plan is sponsored by the Engage the Bible Task Group, a Book of Faith ministry. This summer we will read the Gospel of John together as a synod. *Journey with John* will begin on **July 3<sup>rd</sup>** and end on **July 26<sup>th</sup>**. Again you can find a link at [nclutheran.org](https://nclutheran.org)

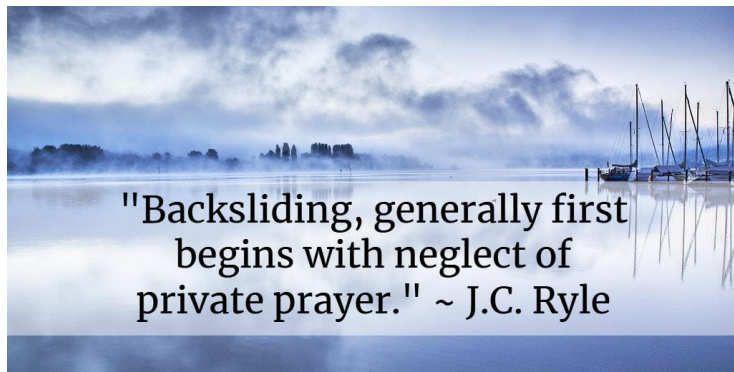


The Board of Directors of Agapé + Kure Beach Ministries, Inc. named Deacon Chandler R. Carriker as the Executive Director of A+KB Ministries. Chandler will begin on June 12, 2022.

# BIG Thank You!

A Big Shout Out to **James Stewart** for his efforts in obtaining a title for the church bus!!





## Backsliding... A Lapse in Judgement

*"Return, you backsliding children, and I will heal your backslidings."* ~ Jeremiah 3:22

One of my acquaintances recommended I view a free-movie-streaming service called *TUBI* ... I give it 3 out of 5 stars. Anyhow, I scrolled dutifully through the offerings, reading the descriptions, and trying to recognize actors by name, role, or face. Well, (don't shoot me) I learned that I had a mass confusion among Burt Lancaster, Charlton Heston, and Kirk Douglas... I was 0/3 as I matched movie to actor. My dismal record sorta centered on 'Moses' and "*The Ten Commandments*" because I made them two separate movies! After that, I at least owed it to *TUBI* to watch a movie; I chose an old black and white film that I knew about intellectually, but had never seen --- "*Elmer Gantry*" starring Burt Lancaster. Here was a fire-'n-brimstone-bible-thumping preacher con-artist ranting about sinning, backsliding and such. Backsliding... a familiar word that I hadn't heard for a long, long time (and had used it most recently as a functional verb to describe the dance, Moonwalk).

But what does it mean? Okay, we all associate it with some form of Christianity. You know... you go to church, tithe, serve on committees, and thus prove to the masses that you are no longer a *lost soul* but a Christian of value. Then, if backsliding creeps in, some say that you've gone back to your 'old ways'... I disagree! If you go back to pre-Christian ways, then perhaps your salvation wasn't quite solid to begin with, and if your salvation was sorta fake, it means that you didn't entirely make it over to the Christian side. So, reverting to old ways is just a modification of those 'same' ways that somehow got confused with Christianity.

Backsliders aren't fake Christians; they're just as saved as we are. Sooo, from my perspective, a backslider is a Christian who, for whatever reason,

fumbles in his/her spiritual life... it's a lapse in judgement. The reason is usually simplistic in concept, but perhaps more complex in reality. There may be a gradual decline in the sense of divine things that keep us walking closely with God; we can become too occupied with materialistic concerns; we might defend, indulge, and embrace things that no longer appeal to our sensitive nature; our hearts may neglect prayer in private or fall into a routine wherein prayer is completely omitted... you might be mad at God.

Backsliding is gradual which is why people on the perimeter seem to notice it before the actual backslider does. You know, sort of like when you gain or lose a few pounds... it's not all that obvious until someone points out this gradual change.

Personally, I think prayer is right up there near the top of reasons for backsliding... yep, prayer! The backsliders that I know (as well as those you know) have surely experienced a change in their prayer life... prayer becomes infrequent and sometimes stops altogether. However, isn't it grand that our relationships with God can always be restored? Even if we slip... even if we falter... even if we pause or vacillate, God is here for us. Let's not go the way of those noted in 2 Peter, "*For it would have been better for them never to have known the way of righteousness than, after knowing it, to turn back from the holy commandment that was passed on to them.*"-(2:21).

Sure, it's sort of expected that our world view undergoes change, but the change to our relationship with God should continue to grow and get stronger. No, the trappings of the world aren't going away, and neither should our outlook on salvation... God loves us unconditionally! Be blessed.

Gale J. Isaacs





## THE DUKE: A Review:

First off, "The Duke" is based on a true but a hard to believe event. An actual theft of a \$170,000 Goya portrait of the Duke of Wellington painted around 1812, from the National Gallery in London. Hence the name of the film, "The Duke". The theft occurred in 1961 indicating just how valuable the painting was 60 years ago. It is estimated to be worth in the \$4 million dollar range today. It was the first and the only theft in the Gallery's history. My guess is no one would ever try it again because the operation was so successful, setting a high bar on the annals of crime.

A personal note about the film for Ann Marie and I is that it is set mostly in Newcastle, England - except of course the scene of the heist. Ken and Eileen Thomsen are good friends of ours from my camp directing days who live next door to Newcastle in Durham.

Both this review and my "Wonderments from Pastor Wayne's World" will focus on simple, ordinary people who definitely were not looking for the attention of the world. Kempton Bunton, played exceptionally by Jim Broadbent. Helen Mirren plays his hardworking wife who is a housekeeper for the wife of a government official who is one of Kempton's biggest supporters. Their residence reminded me of the Archie and Edith Bunker household. Kempton Burton is an ordinary taxi driver, 60 years old, who had been bounding around jobs. However, he had a very irritating gripe with the one particular "fee" imposed on ordinary television watching citizens by the British government. The TV Tax. He enjoyed watching TV. If you watched TV you were required to pay a tax for the privilege. Government agents would even make house calls if you were suspected of watching "under the table" or under your living room ceiling. Without giving anything away, the TV Tax was the impetus for the theft.

Who would have thought, right?

I think this film is perhaps as totally based on what actually happened for the simple reason, "No one could make this up!" Additionally, the portrait turns up in a 1962 James Bond film which I will leave for you to look up which one.

The court scene was hilarious as Kempton and his attorney were both brilliant in his defense with the outcome of the trial a fitting conclusion.

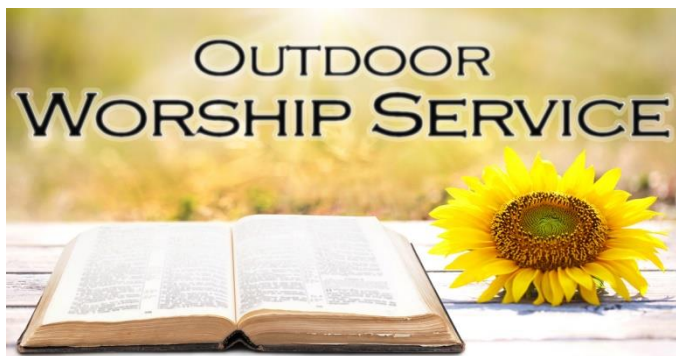
The spirituality is very slight, maybe summed up with Kempton's words spoken, I think, to the jury at his trial, "I am in you and you are in me"; that is, we are community, we have one another's back.

I am certain "The Duke" is probably one of the lowest budget films possible. However, it is well worth the price of the ticket to see it.

~ Pastor Wayne







The Worship and Music Committee has decided to have one worship only this summer in the outdoor chapel. It will be held at the regular time, 10 am, on the Sunday after Labor Day, September 11<sup>th</sup>. Tentative plans would include fellowship outdoors following the worship as well as the start of Sunday Church School.



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

Dennis King, stroke;  
Sharon Vietri; Monna Stamm; Linda Hash's brother, Charles Barlow, and sister-in-law, Beth Hash Lennon; Lisa Grayson; Agnes Beecham; Kathi Tichansky's friend, Sarah Bell – bad fall and broken vertebrae; Sylvia Lambert's niece, Lori Wise – cancer; Sheryll Albert's father, John Pope, and his wife, Barbara Pope; Jim Powers; Shirley Poole; Jonathan McCoy; Bob Savoysky – pancreatic cancer; Gary Dubnansky; Karen Morassi, cousin of Anne Marie Dubnansky; Ingrid Albee, long-time friend of the Dubnansky's; Rebecca Swanson's nephew, Dr. David Shaefer, and her great niece, Hope Emmaline; Mary Langworthy's mother, Evelyn Peterson – broken femur; Mary Langworthy's brother, Tom Schmidt; Lora Clark's friend, Rebecca Bowman, recovering; Peg Stamp, myeloma; friend of Julia Lochra, Tom Chism – ALS; Kathryn Lochra, Julia's sister; Tess Andrews brother, David Van Benschoten, multiple myeloma; Lindsay Crocker's Nephew, Daniel Harman, health and healing; Pam Klawiter's co-worker, Carolyn Harbertson, breast cancer; Holly Hans' sister, Heather House and her family; Holly Hans' mother, Carol Hardy; Susie, Benjamin and Bryce Lowe.



Please pray for safety for EVERYONE in Ukraine.



## June

June 4	Karen Post
June 5	Wesley Patrick Niemann
June 8	Amy Cook Lori Harrison
June 10	Monna Stamm
June 12	Rachel Austin
June 14	Seth Rebbeor
June 18	Jean Marie Dubnansky
June 20	Barbara Proper Susie Lowe
June 28	Ray Green

## July

July 1	Jerry Hart Laura Roscoe
July 9	Alice Austin Helen Holderman
July 13	Gavin Hans Joyce Havenstein Caleb Macurdy
July 21	Kieran King
July 30	Kathi Tichansky
July 31	Lauren Langworthy

