

Interim Pastor ..... John Petry  
Minister of Music ..... Dr. Brad Hunnicutt  
Office Manager ..... Laura Raun  
Web Master ..... Gray Anthony

**Congregational Council**

Shannon Thomsen ..... President  
Terry Barnes ..... Vice President  
Tim Clark ..... Secretary  
Lindsay Crocker ..... Treasurer  
Tess Andrews ..... Deputy Treasurer  
Terry Barnes ..... Financial Secretary  
Neil Brennecke, Steven Brantley, Alecia  
Harrison, Linda Hash, & Sylvia Lambert

**May 2023**



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

Email: [LordofLife2100@gmail.com](mailto:LordofLife2100@gmail.com)  
Pastor's Email: [pastorjlp3@gmail.com](mailto:pastorjlp3@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.lordoflifechurchgarnernc.org](http://www.lordoflifechurchgarnernc.org)  
Office (919) 772-9044



**WORSHIP**  
SCHEDULE

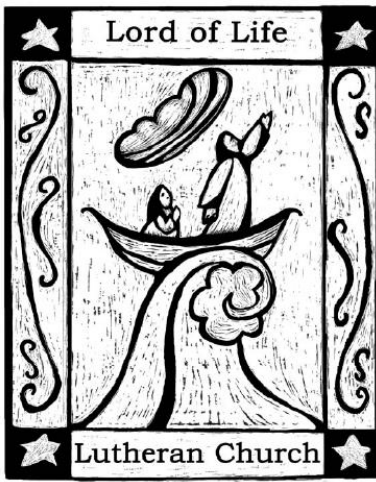
**Sundays:** 10 am – In-Person  
Worship

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

**Eucharist:** Every Sunday

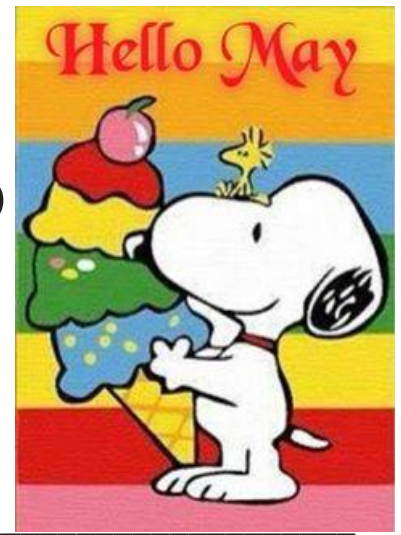
Never get tired of doing  
little things for others.  
Sometimes,  
those little things  
take up a  
big place in  
their heart!





# Life-Lines

May 2023



## A FEW THOUGHTS ...

So what happens after Easter Sunday? Just as similar as the 1<sup>st</sup> disciples ~ “there’s a calling to answer”.

After the Listening Sessions in the Fellowship Hall, I shared some ‘rather important & timely questions’ at the Council Meeting April 16<sup>th</sup>:

- What does the Council want to happen with Lord of Life congregation?
- What does God want to happen at Lord of Life Lutheran?
- What surprises can we expect when we allow the Spirit to blow where she will?
- How is God calling us into God’s mission?
- How do you think God will surprise us when we engage in God’s mission?
- How is God calling our vision?
- What does the Spirit want you to see?

Do you remember my opening illustration? – Sunday, April 16<sup>th</sup>?

“The work of the prophets is to warn, to warn us of the inevitable consequences of our foolish or immoral actions. It will be the end of the world as we know it, the prophets say, unless we rethink our current assumptions, values, and priorities, unless we become ready to change our way of life. Usually, the people didn’t listen.”

How do (will) you respond?

+ John Petry,  
Interim Pastor



FINDING OUR CALLING





The 2023 Synod Assembly is FAST approaching! The deadline to register is May 10<sup>th</sup>; also the deadline to reserve a room at the Koury Center. Synod Assembly will be held at the Greensboro Koury Center from Friday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> to Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>. **ALL ARE WELCOME!** Lord of Life is looking to send 1-2 more delegates to represent Lord of Life in the state. Are you interested?

There is also a Pre-Assembly workshop on Thursday, June 1<sup>st</sup> on Mutual Ministry. There is an additional fee for this workshop.

Bishop Tim Smith is a featured guest on the *Thoughtcast* Podcast. This podcast allows Pastors to gather and figure out their sermons together. The topic is the Road to Emmaus. Search for this podcast wherever you normally listen to podcasts.



### LOL Rotary Crew Hosts Garner Chamber of Commerce & Wake Med

On Wednesday April 12<sup>th</sup> the Garner Morning Rotary club hosted both the Garner Chamber of Commerce and representatives of Wake Medical Center, our biggest event of the year. We had 48 people attending and it was very successful. Wake Med updated us on the new hospital to be built on the corner of Timber Drive and White Oak across the street from Michaels and Chamber members were able to meet and collaborate for a better Garner. We are excited to get to know members of the community better and for them to get to know US.

It was a huge effort! Thanks to those who set up extra tables after Easter service and to Rita Clark and

## Annual Able to Serve



## Mothers Day Breakfast

On Tuesday, May 9<sup>th</sup> LOL will host our annual Mother's Day Breakfast where we honor our friends and neighbors at Able to Serve. The moms, grandmothers, and caregivers look forward to this day all year. It's a time just for them to be with one another and to share their joys and concerns.

After breakfast the participants join us in the fellowship for each one to introduce his/her mom or caregiver. I don't know who is more excited for the day – the moms or their children.

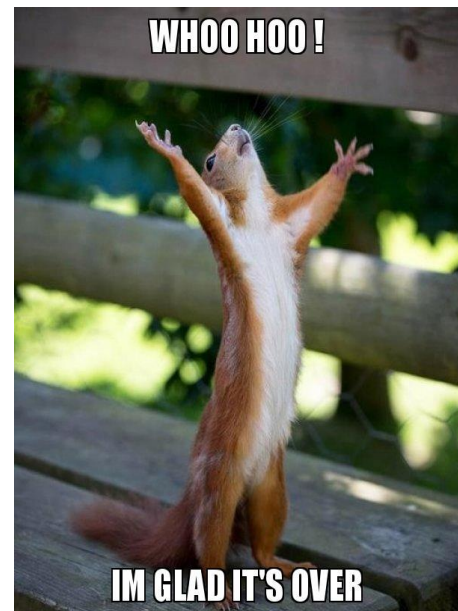
If you are available, we would appreciate help cooking and serving. Please contact Helen Holderman at 919-632-2692 for more details.



Becky Roof for setting up the fellowship hall on Tuesday. Thanks to the cooks, servers, and cleaners: Alecia Harrison, Becky Roof, Linda Hash, Ginny King, Rena and Clyde Bogle, Pastor Petry and Helen Holderman.

We look forward to hosting again in 2024 and we are glad it's over for another year.

~ Helen Holderman

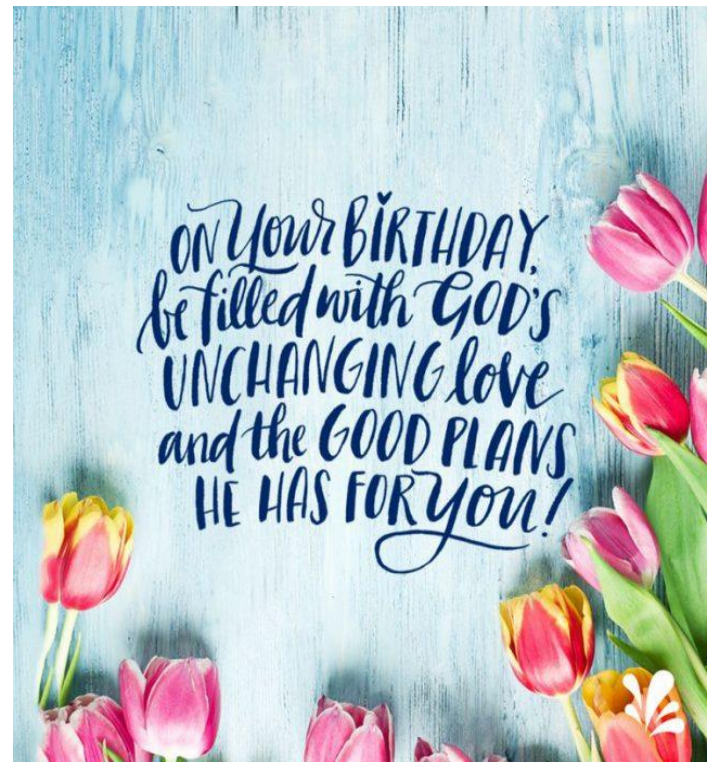




We pray for our world  
and those in it with hope for  
our future.

Families of Luke  
Savolainen, John Nalepa, and  
Susie Lowe; Sylvia Lambert's  
grandson, Ian Lambert –  
deployment; Clyde Cook &  
Daniel Cook – both  
undergoing heart  
procedures; Wendy Casey's

mom, Barbara – under hospice care; Lisa Hash-Burnett  
& baby Kyle; Sheryll's friend, Tony – terminal cancer;  
Monna Stamm; Judy Stewart – multiple health issues;  
Carolyn Watkins – recovering from minor stroke;  
Carolyn Watkin's neighbor, Mr. Smith; Julia Lochra's  
Father in Law, Richard Suriano; Julia Lochra's cousin,  
Lester Salmon; Julia Lochra's friend Betty – coping with  
husband's rehab from a stroke; Clyde Bogle's sister-in-  
law, Wanda – cancer; Father of Julya Mirro (Gale's  
friend); Gale's friend, Ermin Patterson – massive stroke;  
Tim & Rita Clarks sister-in-law, Jane Clark – breast  
cancer has returned; Jim Powers; Sharon Vietri; Linda  
Hash's brother, Charles Barlow, and sister-in-law, Beth  
Hash Lennon; Jonathan McCoy; 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; Pam Klawiter's co-worker, Carolyn  
Harbertson - breast cancer; Holly Hans' sister, Heather  
House and her family; Holly Hans' mother, Carol Hardy.



## May

May 6	Carla Niemann
May 10	Mary Cook
May 11	Leslie Hash Jarrett
May 14	Sharyl Eggert
May 17	Virginia King
May 18	Julie Bogle
May 22	Tucker Britt
May 27	Sylvia Lambert
May 28	Jillian Harrison

## June

June 4	Karen Post
June 5	Wesley Patrick Niemann
June 8	Amy Cook
	Lori Harrison
June 10	Monna Stamm
June 20	Barbara Proper
June 24	Pastor John Petry
June 28	Ray Green



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



## Do you recognize me as a child of God?

*Your life is a journey you must travel with a deep consciousness of God. It cost God plenty to get you out of that dead-end, empty-headed life you grew up in. He paid with Christ's sacred blood, you know. He died like an unblemished, sacrificial lamb. And this was no afterthought. Even though it has only lately—at the end of the ages—become public knowledge, God always knew he was going to do this for you. It's because of this sacrificed Messiah, whom God then raised from the dead and glorified, that you trust God, that you know you have a future in God.*

*Now that you've cleaned up your lives by following the truth, love one another as if your lives depended on it. Your new life is not like your old life. Your old birth came from mortal sperm; your new birth comes from God's living Word. Just think: a life conceived by God himself! That's why the prophet said,*

*The old life is a grass life,  
its beauty as short-lived as wildflowers;  
Grass dries up, flowers wilt,  
God's Word goes on and on forever.  
This is the Word that conceived the new life  
in you."*

1 Peter 1:18-25, The Message

We are called to think about God often and always, but this is simply not easy to do.

I try to sneak a little more God into my day by listening to contemporary Christian music while commuting to work. I am not very good at recalling scripture to apply to a specific circumstance. But I stay ready to pray with and for you when called upon and I can give you a list of God's characteristics that may help you feel better in a given moment of concern.

I still struggle with Jesus knowing about the life He would live on earth and doing it anyway. And this is how much God loves each of us! Much more than we can comprehend! I am still embarrassed for the vile torture given to Christ even before the crucifixion! And being a Mom, I cannot grasp sending your only Son to die this horrible death. But I am encouraged by the life that Jesus lived and what He did for us at the Cross. We cannot be Christians without Christ's life, death and resurrection!

We can trust God fully! His promises will all be fulfilled. God is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow. And we get our Hope and Joy from the risen Christ. So wonderful to celebrate Christ's resurrection each year on Easter morning!

We are called to clean up our lives. What does that mean? Living FOR Christ instead of for yourself. I still use the saying of WWJD? What would Jesus do? Taking a moment to consider what Jesus would do in every circumstance can save you from a lot of grief and apology in the future. Jesus approached everyone in love. We can do this too. Try not to let suspicion be your first thought when you meet someone new. The world tells you to trust no one. But we as Christians know that we can trust God for everything. Humans will continue to fail us.

Our old life is like grass that grows quickly and always needs cutting. In the summer, you mow the grass and need to do it again within a week. Our sin is like that. It keeps growing, even while we are watching it and being careful about our actions. We sin every day. Hopefully not the same sin! But sin separates us from God. So ask God to show you the sin, repent and return to God. He is safe! He will comfort you and the Holy Spirit will be your conscience and guide through your daily struggles. Once beautiful wildflowers will wither and die. So will your worldly body. Fortunately, God has a new spiritual body ready and waiting for you. God's Word never ends! Hallelujah! We can rejoice and be glad in this fact.

So back to my original question....do you recognize me as a Child of God? We all have work to do. We can do better! Continue to pray, read the Word, and put yourself in the company of fellow believers. We are all a work in progress. Make yourself available to God for his correction!

Blessings,  
Alecia Harrison

I am a  
**CHILD**  
of God.  
I know it. I live it. I love it.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Sundays</b> 9 am Bible Study 10 am Worship 11 am Fellowship	1 	2	3 7 am Rotary Breakfast  7 pm Choir	4	5 7 pm <b>men's group</b>	6
7  Social Concerns Meeting after Worship	8	9 <i>Annual</i> <i>Able to Serve</i>  <i>Mothers Day Breakfast</i>	10 7 am Rotary Breakfast  7 pm Choir	11	12	13
14 	15	16	17 7 am Rotary Breakfast  7 pm Choir	18 	19	20
21 Council Meeting after Worship	22	23	24 7 am Rotary Breakfast  7 pm Choir	25	26	27
28	29 	30	31 7 am Rotary Breakfast  7 pm Choir	<b>Happy Memorial Day!</b> 		





## ALTAR GUILD

April was a busy month with five Sundays, Holy Week, and Easter. Alleluia, He is risen!

Thank you to Helen Holderman for baking bread. I also baked bread. Our supplies are fine now. We appreciate donations to the candle fund, flower fund, and supplies.

Thank you to Sheryll and Harry Albert for changing banners.

A blessed Easter season to all!

Sincerely,  
Ginny King



We need to spruce up our house; of course I mean our house of worship. We hope to attract a new pastor to our church. He or she will likely have several options to

select from, so we want to be at the top of this list. We are fortunate that Garner is a nice growing community. On the other hand, our church building and grounds need some work.

We need to do some necessary painting. The pastor's office really needs to be painted. The men's room and the outside doors also need painting. We have started the process of hiring Gerardo of New Color Paint Services. He is the same painter that painted the fellowship hall. Thank you Terry! However, if anyone has the time, skill, and desire to do any of this painting, please let Terry or Tim know.

There are areas of the church that still need to be tidied up. The choir room needs to be organized and cleaned up, as do some areas of the sanctuary, church office, and vestibule. We really need to present ourselves as the best to attract a new pastor.

Tim Clark, Chairman

Donations to the GAM Food Pantry continue to go well. The May theme will be "May the Force be With You". Thank you for your faithful donations!

We received one camp scholarship application. And we voted to make a \$200 donation to the Camp Agapé Campership program. This is a program that helps parents make up the difference between what they can afford and what it costs to send their child to camp.

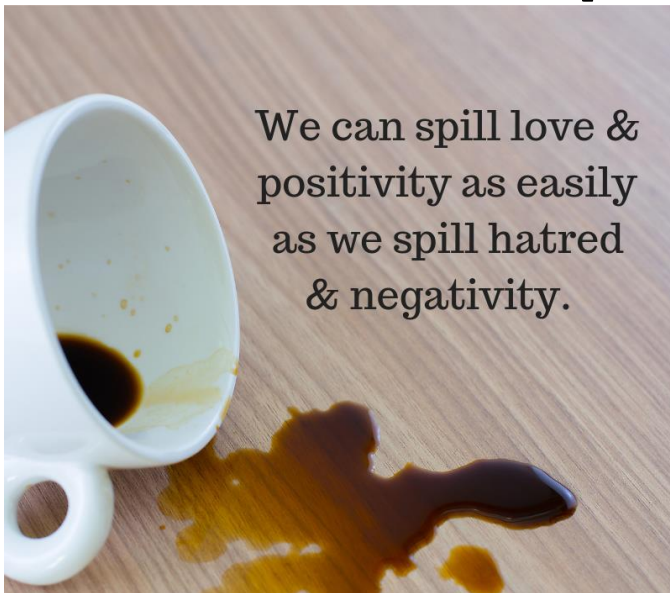
The Relay for Life big event was held in Lake Benson Park on Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup>. We had many tribute luminaries available for purchase for the Luminary Ceremony at 8pm. We decided to have FOUR Tribute Torches to honor Peg Stamp, Dave Hash, Susie Lowe and Mary Jo Albert.

We will give out labeled water bottles after worship on Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup> on the sidewalk between the church and park property. This was a suggestion from Pastor John to increase our visibility in the community. Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup> is scheduled to be an Outdoor Worship.

Submitted by Alecia Harrison



# What's In Your Cup



You are holding a cup of coffee when someone comes along and bumps into you or shakes your arm, making you spill your coffee everywhere.

Why did you spill the coffee?

"Because someone bumped into me!!!"

Wrong answer.

You spilled the coffee because there was coffee in your cup.

Had there been tea in the cup, you would have spilled tea.

Whatever is inside the cup is what will spill out.

Therefore, when life comes along and shakes you (which WILL happen), whatever is inside you will come out. It's easy to fake it, until you get rattled.

So we have to ask ourselves... "what's in my cup?"

When life gets tough, what spills over?

Joy, gratitude, peace and humility?

Anger, bitterness, victim mentality and quitting-tendencies?

Life provides the cup, YOU choose how to fill it.

Today let's work towards filling our cups with gratitude, hope, forgiveness, joy, words of affirmation, resilience, positivity; and kindness, gentleness and love for others.



Have you ever wanted  
Angie's Restaurant on a  
**Sunday?**

Join us for Angie's Lunch Fundraiser  
Celebrating Able to Serve's  
20th Anniversary



**Sunday, June 4th**

**11 AM - 3 PM**

**@ Angie's Restaurant**

**1340 W Garner Road, Garner NC**

Meal Includes:

- BBQ Chicken (1/4 chicken, choice of White or Dark)
- Potatoes
- Green Beans
- Dinner Roll
- Banana Pudding

**All plates are \$10.**

All proceeds from this delicious meal go to Able to Serve  
in celebration of our 20th year anniversary.

**This fundraiser is primarily pre-sale.**

Limited plates will be available for purchase the day  
of, so buy your tickets early for Take Out or Dine In at

<https://my.abletoserve.org/angie-meal>

