



# Newsletter

June/July 2023

## Single Summer Service Brings the Entire Congregation Together!



## School Uniform Drive

Lord of Life's service ministry team is proud to announce that it will again be collecting school uniforms for the younger children in need at **Red Cedar Elementary School**. This is an outreach ministry that we have conducted for several years now, with great success.

The new element this year is the opportunity to use Thrivent Action gift cards, allowing each card holder to spend \$250 on these items, thus increasing our capacity to assist. Karen Meyer has offered to work with any Thrivent member to access these funds. Simply contact her at [krmhome@icloud.com](mailto:krmhome@icloud.com) and she will be thrilled to walk you through the process.

**The specifics of the drive are: polo shirts in red, gold or white, children's sizes 4 to 8/10.**

**Navy shorts, skorts, and pants, also children's sizes 4 to 8/10.**

**And since the younger children still occasionally have accidents, they can use underwear and socks, children's sizes 4 to 6. Shoes are also helpful.**

Uniform eligible items can be found at Walmart, Target, Old Navy, and JC Penney. They are also available on line at those stores and on Amazon, where you can often purchase in larger quantities.

**We will have a collection box in the narthex starting June 25 and will leave it there until August 6. We will deliver the items to the school on August 9, so that the social worker will have them in time for the beginning of school.**

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

# Charlotte Wins Gold & Bronze



These pictures were captured just moment after Charlotte Lewis of Bluffton won **GOLD** in the 200 meter kayak race at Special Olympics World Games Berlin 2023! She also won **BRONZE** on Saturday for the 500 meter. We are all so proud of you, Charlotte!

## Dr. Reisz received the Bachman Award

Something extraordinary happened to Dr. Fred Reisz on May 10, 2023. First, a little background.

Dr. Reisz served as president of Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary (LTSS) in Columbia, S.C., from 1992 through 2006. As the only ELCA seminary in the southeastern United States, LTSS educates and nourishes men and women who feel God's call to minister to God's people in various capacities. Since July 2012 it has been a part of Lenoir-Rhyne University. As president, Dr. Reisz handled the top administrative business of the seminary while supporting professors, students, and staff along their faith journeys.

As part of LTSS graduation this year, a Baccalaureate ceremony was held on May 10 at Ebenezer Lutheran Church in Columbia, S.C., and several awards were presented. Dr. Reisz received the Bachman Award. This award is named for Dr. John Bachman, who was instrumental in the founding of the seminary and who was the pastor of St. John's Lutheran Church in Charleston, S.C., for 56 years. This award is given for distinguished leadership to the church. "I was honored to receive this award. It is the highest award the seminary gives to honor people who have served the church." Making the presentation even more special was the fact that his daughter was able to be in attendance.



We rejoice with Dr. Reisz over this recognition and thank him for sharing his story with us.



Come Join Our

# BIBLE



STUDY

## Sunday School Bible Study

@ 9:00 am

Lessons will continue for a couple of more weeks

## Tuesday Bible Study

Will resume in late August or September

## Wednesday Bible Study

Will resume in September

## Thursday Lutheran Men in Mission @ 8:00 am

\*Currently meeting by Zoom.

\*Breakfast in person every Third Thursday at 8:00 am



**Miles Frye wins two awards at sports banquet.** Miles (center) is flanked by his friends Jackson (left) and Nico (right) who have played baseball together since they were young. Miles Frye got the Varsity award for the Most Valuable Player and Highest Grade Point Average. Congratulations Miles!

## Congratulations Craig Boehlke!

Celebrating 50th anniversary of ordination at synod assembly. Time flies!



## Don't just invite people to church.

Invite them to lunch.

Invite them to your table or patio.

Invite them into your life!

***Be there for them.***

**We—**

**not our building**

**—are the church!**

## Ministry Highlights

### Parish life Ministry

- Pastor Angela's Bible study will not meet during the summer but will resume in September.
- Men in Mission—led by Jack Young will continue to meet Thursdays at 8:00 am via zooming except for the third Thursday of the month when they meet in LOL for breakfast.
- Jim Cuff's Bible study will not meet in July and will resume either in late August or September.
- Adult Sunday School, led by Dennis Lollis, will have one more meeting in June and take a break and resume most likely in September.
- Fabric of Faith has made 25 quilts. They will not meet during the summer. They will resume their activity in September. Kay Hendricks heads up this ministry.
- Friendship Tables, led by Ed Gruel, is slowly getting together. There have been a few responses and Ed is waiting until he Gets more people before he resumes the Ministry. Most likely it will start in September.
- Lap Robe projects are headed by Jan Nill and will resume in the Fall.



### Care and Call Ministry

The participants for the Care and Call ministry are Charlotte Mayer, Linda Roland, Donna Myers, Gloria Sandrock, Mary Lee Tumey, Cindy Vought, Judy Long, Susan Lange, Anita Podgurski, Fair Bentz, Carol Currey, Wendy Guise, Elaine Himes, Carol Seigel, Bonnie Huber, Valerie Norris, Bargara Wight, Pam Duncan, Ann Pufpaff, Jack Young, and Susie Young.

Care and Call Report (5/7—6/15)

Cards sent:6 Phone calls:2 We offered Holy Communion at NHC on 6/15.

Linc Tumey and Gloria Sandrock served communion after a brief devotion, and we sang 3 hymns. 20 residents and their families participated.

## Service Ministry



**Service Ministry from Left:** Bunny Norell, Pam Duncan, Karen Meyer, Karen Cullen, Georgia Boelke, Tonya Neeley, and Eileen Buth.

- Project Linus – Karen Meyer learned that the Blue Heron Stitchery, 1233 May River Rd., is a drop off location and that the blankets will be given to Family Promise, the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office and Bluffton Police. We set a date of October 28. Karen will order the kits and Pam Duncan will reserve Luther Hall for the project
- Family Promise -Tonya met with Stephanie at Family Promise and delivered 2 quilts. The agency is looking for other ways to provide care to families such as considering static housing. In the meantime, various churches are providing meals 3 nights per week with varying numbers of days per week. Tonya is seeking a volunteer to head up this effort for Lord of Life. We currently have 16-18 air mattresses furnished to Lord of Life by Family Promise, as well as the towels and linens and other supplies we're storing for the ministry. We will continue to figure out what to do with these items.
- LWR—**\$865** has been collected to help with putting together personal care kits. Linda Roland oversees this project and will be consulted when she's back in town.
- We are also looking to Linda to advise the group of the date for God's Work, Our Hands.
- School Uniform Drive— The school uniform drive will begin shortly. Uniform items will be due by August 6, with a delivery date of August 9.

## Worship and Music Ministry

- Summer Worship schedule—We began a summer schedule consisting of a single worship service at 10AM Sunday June 4th, and lasting until through August. The feedback has been very positive, with just a few exceptions.



**From Left:** Bones Leonard, Jim Lewis, and Marshall Kurfiss. Not Pictured: Bill Guise.

## • Property Ministry

- Garage collection - Jim Lewis has established a garbage and recycling contract with CWS for a flat rate of \$137/mo. The 4-cu.yd. dumpster and a 96-cu.ft. recycling bin have been delivered.
- Play School Playground Timber Replacement - Pastor Ramos's congregation members picked up the materials from Home Depot purchased by Lord of Life Church and replaced the old railroad timbers with pressure treated timbers including a new sandbox feature. It looks great! They did a nice job.
- Gutter Cleaning—Pastor Ramos team cleaned the gutters of pine needles on all clogged gutters and downspouts.
- Play School Playground Exit door: The locksmith who services our doors repaired the sticking door at one of the play school exits to the playground. The locksmith also looked at the broken lock on the janitor closet and determined that part of the door handle/lock must be replaced. Parts are ordered.
- Insect infestations around the foundation - Marshall contacted the exterminator who agreed to come out and treat the large insect mound infestations around the church perimeter.

## Property Ministry (continued)

- Irrigation system: Bill Guise and Marshall Kurfiss exercised each leg of the system. Several were not operational with no clear indication of where the water supply was cut off. Some that worked had sprinkler heads that only partially worked. One leg (grass between church and Buckwalter) that had a defective head spraying water 10 feet straight up. We observed that many of the irrigation lines had been wrapped around or bent around tree trunks and were now overgrown such that water flow was pinched off. Bill and Marshall will repair the malfunctioning sprinkler heads. But the legs that have no flow will likely have to be abandoned or replaced. Replacement of non-functioning irrigation lines is likely to be a very expensive project requiring running new supply lines under areas of the parking lot. So, a project for the future, if ever.
- Fire Protection Sprinkler System Maintenance Issues—There has been a flurry of activity regarding estimates from Johnson Controls to maintain our Fire Protection Sprinkler System. When Bones had witnessed their annual inspection, we expected their estimate to include replacing a few sprinkler heads that had been accidentally painted, and perhaps a 5-year inspection of the backflow protection check valves. The estimate came in at over \$15,000 including much more work than this. Bones and Jim Cuff engaged the Johnson Controls representative Stephanie Kerin asking her to breakdown the total into its components. Bones and Bill Guise have reviewed these details and have made recommendations to Jim Cuff regarding which of these tasks must be done versus others that could be deferred. Bones, Bill and Jim determined that we must go forward now with 4 of the 7 for a time and materials estimate of ~\$10,000 max, but the other three, while they should be done, can be deferred to next year.
- Air Conditioning Set Point - A parishioner complained to Marshall on Sunday that the air conditioning was set too low making him uncomfortable and requiring his wife to wear sweaters to church each week. This raised the question of if/how the air conditioning system is set for various days and times of day, and to what levels. Perhaps if we can air condition to a higher temperature, and program it even higher when the various parts of the building are not in use, we can save energy costs. It is not known if our current thermostats are programmable by day and time of day, but if not, maybe we need to invest in new thermostats. This rekindled a desire to take a larger look at propane and electrical energy usage with an eye toward overall energy and cost savings. The property committee will be



**Come and See  
Ministry:**

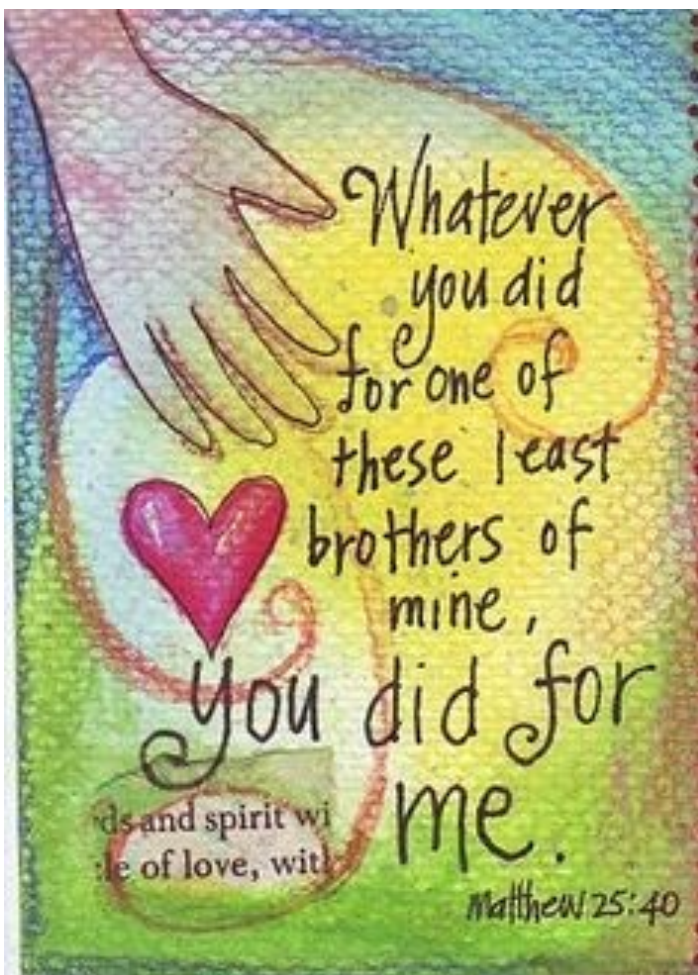
**From Left:** Bunny Norell, Charlotte and Rich Mayer, and Donna Myers



## Finance Ministry



From Left: Carol Siegel, Mike Himes, Linc Tumey, Fred Park, and Jerry Long. Not Pictured: Ed Gruel.

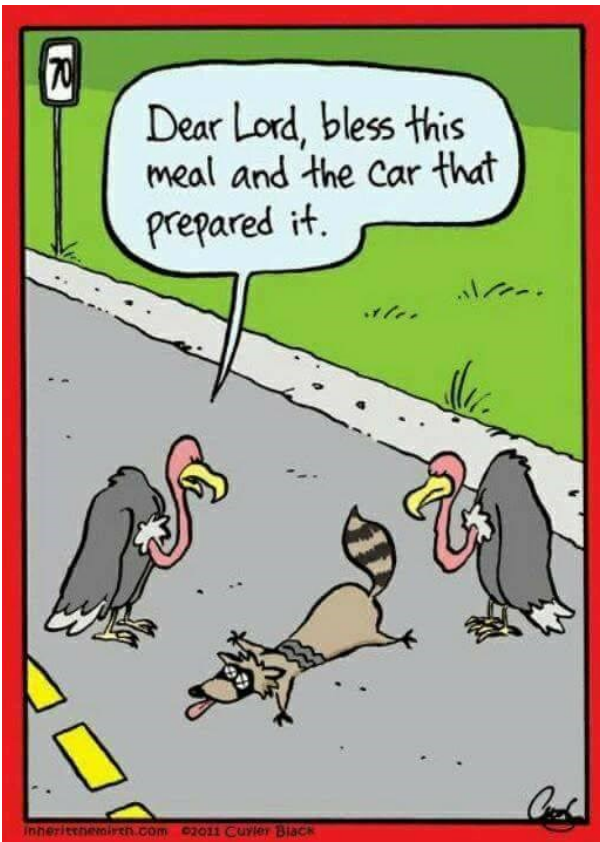


## Lap Robes for First Responders



On June 21st at the Fire Department 35 to celebrate the giving of the Lord of Life lap robes to first responders. 35 lap robes were created for this project. Thanks to all who participated in making the lap robes. God Bless our first responders!

## Pray always:



# Our Full Communion Partners

**Full communion** is when two denominations develop a relationship based on a common confessing of the Christian faith and a mutual recognition of Baptism and sharing of the Lord's Supper. This does not mean the two denominations merge; rather, in reaching agreements, denominations also respect differences. These denominations worship together, may even exchange clergy and also share a commitment to evangelism, witness and service in the world. Each entity agrees that even with differences, there is nothing that is church-dividing.

A central document to Lutherans is the *Augsburg Confession*. Article VII of the *Augsburg Confession* states that "the true unity of the church" is present where the gospel is rightly preached and sacraments rightly administered. The ELCA is committed to this model of full communion as an authentic expression of Christian unity.

## Characteristics of full communion

For the ELCA, the characteristics of full communion are theological and missiological (a theological term referring to the mission, character, and purpose of the church/Body of Christ) implications of the gospel that allow variety and flexibility. These characteristics stress that the church act ecumenically for the sake of the world, not for itself alone. They will include at least the following, some of which exist at earlier stages:

- common confessing of the Christian faith
- mutual recognition of Baptism and a sharing of the Lord's Supper, allowing for joint worship and an exchangeability of members
- mutual recognition and availability of ordained ministers to the service of all, subject to the disciplinary regulations of other denominations
- common commitment to evangelism, witness and service
- means of common decision-making on critical common issues of faith and life
- mutual lifting of any condemnations that exist between denominations.

There is also a basic pattern for worship among Lutherans. We *gather*. We encounter God's *word*. We share a *meal* at the Lord's table. And we are *sent* into the world. But we do not think about worship so much in terms of what we do. Worship is fundamentally about what God is doing and our response to God's action. Worship is an encounter with God, who saves us through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Our full communion partners are:

The Presbyterian Church USA— Since 1997

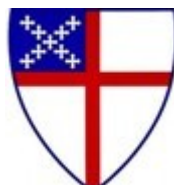
Reformed Church in America— Since 1997

United Church of Christ— Since 1997

The Episcopal Church—Since 1999

The Moravian Church—Since 1999

United Methodist Church — Since 2009



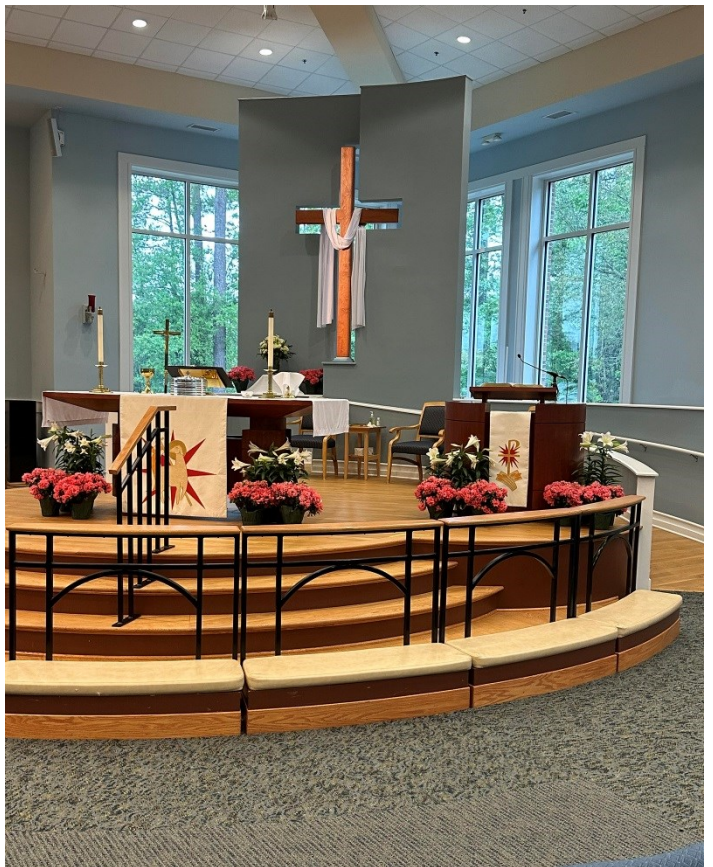
# Worship

A foundation of faith for everything we do.

For Lutherans, worship stands at the center of our life of faith. Through God’s word, water, bread, wine, and prayer we are nurtured in faith and sent out into the world.

Connected with and central to everything we do, worship unites us in celebration, engages us in thoughtful dialogue and helps us grow in faith. It grounds us in our Christian and Lutheran roots, while demonstrating practical relevance for today’s world. Just think the generations before us who worshiped the same way we do now as we join them in the continuous stream of those worshipers before us. Some of which may have been your ancestors.

While some of the approaches to worship may differ from one ELCA congregation to another, we hold certain things in common. Central to our worship life is the presence of God through word and sacrament. The **Word** proclaimed and the **sacraments** — both Holy Baptism and Holy Communion — are called **the means of grace**. We believe that Jesus Christ is present in these means through the power of the Holy Spirit. We describe worship as a “gathering around the means of grace.”





## LOL Pillow Ministry Reaches So Many

“Our dear friend from Rockville, Md, who now resides in Sun City and is a choir member of Lord of Life, gave me one of your beautiful pillows. Carol Currey told me all about the pillow ministry and what a blessing it has been to many people.

I am a blessed recipient. I have been going through infusion chemotherapy and now oral chemo. The pillow was with me for my platelet transfusion and then a blood transfusion. Something physical to hold on to and it was a comfort. Thank you for this wonderful, caring ministry for all God’s children.

In His Name, Carol Stano”

*Left: Debbie Kennedy receives a prayer pillow from Kay Hedrick to be given to someone in need.*

## PlayCare Precious Moments

