

Life-Lines

May 2024



“And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting,” Acts 2:2 reports. This unexpected and unsettling rush was followed by *“divided tongues, as of fire”* which came to rest on each of them.

The Holy Chaos of Pentecost

Pentecost isn't for sissies, I guess; rather, it is a surprising and quite frightening turn of events for the friends and followers of Jesus who ever since the resurrection have been huddling in various houses, hiding from the temple police lest they'd be subject to trial and execution as their leader was.

Jesus had promised that this moment would come: *“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you,”* he told them. *“And you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”* (Acts 1:8). So, friends in Christ, Pentecost is about power. Or better, it is about receiving power, becoming em-powered and able to witness to Jesus in all the world.

Pentecost, the Jewish harvest festival of *Shavuot*, comes on the 50th day after the Passover; in Greek, *pentēkostē* means 50th. Think of that mathematical shape called a *penta*-gram or the five-sided

building outside of Washington, DC, where the American military resides, the *Pentagon*.

For us Christians, too, Pentecost comes 50 days after Easter. For us, it signifies the beginning of the Christian witness in the world, showing us how a sorry band of frightened disciples can transform through the power of the Holy Spirit into an awesome force that will turn the world upside down.

We do well to remember this dynamic. In this 47th year of its existence, our beloved congregation of Lord of Life Lutheran Church finds itself in a Pentecost moment as well. For too long, we have huddled inside our comfortable sanctuary, seeking refuge from a world that increasingly seems hostile to the Christian

message. We have been afraid to share Jesus' radical message of welcome and love. We have assumed that neighbors and friends would be offended if we mentioned Jesus too often ... or that everyone belongs to some church



somewhere already and therefore doesn't need our evangelistic outreach.

No more! This is our Pentecost moment! The Holy Spirit comes over us, too, and empowers us to share God's unconditional love and amazing grace with all those around us.

Pray with me that the Spirit might blow mightily through our church as she did on that Pentecost Day in Jerusalem. Open yourselves to the spirit, drawing power for the mission work that lies ahead. And know that Jesus goes before you, walks beside you, and has **your back**, too.

Peace+Blessings,
Pastor Wolfgang

**Greetings
from
Social
Concerns**



We had another busy month. Tim Clark delivered 62 pounds of food to Garner Area Ministries. As we continue collecting for GAM, our theme for May is New Beginnings and Welcome Summer for June. Look for the GAM container in the Narthex. All donations are truly appreciated!

We collected 30 books for the Wake Up and Read program and hope to collect more next year.

We partnered with the Parish Committee to host the wine and cheese party fellowship following Pastor Wolfgang's installation on April 21st. There were well over 100 people attending, including many clergy and supporters from Christ the King in Cary, for this momentous occasion.

On Saturday, April 6th we held the fund raiser for Relay for Life. We had a reverse raffle, silent auction and Bar B Q from Kathy and Jerry Hart's Ole Time Bar B Q. Then on Saturday April 27th we had a tent at Lake Benson Park for Garner's annual Relay for Life event. We had a big group of 25 attending. It is a big commitment every year setting up and taking down, walking and selling our gift basket raffle tickets. Many thanks to Alecia for coordinating again! It was another long day and well worth it. We purchased four torches in honor of Bob De Vito and Nancy Cahoon - cancer survivors, and in memory of those we recently lost to cancer - Dave Hash and Peg Stamp. LOL is proud to send over \$1,500 raised to the American Cancer Society.

Coming up next week is the 6th Annual Mother's Day Brunch for mothers and caregivers at

Able to Serve. Last year we served 49 people and expect the same, if not more, this year. Stay tuned to next month's newsletter for a final count and recap.

We are already planning for our 3rd of July celebration with fireworks across the street at White Deer Park.

We are ordering Frisbees with our name on them as well as glow sticks – always a big hit.

We meet after church on the first Sunday of each month. Please join us and help us plan how we can best support our neighbors locally and beyond.

*Annual
Able to Serve*



Blessings,
Helen Holderman



**From the Desk of
Your Council President**



The word “**share**” can be defined as “give a portion of (something) to another or others”. In our church, there is a whole lot of sharing going on! Two of Lord of Life’s mantras are “We are a Community of faith sharing God’s love with all” and “All are welcome, no exceptions!” Sharing God’s love AND sharing our worship with ALL are very essential qualities a church should have.

The Installation of our Pastor Wolfgang on April 21, 2024 was truly an enlightening and joyous celebration! Personally, this was the most inspiring service I’ve experienced at LOL! There were 109 people in attendance. We had participants **sharing** their talents from leadership within the clergy, musically gifted guests (from CTK, LOL, and Washington DC), technical expertise and the many dedicated LOL supporting members in various roles. In planning and preparation of our wine and cheese reception, we had our Social Concerns and Parish ministries **sharing** the responsibilities.

In financially funding our growth and future of Lord of Life, we have received grant money that has been **shared** with us by the ELCA Churchwide, Chicago and Christ The King Lutheran Church, Cary. There is also a pending grant through the NC Synod (Casey-Peeler grant) that looks promising. CTK, Cary is part of a partnership of collaboration covenant that

we’ll be formally entering soon (previously termed “Anchor Church”). This will be over a three-year period in **sharing** administrative, technical and financial support, which will really aid in our growth and support. In this growing area of Garner, our church should be flourishing, and we’re getting there!

There is currently a campaign for Camp Agapé Kure Beach Ministries going on termed “**Share the Love**”, which is financially supported by 8 Lutheran churches. This campaign is for the construction of a new swimming pool, as the old pool is about forty years old. LOL’s Men’s Group and Social Concerns have always been big supporters of Camp Agapé. Please consider **sharing** financial resources at the offering plate and noting on envelope “Share the Love” or “Camp Agapé” but still write check to Lord of Life Lutheran Church.

PLEASE consider **sharing** your time and volunteering for the following duties: Treasurer, Financial Secretary, Deputy Treasurer and Audio/YouTube Streaming. If there’s any interest in helping (even for a short time), please consider serving to meet these needs. We will train you. Listed below are people currently in these roles:

Treasurer	Lindsay Crocker
Deputy Treasurer	Tess Andrews
Financial Secretary	Terry Barnes
Audio/YouTube Streamer	Terry Barnes

I’m very encouraged about the growth in our attendance and increasing our membership in adding to our LOL Church Family! Please continue praying for others, our leadership and our Church Family. Please pray that God would mold and shape us into His desire, and that we will be pleasing in his sight.

God’s Peace,
Terry Barnes, Council President



For those of you who have jobs Monday thru Friday, you may not be aware of all the great things that happen at Lord of Life Monday thru Friday.

When you pull into the parking lot, you may be surprised. Just recently I drove up in the early morning (early being 9:00 or 9:30 for those of us who are retired) to return something to church from the previous weekend. The parking lot was almost full. Then there was a big white mysterious bus in front of the church. There were no markings on the side that usually identifies the owners, so I walked in to church very cautiously to the Joyful Sounds of The Aversboro Baptist Choir. They were sitting in the choir area and they filled every pew, and a few were just hanging off the edges. I was jealous. Fortunately Carlton from Able to Serve walked in behind me and commented. He said, "Oh yes, they come every year to perform for our clients." Since I was dressed for a walk into the park, I slid in to the back, that newly repurposed area for the small children with those cute building blocks. I was able to enjoy two or three familiar hymns before they did their last song « Jesus Loves Me » with the Able To Serve clients signing the song. Since a great deal of my career was working with Deaf and Hard of Hearing students who used sign language, this nearly brought me to tears.

Today I just returned from church to help set up for the early Wednesday morning Rotary breakfast. Once again the

parking lot was just clearing out. I saw Carlton, looking exhausted but happy. He said they had just finished the Special Olympics Day for their clients. Counting all the parents, his staff, community volunteers and friends who came cheer them on, he estimated he had 160 people. That is wonderful! What a gift to the clients, parents and Lord of Life.

Next week Helen will once again bring out the church volunteers for the Mother's Day Brunch. They will serve a delicious meal to the Mother's and caregivers of Able to Serve Clients. It is a beautiful morning and again when you see the smiles on the Mother's faces, you will understand why this may be Helen's favorite day. I have volunteered a couple of times and it truly touches your heart. There are so many opportunities to volunteer. Then you may understand why Lord of Life is so fortunate to have started this relationship with the Able to Serve Community. Try us Monday thru Friday, you may be surprised and you just might get hooked in. ~ Rita C



We have had a wonderful Spring season of Lent and Easter. Thank you to Harry and Sheryll Albert for changing banners for the appropriate season and correct placement. Thank you to Barbara Kyles for setting the altar this month (April). And thanks to all who helped strip the altar for Good Friday.

Special welcome to Pastor Wolfgang and family, who was officially installed at an inspiring service on April 21.

Invite your friends & neighbors to come and experience the joy at Lord of Life!

Ginny King
(919) 763-0445

Wolfgang Herz-Lane Installed as Pastor and Mission Developer

During a joyous worship service on April 21, the Rev. Dr. Wolfgang D. Herz-Lane was officially installed as pastor and mission developer of Lord of Life Lutheran Church.

LOL Council President Terry Barnes presented Pastor Wolfgang for installation, and then, before a full house, Dean Marsha Anderson and more than a dozen area clergy witnessed the promises made by our new pastor as he begins this new ministry. Four representatives of our congregation (Linda Hash, Gale Isaacs, Mary Cook, and Alecia Harrison) led him to the font, the altar, pulpit and front door, symbolically charging him to baptize, preach, preside at the Holy Communion and lead the congregation in witness and service to the world.



Pastor Daniel Pugh, newly installed senior pastor of Christ the King Lutheran Church in Cary, preached a powerful message on connectedness and relationship, emphasizing that Lord of Life and Christ the King, as part of the “anchor church” collaboration, were now tied together in a “symbiotic” and mutually beneficial partnership.

Special music was provided by a contemporary band from Christ the King, our own LOL choir, Dr. Abraham Cáceres, and guest musicians and soloists from

Washington, DC, led by Deborah Bagby, a longtime friend of Pastor Wolfgang. A wine and cheese reception followed in the Fellowship Hall.



If you missed it, a recording of the service can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8LhNk553whE&t=3681s>



A newly formed "Visions & Dreams Team" was introduced and formally installed during Pastor Wolfgang's installation service on April 21.

The team takes its name from the prophet Joel 2:28 where God says: "I will pour out my spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions." The team is charged to do just that, dream dreams and see visions, as it leads Lord of Life Lutheran Church in a strategic planning process over the next six months. It is comprised of eight leaders, four each from Lord of Life and Christ the King, Cary, our "anchor church" ministry partner.

The team meets for the first time on May 23 and will publish a schedule of meetings, focus groups, and one-on-one conversations shortly thereafter. The goal is to involve the entire congregation as well as community leaders in the discernment about how God is leading us into the future God intends for Lord of Life.

The Visions & Dreams Team was installed April 21 by Rev. Danielle De-Nise (right), director for evangelical mission and assistant to the bishop in the NC Lutheran Synod. Team members are, from left, Pastor Daniel Pugh, Paul Sovany, Cindy Wilke (from Christ the King); Pastor Wolfgang, Sarah Watkins, Alecia Harrison, and Shannon Thomsen from (LOL). Not pictured is Mark Dowell from Christ the King who was traveling.



In Honor of your Mother and Father



Honor your father and your mother,
as the Lord your God
has commanded you,
so that you may live long, and
that it may go well with you in the land
the Lord your God is giving you.



Deuteronomy 5:16

Mother's Day is Sunday, May 12th.
Father's Day is Sunday, June 16th.

As a child, you think your parents have it made! They get to make (and break) all the rules.

Your perception is your reality. Actually, when you become the parent, you learn that you also have rules and MANY more limitations than you did as the "kid". Many of us parents long for the simpler time of our childhood. There were so many fewer distractions and perils in our life. The parent worries about removing as many obstacles for their children as they can without depriving them of learning how to work out their own problems.

We have all kinds of names for parenting styles....helicopter, bulldozer, friend, just let it be whatever it will be. There are benefits and consequences to each parenting type. God, the Father, is our perfect heavenly Father. We strive to be more like Him day after day.

For King and Country, an Australian Contemporary Christian music group, have a new song that has touched my heart – Unsung Hero. They wrote this song to

honor their Mom for the sacrifices and hard work she experienced as an immigrant. The parents of 6 children moved to the United States when the children were still young. They had successes and failures, like we all do. But the boys wrote this song for their parents....

Words fall short, but I am sure there will never be anyone like you.

You're strong like your Father,
even when you are scared.

When I was in trouble,
you never left me there.

And you love like your Mother,
like there is nothing to lose.

You're an unsung hero,
so I will sing this song for you.

For all the times I fell down,
you showed me how to stand.
And when we crossed the ocean,
you were my safe place to land.

Been on a thousand stages,
but when it is all said and done,

I hope I make you proud
of the man that I have become.

I tell whoever will listen that my goal for my children is to make them "Happy taxpayers."

I mean, I want them to be happy with how they choose to live their life and who they choose to live it with. AND I want them OFF my payroll. That they have a career path that will pay their bills. The other thing I tried to teach them is that budgeting is easy. Don't have the goal of making more money. Have the goal of work-life balance. Save 10% of your salary, Tithe 10%, and you can spend 80%. But pay your bills first. Save you for large purchases. Try to pay cash when you can. Do NOT spend money that you do not have.

Continued ...

Every parent makes sacrifices for their children. We love our children. Sometimes it is hard to show each child how much you love them. Everyone is an individual so there is not ONE magic way to show love to every child. But listening helps! And when you are struggling with how to reach a child, remember your parents. Pray for them. Call or go see them if you can. And honor all the Parents that you know. It is the hardest job that you will love!

Blessings,
Alecia Harrison



The NC Synod Gathering will be at Lenoir Rhyne University from Thursday, May 30th to Saturday, June 1st. Each day offers opportunities for worship, learning, and fellowship. What if you can only spare the time for one or two days away? Each day is uniquely planned with distinctive workshops, keynotes, and worship services.

The goal of the Gathering is to inspire, equip, and deepen relationships.

You may contact Alecia Harrison for more information. Register today at the NCLutheran.org website. Registration deadline is Wednesday, May 15th.

Daniel Pugh Becomes 5th Senior Pastor at Christ the King

Rev. Daniel Pugh (our photo, right) became the 5th called senior pastor of our ministry partner church, Christ the King Lutheran Church in Cary, on April 14 when NC Synod Bishop Timothy Smith (center) installed him into the office that had been held by Pastor Wolfgang Herz-Lane for the past seven years. CTK and LOL are now collaborating in a so-called “anchor church” partnership with the goal of revitalizing Lord of Life’s ministry in Garner.



Annual LOL Document SHRED DAY!

May 11th - 9 am to Noon

All available men AND women are needed to assist!

No more than 10 containers per car, staples, paper clips, small bound and spiral notebooks accepted.

NO 3 RING BINDERS ACCEPTED

Call 919-772-9044 for more info

Event Hosted by Lord of Life Lutheran Church Men's Group

"All are welcome, no exceptions!"

Easter Was "A Blow-Out" at LOL



Meet our newest TV star, Alecia Harrison, who was interviewed by CBS17 News after Easter service on March 31. The TV crew came to LOL to cover our Easter celebration which, according to one worshiper, was "a blow-out" with more than a hundred people attending. A well-received Easter Egg Hunt and a festive luncheon followed.

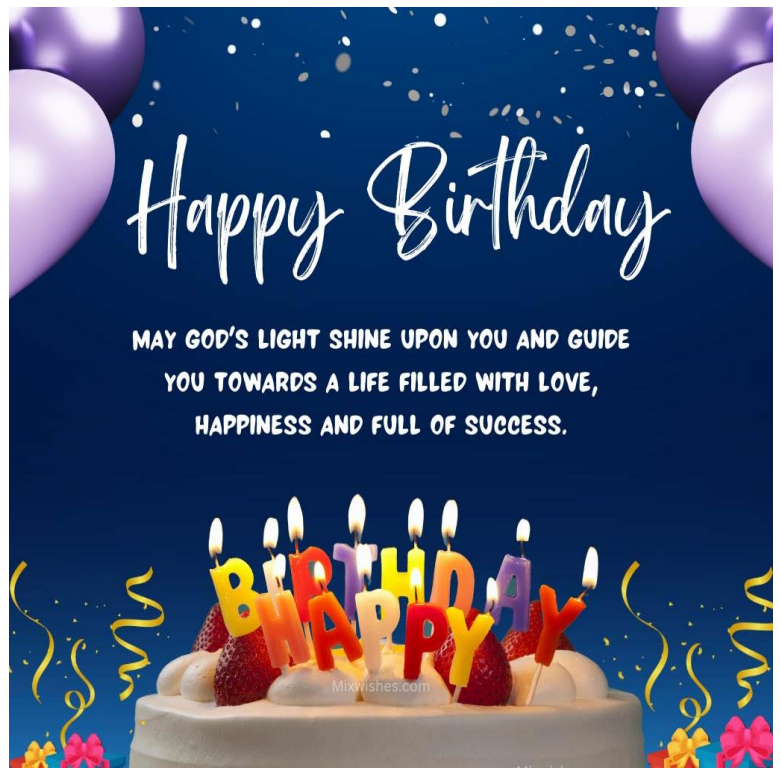




We pray for our world
and those in it with
hope for our future.

Family of Virginia
Green; Family of

Richard Suriano, Julia Lochra's father-in-law;
Rossley Family – sudden death of 34 year-
old son; Martina Himmeger, Matt's mom;
Margaret Herz-Lane – eye surgery; Becca, a
young woman with a husband & 3 small
children – stage 4 cancer; Claire Furlow –
meningitis after cochlear implant surgery;
Ella Fairchild – heart condition; Nick Vietri –
recovering; Shirley Lewis, friend of Laura –
ALS; Gerry Havenstein, Diana Havenstein;
Rob Havenstein; Donna Hanna; Mary Ann
Jackson – brain tumor; Dayshaun – sickle
cell anemia/ seizure/stroke/ recovering from
surgery; Rita's co-worker, Elizabeth
Alexander – colon cancer; Carolyn Watkin's
neighbor, Mr. Smith; Clyde Bogle's sister-in-
law, Wanda – cancer; 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.



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 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!!!



Hello May

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><u>Sundays</u></p> <p>9 am Bible Study 10 am Worship 11 am Fellowship</p>			<p>1 Rotary Breakfast</p>	2	<p>3 7 pm</p>	4
<p>5 Social Concerns Meeting After Worship</p>	6	<p>7 9 am Annual Able to Serve Mother's Day Brunch</p>	<p>8 7 am Rotary Breakfast</p> <p>6:30 Choir Practice</p>	9	10	<p>11 SHRED DAY</p>
<p>12 Council Meeting After Worship</p>	13	14	<p>15 7 am Rotary Breakfast</p> <p>6:30 Choir Practice</p>	16	17	18
19	20	21	<p>22 7 am Rotary Breakfast</p> <p>6:30 Choir Practice</p>	23	24	25
		28	<p>29 7 am Rotary Breakfast</p> <p>6:30 Choir Practice</p>	30	31	

Pastor Rev. Dr. Wolfgang Herz-Lane
Minister of Music (Interim).....Marsha Vanderwerff
Office Manager/Web Master.....Laura Raun

Congregational Council

President..... Terry Barnes
Vice-President Shannon Thomsen
Secretary..... Tim Clark
TreasurerLindsay Crocker
Deputy Treasurer..... Tess Andrews
Financial Secretary..... Terry Barnes
Neil Brennecke, Sharyl Eggert, Linda Hash, Matt
Himmegeer, Sylvia Lambert, and Enid Weatherwax

May 2024

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



Office Email: LordofLife2100@gmail.com
Pastor's Email: WolfgangHerzLane@gmail.com
Website: www.LOLGarner.com
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

Heavenly Father,
You know every decision I
need to make and every
challenge I face. Please forgive
me for the times that I try to
figure this life out on my own.
I need You. I need Your Holy
Spirit to give me strength,
wisdom and direction.

Amen

