



# Newsletter

August/September 2023



Lord of Life celebrates our working *together* to meet our needs. *Together* we are able to pay our Wind and Hail insurance to protect the beautiful building God has entrusted to our use

Let us  
**WORSHIP**  
Together

**ONE 10:00 AM SERVICE ON SUNDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 10TH.**

**8:30 AND 10:30 SERVICES BEGIN ON SUNDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 17TH.**

**SATURDAY SERVICE STILL IN DISCUSSION**



## Sue Ellen Johnson retires

Sue Ellen has been a pianist for Lord of Life for many years. She has decided that it is time for her to step away from her musical duties. Besides playing for our church services, Sue Ellen accompanies the choir for their weekly anthems and plays for seasonal cantatas as well. Additionally, she has played for funerals, weddings, and worship services at NHC monthly. Sue Ellen is an exceptionally talented musician and will be missed behind the piano. Thankfully, Sue Ellen will continue to worship with us. And unbeknownst to her may be asked to fill in from time to time.



**NOVEMBER 12, 2023**

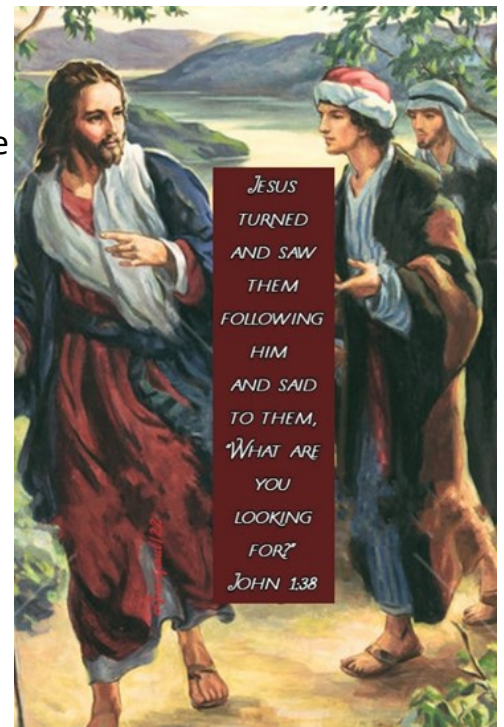
## COME AND SEE

Human beings are inherently lost and searching creatures. We are born reaching out for loving arms, nourishment, comfort, and meaning. And it seems we spend the rest of our lives in search of those same things. Therefore, it is no surprise that Jesus' first words in the Gospel of John are, "What are you looking for?" John the Baptizer said of Jesus, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" Further, John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him." When John's disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi, where are you staying?" Jesus said to them, "Come and see."

How many times in a day do we ask a variation of that same question? Where are my slippers? Where are my glasses? Am I hungry? What do I want to eat? What did I need from the store? What do I want to wear? And the list continues. We can see why those first disciples were compelled to invite others to come and see who and what they had found. As the story continues one of the two who heard John the Baptizer speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He went to his brother Simon to tell him they had found the Messiah, the Anointed one of God. When he brought Simon to Jesus, he immediately had a relationship with him changing his life. To signify his new life Jesus changed Simon's name to Cephas/Peter, which means rock.

The next day Jesus found Philip and invited him to follow him. Philip then found Nathanael to tell him about Jesus inviting him also to come and see for himself what God was doing and how God was fulfilling the needs of the lost who continue to search (to look) for loving arms, nourishment, comfort, and meaning, that can only completely be met by God our Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier.

As disciples of our God of Grace in Jesus Christ we too are compelled to share this good news of God's Grace with others who are searching for loving arms, nourishment, comfort, meaning. Evangelism is the sharing of the Good News of God's Grace in Jesus Christ. In our world evangelism means inviting friends to come to church with you for worship and/or some other event. An added step of hospitality would be inviting them to a meal afterward. Additionally, in our world evangelism also means welcoming the visitors/guests who find Lord of Life on their own. A simple way to invite another to "Come and See" for themselves what God is doing in and for the world here at Lord of Life.





Mark your calendar for Lord of Life's ***God's Work Our Hands*** project this year!

**Thursday, September 7<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM** at 39 Sheridan Park Circle, Bluffton

Once again we will help out at *Bluffton Self Help* by providing some cleaning that does not get done on a regular basis. The projects have been similar over the years with power washing, cleaning refrigerators, freezers, shelving, and the like. This project is usually completed in about 3 hours. As the adage goes: *Many hands make light work*. Water and snacks are provided when you need a break. Thrivent has given \$250 to assist with cleaning supplies and items requested by the agency.

This is the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of this ELCA churchwide endeavor to both serve our neighbors and be a visible presence in the community. ***Help make us visible!***



The logo features the words "Save These" in a cursive, orange font, with a small graphic of three orange dots connected by lines above the word "Save". Below this, the word "DATES" is written in a large, bold, blue serif font.

## 2023

### Bring a friend, or two or more!

- September 29 **Church Family Game Night** – bring snacks—come ready to play board/card games
- October 29 **Oktoberfest** after 10:00am worship. bring a dessert or potato salad
- December 3 **Christmas Cantata** 10:00am
- December 4 **Blue Christmas**
- December 24 **Christmas Eve Services** at 10:00am, 5:00pm, and 7:00pm
- December 31 **New Year's Eve** – one service at 10:00am
- December 31 **German New Year's Eve Party** Gather at 5:00pm  
We will ring in the New Year with Germany at 6:00pm  
Bring hors d'oeuvres.

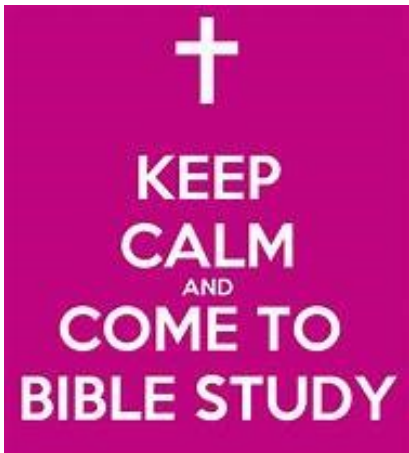
## 2024

### Bring a friend, or two or more!

- February 11 **Burning of the Palms** in preparation for Ash Wednesday and **Valentine Brunch** – Wear Red or Pink
- February 14 **Ash Wednesday Service** 11:00am and 5:00pm
- Lenten **Soup Supper** @ 5:30  
**Worship** @ 6:00pm February 21st, 28th, March 6th, 13th, 20th
- March 24 **Palm/Passion Sunday**
- March 28 **Maundy Thursday** 6:00pm
- March 29 **Good Friday** 6:00pm
- March 17 **St. Patrick's Day Brunch** – wear green
- March 31 **Easter Sunday Worship and Breakfast** –  
ladies wear Easter Bonnets
- May 19 **Pentecost Sunday** – wear red
- June 2 **Summer Schedule—one service at 10:00am**

# Congratulations to Pastor Angela on the 25th Anniversary of her Ordination!



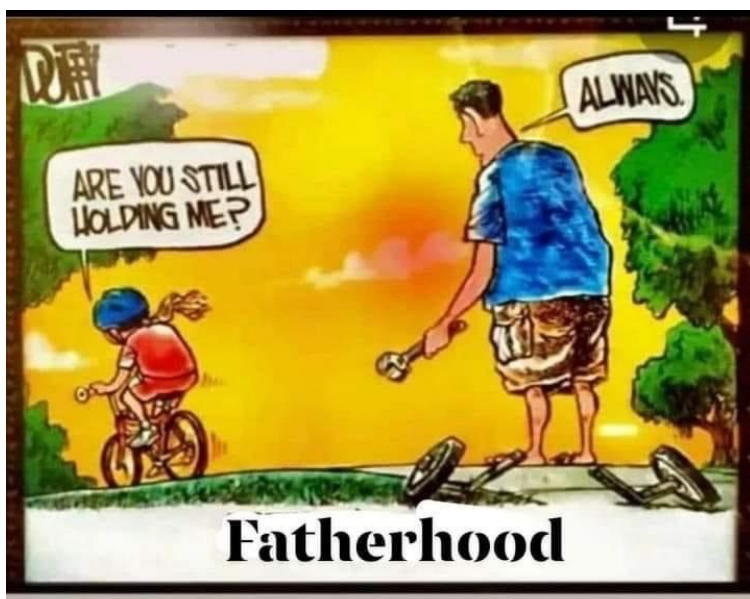


Tuesday Bible Study Began August 22nd

Wednesday Bible Study Resumes September 13th

Thursday Lutheran Men in Mission @ 8:00 am

\*Currently meeting by Zoom with Breakfast in every Third Thursday in Luther Hall at 8:00 am



## Great Job on the School Uniform Drive!

We pulled together once again and did a great job of collecting school uniform items for the children attending **Red Cedar Elementary School**. The items were delivered and the office staff was thrilled.

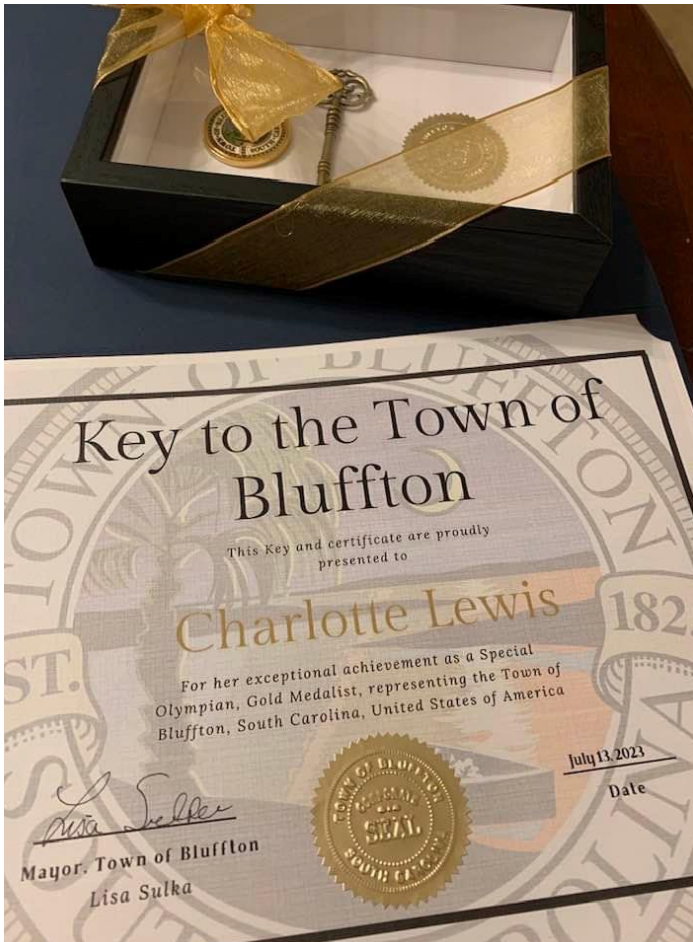
We collected 150 pants, shirts, skirts and shorts. You also donated 8 packages of underwear and 2 packages of socks for when the little ones have “accidents.” We also received a generous large cash gift that the Service Committee is still processing for the school. **You are amazing!**



## Pam's Story of Pastor's "Upside Down Cake"

A big shout out to Publix on Buckwalter for saving a celebration for Lord of Life. I picked up a cake at Publix Saturday afternoon—a beautifully decorated full sheet cake shaped in a cross. It was big and heavy but I got it to the church and inside. It was too big and heavy, however. I took it out of its box and promptly dropped it on the floor. After cleaning up the mess, I returned to Publix to see if I could find another cake to serve during our fellowship time following the service. Not only did they provide a cake that morning, but did not charge me. They saved our celebration of the 25th anniversary of our pastor's ordination. Such good public relations for Publix and we owe a debt of gratitude to them! **Bless You Publix!**

# Our Olympian Charlotte Lewis Gets a Parade and a Key to the City of Bluffton!







## Quilters Make a Difference

Barbara Ligeikis, Dianne Christ, Karen Lewis, Kay Hedrick, Kriss Klotz, Laura Lewis, Lorraine Ochs, Lou Kurfiss & Sandie Dugan donated their creative talents to the Lutheran World Relief quilt project. Twenty-one quilts were blessed by Pastor Angela and will be taken to Rincon, Georgia Aug. 25<sup>th</sup>. They will be shipped to a warehouse in Maryland, then dispersed over seas.



## Fair Trade



The Lord of Life Service Team sponsors the cabinet of goodies in the Narthex. These are food products from around the world produced by small farmers trying to compete with the huge conglomerates for coffee, tea, chocolate, olive oil, and more. Take a look at what we carry and give one a try. It is easy to pay either cash or check and just place that in the money box provided. Supporting these hard workers with a living wage is part of our mission.

We can order other items if you find something on the Equal Exchange website that you want. Our church prices are better than ordering online for yourself. Check out all the great products they carry at [shopequalexchange.coop](http://shopequalexchange.coop). If you would like to order something we do not already carry, call Linda Roland at 304-382-2895.



## LWR Health Kits

On Thursday, August 10<sup>th</sup>, twelve parishioners got together to assemble 162 Lutheran World Relief Health kits. Each kit consisted of 1 large bath towel, comb, nail clippers, soap, and a toothbrush. They were packed and are ready to ship out on August 25<sup>th</sup> when LWR sends a truck to Rincon, GA. It comes every year on the last weekend of August, which helps us cost-wisely by not having to pay shipping. Thanks to everyone who contributed financially and with the labor!





*Hymn Sing*  
on **Fifth Sunday**



PlayCare has a Luau!

