

Interim Pastor John Petry
Minister of Music Open
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

November 2023



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

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

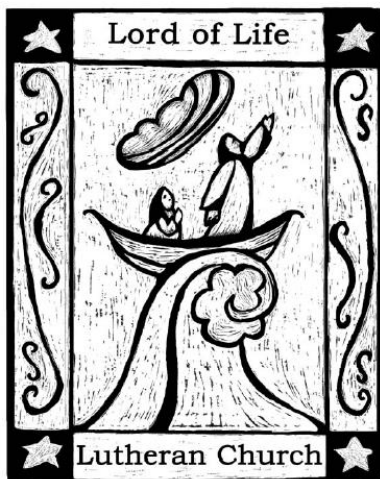


WORSHIP
SCHEDULE

Sundays: 9 am Adult Bible Study
10 am – In-Person Worship
& Virtual Worship via YouTube
(search for Lord of Life Lutheran
Church ELCA)

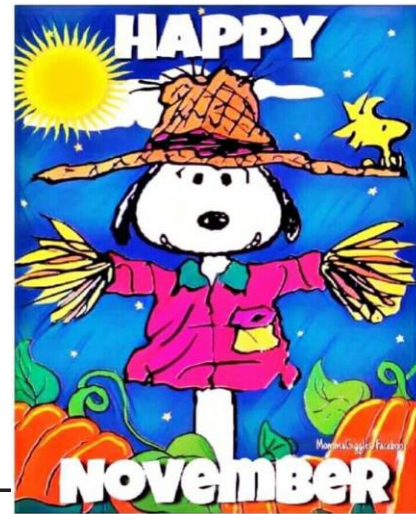
Eucharist: Every Sunday





Life-Lines

November 2023



A FEW THOUGHTS ...

It's my experience that – *Thanksgiving & Christmas* comes quick(er) each passing year – even though when I was *much* younger the waiting was *forever!* These days – even the large hardware stores prepared for Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas decorations go on sale – late August. These days of the last quarter of the year, I want to "slow down & go the speed-limit" before the blur of another passing year.



There's anticipation regarding calling a pastor and finding a church musician – faithfully, yet quickly. The process takes time even in the rush of passing days of this year. Dedicated & Spirit-led members and leaders are discerning God's guidance, each breathing slowly and praying diligently ... often without ceasing.

I'm certain new decisions and direction will give the Lord of Life Lutheran congregation abundant life!

O COME ALL YE
FAITHFUL
Joyful & Triumphant

+ PJ, Interim Pastor

"But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people." - Luke 2:10

We are in a very exciting time at Lord of Life Lutheran Church! I am especially thankful to Pastor John for challenging us to go in a new direction and help us to prepare for our new Pastor.



Our Call Committee is working hard for us! This group of 5 members of LOL were carefully chosen to represent our congregation. And they do ... charter members, newer members, people with more life experience, people still working, life-long Lutherans, one acquired Lutheran. As a congregation of LOVE, we need to rally around these friends for the hard job they have.

The Call Committee has interviewed EVERY candidate that the NC Lutheran Synod has sent them. This is NOT an easy choice. There is NO perfect candidate! Jesus Christ is not available. So please prayerfully remember your congregation, call committee and the candidate that God is calling to us.

God is doing a mighty work within our congregation. Let us embrace His work!

Blessings, Alecia Harrison



We Are

Social Concerns:

Just an update on what our Social Concerns Committee has done and has planned for the coming months.

Our contributions continue as a monthly check goes out to Garner Area Ministries and for October we also made a contribution to the Garner Fire Department and Garner Police Department.

The Crop Walk (Greater Triangle Area Crop Hunger Walk) was held on Sunday afternoon - October 29th - in Raleigh. I like the theme noted on their web page 'Ending Hunger - One Step At A Time'. Alecia has encouraged us to keep up the tradition of walking and reminds us of the importance of this organization as they strive to provide food and much needed services to our community. Our Social Concerns Committee supports the Crop Walk with a yearly October contribution.

At our last Social Concerns meeting we decided to postpone the parking lot Food Truck event and are hopeful we can make this a Spring event. Who Knew food trucks were booked months in advance, so we will need more lead time and more volunteers to organize such an event.

The early morning crew continues to prepare the Wednesday morning breakfast for the Rotary, although I recently heard they had a week off. These dedicated workers are so programmed for the Wednesday Morning Rise

and Shine Routine, they met at Big Ed's for breakfast on their free morning.

Our next Social Concerns meeting is scheduled after church in early November. Please feel free to join us as we discuss how to reach out to our surrounding community for the forthcoming holidays.

Rita Clark
Treasurer, Social Concerns





Parish Committee

Our Parish Committee met on 10/15/2023 and discussed the following topics.

- **Ministry Fair** – We planned light snacks for our Ministry Fair, which was held on 10/22/23 in the Fellowship Hall after service. Even though the German Club had their event there on the preceding Saturday, all the committees did a great job in having their stations and information available to host our fair.
 - We also had our time & talents sheets at our table. This offered the opportunity for those wishing to volunteer their non-monetary gifts to our church.
 - We distributed Financial Pledge Cards and distributed with the bulletins at the beginning of worship. We had many pledges and will continue this effort throughout November. After a total is calculated for pledges, we'll share this total with the council to help develop our budget for 2024.
- **LOL List** – We maintain a list of recommended contractors for our church family and others. We have hard copies of list in a wall pocket on bulletin board directly across from our members' mailboxes. This list is also available on our LOL website under

Links/LOL List. We discussed that list needed updates and made some edits/additions during our meeting. The list has been updated both via hard copy and our website.

- **Cards** - We currently send out Get Well/Encouragement and Sympathy cards to our church family. Barbara volunteered to send out our Get Well/Encouragement cards and Rena volunteered to send out our Sympathy cards.
- **Pictures** – Current pictures on bulletin board in Fellowship Hall are old and outdated. Tim & Steve volunteered to take pictures of our members and update the board.
- **After Service Fellowship** – We discussed the hard work of providing a fairly abundant food spread every week after service. The most challenging tasks being cleanup, dishwashing and drying.
 - We discussed having a few small items available, which should be sufficient (i.e. cookies). There were varied opinions on this topic.
 - We said whoever hosted fellowship could determine how much or little they provide.
 - We discussed recruiting backup help when Parish members are unavailable or short-handed (primarily cleanup duties)

We enjoy our Fellowship Time after service and having the opportunity to share in inviting, casual conversations with our church family, guests and visitors.

Parish Committee: Terry, Grace, Steve, Barbara, Clyde, Rena and Tim



MEN'S GROUP

Please join us this Friday evening, November 3rd for our monthly Men's Group Meeting. Gerry Havenstein will provide the main course, and Matt Himmeger will bring a dessert.

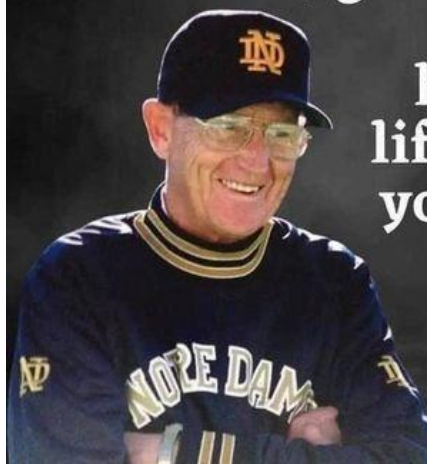
Most of the discussion will be centered around finalizing the plans for our Annual LOL Congregational Christmas Dinner that will take place on Friday, December 8th at 7 pm.

Gerry Havenstein

"Wanna be happy for an hour, eat a steak. Wanna be happy for a day, play golf. Wanna be happy for a week, go on a cruise.

Wanna be happy for a lifetime, put your faith in Jesus Christ."

- Lou Holtz



Won't You Join the Lord of Life



Directed by Donna Hanna
(704) 578-6009

Sign-Up Sheets
on the Bulletin Boards.
Please see Donna Hanna
for more info.



Save
The Date

CHRISTMAS
PARTY



December 8th at 7 pm










Your Men's Group will be providing the main course, and the congregation is asked to bring a dessert or any other special Christmas side dish that you would like to enhance the dinner.

A Sign-Up sheet is posted in the fellowship hall to RSVP.

There will also be a white elephant gift exchange!!!

All are invited to attend!!!

HELLO November

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<u>Sundays</u> 9 am Bible Study 10 am Worship 11 am Fellowship			1 <i>All Saints' Day</i> 7 am Rotary Breakfast	2  <i>All Soul's Day</i>	3 7 pm 	4
5 Social Concerns Meeting after Worship	6	7 	8 7 am Rotary Breakfast	9	10	11 
12 Council Meeting after Worship	13	14	15 7 am Rotary Breakfast 7 pm Choir Practice Resumes	16	17	18
19 Worship & Music Meeting after Worship	20	21	22 NO Rotary Breakfast or Choir Practice Due to Holiday	23 	24 	25
26	27	28	29 7 am Rotary Breakfast 7 pm Choir Practice	30 		



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

Families of Peg Stamp,
Ellis (Tony) Guedel, and
Monna Stamm; Hannah
Kestner Bockover; Mike &
Tina Kestner; Kathy Hart's
brother, Dan Stamm;

Sylvia Lambert's grandson, Ian Lambert –
deployment to Republic of Niger, West Africa;
Diana Havenstein; Rob Havenstein; Mary Ann
Jackson – brain tumor; Dayshaun – sickle cell
anemia/seizure/ stroke/ recovering from surgery;
Wendy Casey's mom, Barbara – under hospice
care; Judy Stewart – multiple health issues;
Carolyn Watkin's neighbor, Mr. Smith; Clyde
Bogle's sister-in-law, Wanda – cancer; Jim Powers;
Sharon Vietri; Linda Hash's brother, Charles Barlow,
and sister-in-law, Beth Hash Lennon; Rebecca
Swanson's sister in PA – Post Polio Syndrome, and
her nephew, Dr. David Shaefer; 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.

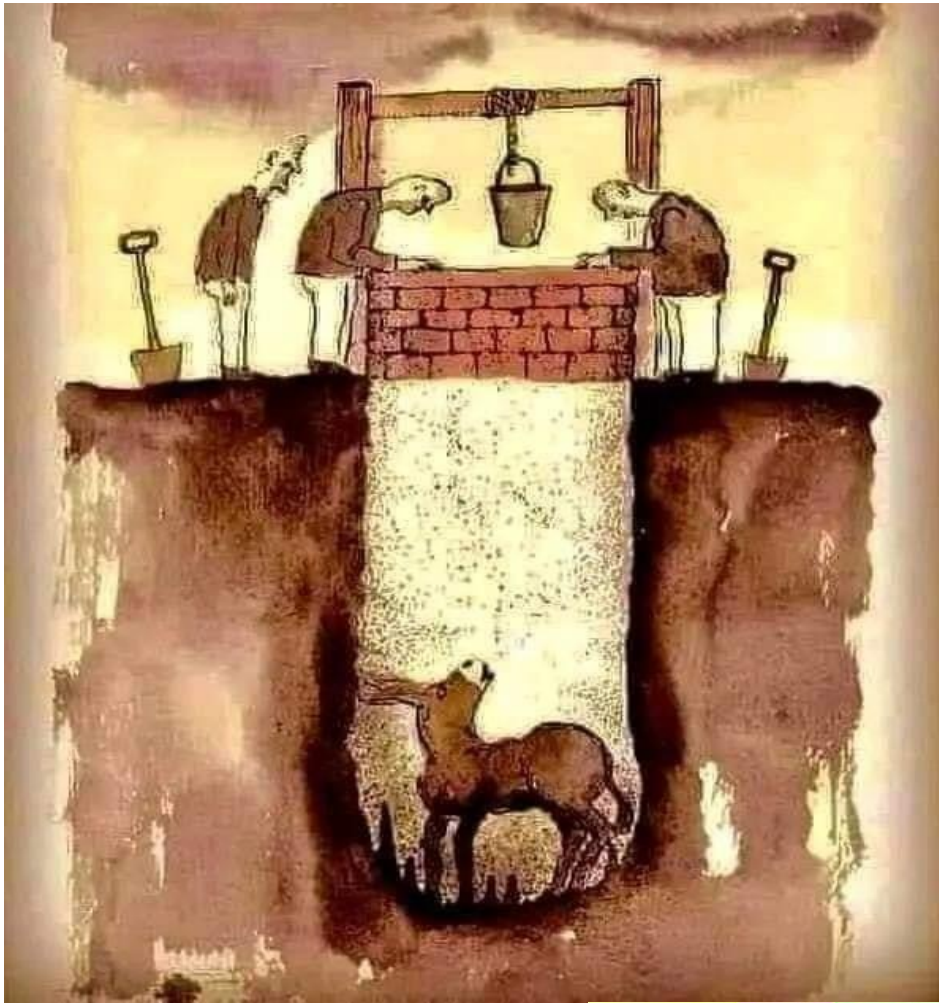


November

November 2	Maddie Terrazas
November 2	Carolyn Watkins
November 4	Paul Savolainen
November 5	Michael Eggert
November 5	Tess Andrews
November 7	Benjamin 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
November 22	Brad Hunnicutt
November 23	Christopher Hayduk
November 24	Jason Blanchard
November 28	Terry Barnes
November 29	Lindsay Crocker

December

December 5	Rebecca Swanson
December 7	Amanda Babel
December 8	Lisa Grayson
December 9	Neil Brennecke
December 17	Laura Raun
December 25	Rena Bogle
December 26	Becky Babel
	Drew Cook
December 28	Karen Wright
December 30	Verity Eggert



One day a farmer's donkey fell into a well. The animal cried loudly for hours, while the farmer tried to find some way to get him out.

Finally, the farmer decided that the donkey was old and the well was already dry and needed to be covered anyway; that it really wasn't worth pulling the donkey out of the well.

He asked all his neighbors to come help him. They each grabbed a shovel and began to throw dirt into the well.

The donkey realized what was happening and cried horribly loud. Then, to everyone's surprise, after a few shovelfuls of dirt he quieted down.

The farmer finally looked

down into the well and was amazed at what he saw ... with each shovelful of dirt, the donkey was doing something incredible: It was shaking off the dirt and stepping on top of the dirt.

A short time later, everyone watched with amazement as the donkey reached the mouth of the well, went over the edge and trotted out.

Life is going to throw dirt at you, all kinds of dirt. The trick to getting out of the hole is to shake it off and use it to step up. Each of our problems is a step up. We can get out of the deepest holes if we don't give up! Use whatever they throw you to get ahead!!!

5 simple rules for happiness

1. Free your Heart from hate.
 2. Free your Mind from worries.
 3. Simplify your Life.
 4. Give more and expect less.
 5. Love more and ... shake the dirt off!
- Because in this life you have to be a solution, not the problem!