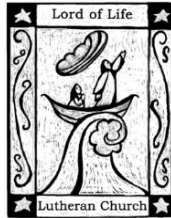


January 2023



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

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

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



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sundays: 10 am – In-Person
Worship

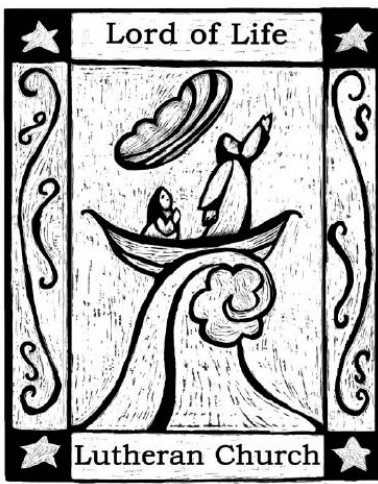
10 am - Virtual Worship via
YouTube (search for Lord of Life
Lutheran Church ELCA)

Eucharist: Every Sunday

**New year resolution:
Laugh a little louder, smile a
little bigger, love a little deeper,
and walk through life a little
slower.**



2023



Life-Lines

January 2023



*"I have fought **the** good fight, I have **finished the race**, I have kept **the** faith."* 2 Timothy 4:7, NIV

It is time for us to say goodbye to Pastor Wayne. He is a passionate, hard-working man that felt truly called to lead us from the first time he met the Lord of Life congregation as an interim pastor over 10 years ago. Pastor Wayne loved this congregation with a level of care that Pastor Joe Tallent also gave us. Even though he lived in Durham that entire 10 years that he served at Lord of Life, he never let the distance be a reason for him not to attend a function at the church. It is something we noticed early in his ministry that he spent MANY more hours at the church than the 15 hours a week that were paid. His pastoral care of our members displayed his deep care for our congregation. We will have a difficult time finding someone with as much passion for us as Wayne Dubnansky had.

Being a teacher by trade, Pastor Wayne excelled at Children's Sermons. He always had a plan for the children's sermon even though we haven't had many children in the past few years. He is remarkable in how quickly he remembers names and is able to insert comments into the sermon of something that had just happened. He has an extremely quick wit. He is ready with a joke at a moment's notice. Pastor Wayne brought a fun and excitement back to the children's sermon. Members of the congregation looked forward to his message and strained to hear what he was saying to the children. He always got down to their level and spoke softly to them, making each child feel special and comfortable.

Pastor Wayne also had a knack for getting people to volunteer for things needed at the church. Few could say no to him when he explained what was needed and he believed that YOU were the person for the task.

We met Pastor Wayne when he had agreed to be our Interim Pastor. We were overwhelmed with his immediate love and care for our congregation ... so much so that many in the congregation wanted to call him as our full-time Pastor. Unfortunately at that time, the Interim Pastor signed a contract with the Synod to only serve as an Interim and not be considered for full-time ministry. Pastor Wayne reluctantly honored this contract and went on to serve as Interim Pastor in Rocky Mount and (little) Washington. Retired Lutheran Pastor Bob Kepley told us that Pastor Wayne was gifted with a higher calling than parish ministry. Pastor Wayne has a Master's degree in Education and has worked over 30 years with special needs children. He has a special gift that is able to bring the best out of his students.

Five years later, Pastor Wayne sought Lord of Life again to become our full-time Pastor. When the Call Committee heard that he felt CALLED to serve at Lord of Life, they agreed that he was the one to lead us at that difficult time. All the other candidates were looking for a job. Pastor Wayne wanted to be with US! Recently the Synod changed their policy about calling your Interim Pastor to full-time ministry. I like to think of it as the Wayne Dubnansky clause. Sometimes the right person comes along and you don't always get a second chance.

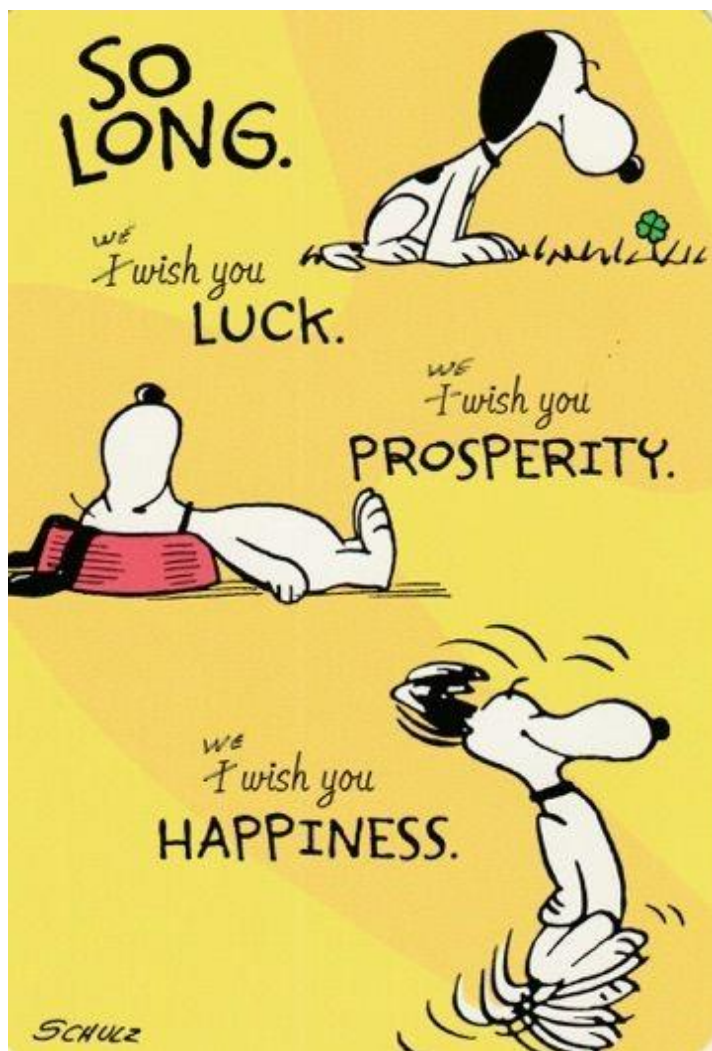
Pastor Wayne was always involved in the Community Easter Sunrise Service through Garner Area Ministries. It is always nice when members of different communities of faith gather to celebrate the one true God. And it is good to realize that we are not the only believers in Jesus Christ in the area. He also single-handedly manned the table at the community Halloween event at the Lake Benson Park. He would

pass out candy and information about the church at this event. Pastor Wayne also encouraged other community groups to use the church. He became a member of the Garner Rotary, regularly attended the GAST (German-Austrian-Swiss Club of the Triangle) meetings, encouraged Soccer Shots to use our field and facilitated La Voz de Dios and Iglesia Abundante Gracia to worship in our building.

There are so many other small jobs that Pastor Wayne did without asking or thinking. He made the coffee each week and would readily go pick anyone up that needed a ride. Again, he never let distance keep you from worship. He seems to have endless energy! Pastor Wayne has even joined the choir and played the chimes when needed, even though people - not music - is his gift. He is always so willing to pick up whatever is needed. We are so grateful for the time you spent with Lord of Life and pray for Godspeed in the next chapter of your life.

Blessings Pastor Wayne!

And thanks to Ann Marie, Jean Marie and Claire for their support over the years!



From the Desk of Your Council President

As we begin a new church year, we can reflect on what we have accomplished this year and think about our goals for next year. We will say goodbye to Pastor Wayne. He has served Lord of Life Lutheran church for 10 years and we are thankful for all that he has given to us! We will form a Call Committee to look for our new Pastor. The Council needs to have this committee membership set in the next few weeks. Prayerfully consider if this is a ministry that you can participate in!

We will have our Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 22nd. We will vote on our new Council members, the 2023 budget and hear the update from Able to Serve. With sadness, we have accepted the Council resignation of Dr. Gale Isaacs. She will continue to use her gifts in other aspects of LOL life. We have FOUR members that have answered the call to serve on the Church Council - see their Bio's included herein. Sylvia Lambert will serve in the 2 year role to fulfill the vacant Council seat. Neil Brennecke, Linda Hash, and Shannon Thomsen will serve in a 3 year term. Thank you! Julie Bogle and Sarah Watkins have completed their terms on the Church Council. Thank you again!



Our Leaders Retreat will be held on Saturday, February 4th from 9 am until noon in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcomed to attend. Council members and Committee Chairs should try to attend. We will review what each committee has accomplished in 2022 and make goals for 2023.

continued ...

Pastor Petry, our Interim Pastor, will begin his ministry with us on Thursday, January 5, 2023. Pastor John and his wife, Pam, were able to attend the Christmas Concert on Monday, December 19th. They were glad to meet and speak with several members of the congregation. Pastor Petry will help us prepare for our new Pastor and will stay with us until a new Pastor is identified and voted on by the congregation.

And finally, we will have an old fashioned Hymn Sing during worship this Sunday, January 1st. We look forward to our future at Lord of Life Lutheran Church. And I am glad that you are here!

Blessings,
Alecia Harrison, Council President

**Heartfelt
Appreciation
from Social
Concerns
Ministry**



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

(2 Thessalonians 1:3)

We had a banner 2022 because of you! In the final analysis, it mattered not that the sanctuary was at less than maximum capacity on Sundays; it mattered not that there was no Annual Yard Sale profits to benefit the community; it mattered that Social Concerns ministry called upon this wonderful Lord of Life Congregation and you answered in a big way! We needed, and you provided; we reached out and you reciprocated! You really supported our new Angel Tree initiative by supporting the Aversboro Road Child Care Center! THANK YOU for whatever contribution you made be it a prayer, a tangible item (large or small), or just plain old good wishes; it was most appreciated.

We are always in the fight against hunger as we contribute weekly to Garner Area Ministries. We put smiles on the faces of children with school supplies and Christmas gifts. Our partnership with the Music and Worship Committee sponsored the 7th Annual

Mary Jo Albert Memorial Christmas Concert. Our spirits were lifted as we and the beautiful music spurred on the Christmas holiday. Many thanks to Bradley and Ray, who are ever ready to share their beautiful musical talents.

With your continued ‘rise-to-the-occasion’ support, Social Concerns Ministry is looking forward to another bountiful year of giving. This Congregation is front and center as we faithfully remember that, *“No person was ever honored for what he received. He was honored for what he gave.”* Happy New Year 2023!

Your Social Concerns Ministry,
Rita Clark, Helen Holderman, Alecia Harrison,
Carolyn Watkins, Sarah Watkins, Enid Weatherwax



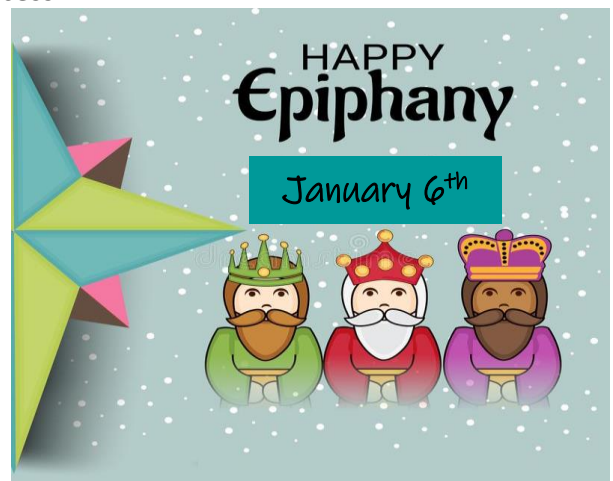
**NC Lutheran
Synod News**

The month of
December brings





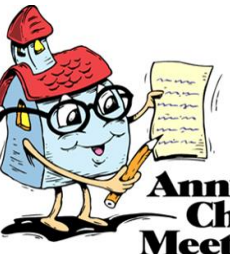
MANY opportunities to view recorded programs, sermons and concerts, from the Synod and other groups:

- The Synod office recorded Lessons and Carols that are available for viewing until January 1st.
- Bishop Eaton has recorded a Christmas message to all ELCA Lutherans.
- Lenoir Rhyne University recorded their Christmas concert on You Tube. And the National Lutheran Choir also recorded their Christmas concert on You Tube.

Pastor Phil Tonneson will be our Synod contact during our Interim period. He will meet with the Council on Sunday, January 8th to discuss the Call Process.





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Sundays 9 am Coffee & Bible Study 10 am Worship 11 am Fellowship	2	3	4 7 am Rotary Breakfast 7 pm Choir Practice	5	6 7 pm Men's Fellowship 	7
8 Council Meeting after Worship <i>Welcome Pastor Petry!!</i>	9	10	11 7 am Rotary Breakfast 7 pm Choir Practice	12	13	14
15	16  Martin Luther King DAY	17	18 7 am Rotary Breakfast 7 pm Choir Practice	19 6:30 pm  Social Concerns	20	21 National Hug Day 
22  Annual Church Meeting	23	24	25 7 am Rotary Breakfast 7 pm Choir Practice	26	27	28
29	30	31				



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

Monna Stamm – moved into Bella Rose; Rena Bogle – recovering from a broken hip; Susie Lowe – stage 4b ovarian cancer; Benjamin and Bryce Lowe; Judy Stewart – multiple health issues; Carolyn Watkin’s neighbor, Mr. Smith; Richard Suriano. Julia Lochra’s Father in Law; Betty , friend of Julia Lochra – coping with husband’s rehab from a stroke; Clyde Bogle’s sister-in-law, Wanda – cancer; Father of Julya Mirro (Gale’s friend); Tim & Rita Clarks sister-in-law, Jane Clark – breast cancer has returned; Paul & Geri’s son, Luke Savolainen – battling cancer; Jim Powers; Sharon Vietri; Linda Hash’s brother, Charles Barlow, and sister-in-law, Beth Hash Lennon; Lisa Grayson; Kathi Tichansky’s friend, Sarah Bell – bad fall and broken vertebrae; Sylvia Lambert’s niece, Lori Wise – cancer; Jonathan McCoy; Gary Dubnansky; Karen Morassi, cousin of Anne Marie Dubnansky; Rebecca Swanson’s sister in PA – Post Polio Syndrome; her nephew, Dr. David Shaefer, and her great niece, Hope Emmaline; Lora Clark’s friend, Rebecca Bowman, recovering; Peg Stamp, myeloma; 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.

Hello God,
We've been going through
a lot down here lately.
Can You please shower my
Family and Friends with
Renewed Health, Your Peace,
Healing and Lots of Love.
Amen!



January

January 6	Holly Hans
January 7	Becky Roof
January 8	Grace Barnes
January 9	Anne Marie Dubnansky
January 14	Jamie Bredell
	Becky Von St. Paul
January 15	Rita Clark
January 18	Gere Savolainen
January 19	Amanda Childress
January 21	Ryan Macurdy
January 24	Barbara Kyles
January 25	Pastor Wayne Dubnansky

February

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

*If your name is missing from our
Birthday list, please let Laura know!
Thanks!!!*

Meet Your 2022 Council Nominees

Shannon Thomsen

My name is Shannon Thomsen; I have been a member of Lord of Life since 2005 and enjoy serving as reader of the scriptures and Assisting Minister during Sunday worship services. I have been married to my wife Chris for nearly twenty-nine years. My parents live in Nebraska along with my two sisters and their families. My brother who is in the Navy and his family are stationed in Norfolk, VA.

I was born and raised in Colorado and after graduating with a technical degree moved to Kansas City, Missouri to work in the Transmission and Distribution industry. In 2000 we moved to Raleigh after I accepted a job offer from Hitachi Energy where I am currently a Business Development Manager focused on Grid Connections and Prefabricated Delivery. In 2008 I received an Associate's Degree in Business Administration from Strayer University.

Growing up in Colorado my family and I had the remarkable experience of helping to build our place of worship; Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church, from the ground up – vacant lot to house of worship. Because of the similarities to my hometown church, I truly feel a kinship with Lord of Life and its congregation where I have served a few terms on the Church Council and also as your President.

In my free time I enjoy spending time with my wife, exercising, riding my bicycle, and competing in races.



Sylvia Lambert

Born in WV; moved to NC in 1999
BA from Glenville State; MA from WVU
Two sons and three grandchildren
Retired from teaching middle school math in WV and NC
Worked for the FBI prior to moving to NC
I've served Lord of Life and previous congregations as follows:

- Council and Call Committee
- Worship Assistant and Reader
- Communion with Homebound
- Taught Sunday School and Bible School
- Served communion to homebound
- Stephen Minister
- Altar Guild

Linda Hash

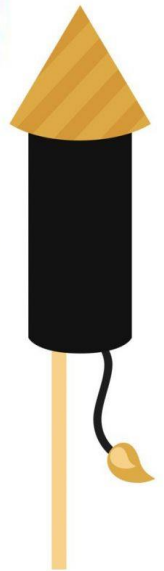
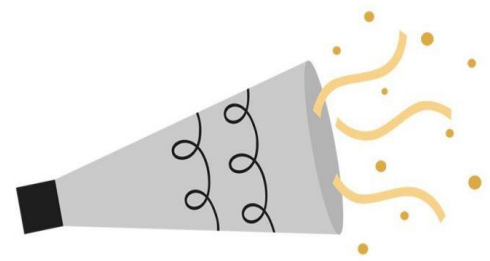
Our family attended Lord of Life for the first time in May 1992. We joined not too long after. Lisa, Leslie and David were Baptized, received their First Communion and were Confirmed at Lord of Life. I have been involved with Christian Education since 1993 and served 3 years on council a number of years ago. Most recently I have been helping out with the Rotary breakfast on some Wednesdays.

Neil Brennecke

I am a life-long Lutheran having attended and being confirmed at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Raleigh. I have been active at Lord of Life Lutheran Church since 2012 when my wife and I retired from our business in Raleigh. Throughout my attending and being a member of Lord of Life Lutheran Church I have been active in the Men's Group and served on the Property Committee. I also served as the assistant treasurer and treasurer of the Men's Group at various times. From 2013 through 2016 I served on the Church Council as Secretary, Vice-President, and then President. Since leaving the Council I have remained active on the Property Committee and the Men's Group.

If elected to another term on the Church Council it would be my honor to serve in any capacity that facilitates God's work through the church and congregation in all it does.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!



W I H V V A X R N R Z G O A L S A Z Y F
 G R B K G Z T Y Z I Z Z J Q C O M P X B
 M D M B T B K T P X N S L T K C X X W T
 M I Q C R A E Y W E N O Z J K S K R N H
 L P D M V X P N Z J L O V Z V Y D Z Q G
 G P E X A X K O Q N C O U N T D O W N I
 F V Z N D S S M B P C Y W V F T W F B N
 T R S P S P A R K L E R S H Q T O J A D
 P J O L B Y V M S Y L N N N R C A F L I
 Y L P E N S K R O W E R I F Z N Y C L M
 X J K E B D P P G W B K N J U G J W O J
 W I S C F S F L D B R G P A J E X A O K
 Q S C A O W D J R M A W R T J H Q H N C
 F R Q K J N W P A R T Y P O P P E R S O
 K E P A U J F G X M I Z X R T S X K Q L
 V E N R I Y E E B G O Q Y I U P H K Y C
 Y H I S I R E O T J N O I T U L O S E R
 Q C S H A P P Y G T B O U V C D L R Z G
 R M Q G Q X Y B N O I S E M A K E R G F
 N A E N K V K T Y F H R R A Y R Y I A V

Countdown
 Confetti
 Midnight
 Balloons

Celebration
 Fireworks
 January
 Happy



New Year
 Clock
 Cheers
 Goals

Party Poppers
 Noisemaker
 Resolution
 Sparklers

