



The Summer has flown by; people are returning from vacations, and the students will soon go back to school. Fall will be here before we know it and football season will quickly approach! Hopefully, the humidity will get better, and we can enjoy some cooler weather this month. Please remember to notify me at the office with any changes that are needed in the Directory or the continuous prayer list.

Also, note that we are making some changes and adjustments to the computer system which is still in progress and there are errors being made, but please trust that I will get everything running smoothly and accurately; it will just take some time and patience. You do not need to do anything differently on your end; more information will follow once this process has been completed. E-mail has been a major issue, but rest assured, I will get it working properly and efficiently. Stay tuned for more information, especially if your email is one of the ones having problems.



Thank you from Lisa at the Church Office

Connect with Us:

- **Website:** www.lolssi.org
- **Facebook:** www.facebook.com/LordofLifeSSI
- **Vimeo Livestream:** <https://vimeo.com/event/5036656/embed>
- **Library** (Vimeo Services as of April 2025): <https://vimeo.com/showcase/11648268>

Please note that all of the above links can be found on our Lord of Life website or Facebook page.

Lord of Life Lutheran Church

2801 Frederica Road

St. Simons Island, GA 31522

912-638-4673, **e-mail:** officeadmin@lolssi.org

Pastor-Bob Kasting

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK...

Well summer is here and we are halfway through the year, where has this year gone? The heat of the day, the rain in the afternoon. Vacations are underway, either coming back or getting ready to go.

As I was driving around the other day and listening to the radio, a woman asked the host of the program I was listening to, "how do I get my faith alive again?" From the tone of her voice and the halting pattern of her words, you could tell that this was no idle question. Her faith had been important to her and now, well it wasn't. I wanted to hear what the host was going to say to her. I listened to what the host said, which got me thinking, how many of us ask this same question as the woman has. Part of her concern was that she was alone in this. The host assured her that every Christian asks this question, sometimes with painful regularity. How could I have answered her?

I would have mentioned to her that I understand her question and the feelings behind it; I know what it's like. I also believe that there are many good answers to her question. One of my responses to her would be to pray. Pray when you don't feel like praying? Pray when you're not sure of your faith? Yes and Yes. I would suggest a prayer. It begins, "Our Father, who art in heaven..." The beginning is important; it says to me, even as I pray, that I am a child, that I am in a relationship with one who has given me life. The prayer, even as I give it words my first breath in prayer, reminds me that I am not alone. Even as I speak there is one who listens. Beginning the prayer with the words "our" also reminds me that there are others who pray with me, children of the same heavenly Father. In the very first words of the prayer my experience of life in this world is already beginning to change as I am surround in prayer, like the prayer shawls I have been given and also given to folks on special occasions or in challenging situations. The pray continues as it speaks to us of the relationship with a loving God.

We pray that God's will be done, trusting that this is what is good for us and all creation. We pray for guidance, knowing that God will lead us toward forgiveness, healing, and life. We pray to one whose kingdom, power and glory are eternal as is his love for us.

This answer is only the beginning and the beginning sometimes lasts a long time. When I have completed the prayer, I find it helpful to open my Bible as a means of continuing the conversation begun in prayer. I open to the Book of Psalms where I find it to be life-giving for me, and that of our loving Father is happy to hear my voice.

So, getting back to the very first word of the Lord's Prayer, being together with my sisters and brothers in worship, fellowship, and study, I feel the hand of God. Like a prayer shawl over my shoulders, joining others in prayer, worship, and just plain conversation over something to drink brings a sense of family, faith, and joy of being together in relationship with God and with one another. It isn't good for us to be alone (that's in the Bible Gen, 2:18) and gathering together as a family of faith creates an opportunity for the Holy Spirit to bring life to our souls. The living part of that life isn't always easy, but being together, living together, working together, and worshipping together goes a long way toward healing our souls and bringing faith to life. Thank you for being the people of Lord of Life who teach me this lesson daily and whose presence makes it possible for me to pray ... Our Father.. God bless you!

Your Brother in Christ

Pastor Bob

Help Needed...



We are the Church...your help is needed!

- We are looking for Sunday Tellers (counting, tracking, and depositing Sunday offerings). No prior experience necessary! Please see Dave Erickson.

Upcoming Events...



Notes to the Congregation...

VISITATIONS: Please call the church office at (912-638-4673) or let Pastor Bob know if you or someone you know is going into the hospital, needs a visit or prayers. Pastor can't always know unless you tell him. We are never too busy to respond!



A very special
THANK YOU to
Rick Apfel
for all your
generosity, help, &
hard work during
our new computer
launch!

FROM THE MUSIC DIRECTOR'S DESK...

1 Peter 1:8 reads; "Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy". God's people do not have to choose joy, they are able to live into that joy because of God's awesome character of steadfast love and mercy.

Remember, God never promised us a trouble-free life....in fact, he actually promised us the opposite in John 16:33 which reads; ***"I have told you these things so that in me you may have peace. In this world you WILL have trouble; but take heart.....I have overcome the world."*** What a profound reminder that He has promised us joy even in the midst of difficult times and that the peace that passes all human understanding is found in Him alone.

Joy is not just a fleeting feeling based on the circumstances of our lives at any given moment. God's joy is a perpetual gladness of the heart that comes only from knowing and dwelling in him. When we know him, how can we not respond with thankfulness and joy?

-Mary Monroe





2nd Quarter Endowment News

We are proud to honor two non-profits for the second quarter: No Kill Glynn County received \$1000 and Memory Matters received \$750. No Kill Glynn County is dedicated to saving the lives of homeless animals in Glynn Co by providing TNVR (trap, neuter, vaccinate, release) in order to control the growing population of strays; by providing emergency vet care for community animals; by providing dog and cat food to low income residents; by providing low and no-cost neuter for low income people; and assisting people in need of help to keep their pets in their homes. NKGCC depends entirely on donations. 100% of funds go directly to the care of animals and people who need help caring for their pets. This organization is comprised of all volunteers; no person is paid for their dedication and hard work.



Renee Balka presented the check to Shelly Bydlinski, founder of NKGCC. The donation will be used to offer spay/neuter for pets of low-income families



Susanne Paskins and Pastor Bob had the honor of presenting a check to John Hartland, President of the Board of Directors for Memory Matters Glynn County

Social Ministry

Sunday, August 2nd, we had the **Blessing of the Backpacks**, school starts soon! **Mr. Nate** is our new Sunday School teacher, welcome to the program! We also celebrated our **August birthdays**, and today was **Mr. Bud's** spectacular day! Thank you to all who came to worship and fellowship with us! All are welcome! 🙌🙏





Welcome Mr. Nate!



Recently, we prayed over Jack as he heads off on new life adventures! He has grown up in our church, his mother, Mary Monroe is our music director. We wish you well Jack, as you continue to do what you love in a new place. Your church family will keep you lifted!





Social Ministry

Lord of Life LUTHERAN CHURCH
Midwest Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

SECOND HARVEST
OF COASTAL GEORGIA
FEEDING AMERICA

God's work. Our hands.

Lord of Life Lutheran Church is partnering with Second Harvest of Coastal Georgia to serve our community.

1. FOOD DONATIONS
During the month of August, we will be collecting food for partner agencies who serve the uninsured.

MOST NEEDED ITEMS

- Most popular food items are proteins
- Peanut butter, tuna, canned chicken, Spam, Vienna sausages
- Mac & cheese in a cup, Ramen, pasta
- Soup or any canned good is wonderful
- NOTE: Pull top cans are preferred

DONATIONS CAN BE DROPPED OFF IN THE NARTHEX.
We plan to pick up food by **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15** and deliver to Second Harvest.

2. VOLUNTEERING AT THE WAREHOUSE
Join us as we work together in the Second Harvest warehouse!

We will be covering a number of different areas including unpacking boxes, prepping packages of food and filling up shelves in the food bank "Pharmacy Market Place".

WHEN: MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14
9:30 AM – 11:00 AM

LOCATION: 2700 Sidney Luther Dr.
Brunswick, GA 31525

THERE IS A SIGN UP SHEET IN THE NARTHEX.
(Please join us in this fun and helpful event!)

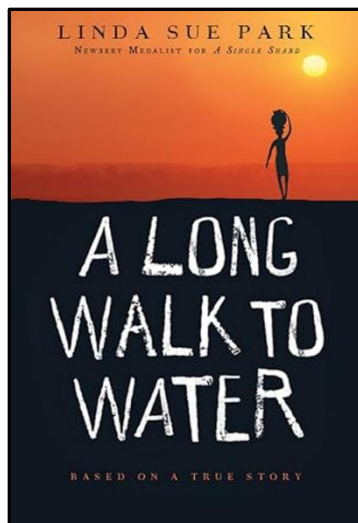
WHY PARTICIPATE?
This day of service initiative is more than just an opportunity to give back, it's a chance to connect with others in our community, make new friends, and experience the joy of helping those in need. Whether you're packing boxes, assembling kits, or donating food, your contribution will make a significant impact.

Let's work together to make a difference!

All are welcome!

Questions? Please text Susanne Perkins
904.228.6666@southcoast.org

Lord of Life Literary Society



Our August discussion will be hosted by Virginia Lensch, on Tuesday, August 25, at 10:00 AM, in the Council Room.

Virginia's selection is *A Long Walk to Water* by Linda Sue Park.

The book is available at local bookstores and/or online at Amazon.com and Thriftbooks.com. A Kindle edition is also available.

RSVP to Virginia and join us for discussion and fellowship. All are welcome. Bring a friend.



Come, Let Us Pray



EM Bounds says, “Our praying needs to be pressed and pursued with an energy that never tires, a persistency which will not be denied, and a courage that never fails.”

Come, let us pray for one another by using our bulletin and our church directory to pray for each individual by name. Although we may not know one another’s prayer needs, God does. Simply lift their name.



Manna House



Lord of Life prepares and serves a bagged lunch each month on the second Thursday of the month.

Volunteers are needed to help prepare a lunch on August 13. Please be at Manna House by 9:00 AM, or come at 11:15 AM to help distribute the bagged lunches.

If you can make a peanut butter and jelly sandwich or fill cups with ice, there is a job for you.

Please let Virginia Lensch know if you plan to participate this month.



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS...

Bud Lensch-August 2nd,

Allen Burns IV-August 7th

Fred DeFoe-August 7th

Bryar Lensch-August 7th

Lu Miller-August 9th

Nancy DeLong-August 11th

Bob Schwandt-August 16th

Jane Bozza-August 17th

Gale Speich-August 17th

Natasha Terrell-August 18th

Shirley Egan-August 19th

Kirby Crawford-August 23rd

Ginger DeFoe-August 24th

Don Scheuerle-August 26th

Bobbie Underwood-August 27th



AUGUST WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES...

Dave & Cathy Erickson-August 5th, **Ken & Nancy Day**-August 17th,

Tony & Brenda Tate-August 26th, **Larry & Susan Bacon**-August 29th

Property Committee Update...

First of all, I would like to thank Rick Apfel for his dedicated and professional approach to maintaining the church property for the past four years. I have big shoes to fill. Thanks Rick!

All of you will agree that maintaining the church buildings and surrounding properties is a given. The less obvious understanding is how much time and investment it takes to make sure our assets are properly kept for the long run. There are several projects that will need our attention.

I will introduce a few of those projects at a time, so as not to inundate you with too many challenges. As we complete a project, another will be added.

The church has a bare bones budget, meaning we budget primarily to cover fixed expenses; such as, payroll, insurance and power. Therefore, we will have to raise additional funds to cover repair and capital projects. A recent example is the new garden near the fountain. It took only two weeks to raise the money and another couple of weeks to finish the project. So, with that, I would like to present you with our next set of challenges:

1. Replace the front sign and tower electrical. This project has been completed and funded with monies from the Yard Sale. \$900 was designated for building repair. This project cost \$642.
2. Trim the palm trees (\$160). This project will be contracted and proceeds coming from the Yard Sale.
3. Repair and paint the front sign. The repairs are complete and the Yard Sale funds will cover the cost of the paint (~\$70). **Anyone want to volunteer to be the painter?**
3. Paint the Sacristy door (red). Donations are needed to cover cost of paint (~\$40).

Anyone want to be the painter?

4. Replace the Sacristy door awning. Requesting bids. I will let you know.

That's it for now. Thank you for your support. If you have any questions or have other projects that you feel should be added to the list, please let me know.

Blessings,

Dave Erickson

Property Committee Chair



ELCA Southeastern Synod (SES)
LEADERSHIP ACADEMY
Continuing Education and Faith (Re)Formation



Equipping Lay and Rostered Leaders for a Changing World

#Refresh #Revive #Renew #Reform your practices and ministry. "Woven together...Forward in faith," we are a community of learners and co-creators for complex times. Come grow with us!"

"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." –Ephesians 2:10

Enroll and receive access to: required course materials, six weekly live sessions, two remote coffees, and a term celebration. Take one course, take several, or pursue one of six different learning pathways. All are SES certified. Visit our website for course and pathway descriptions.

FALL 2026 COURSE OFFERINGS

All courses meet 7–9 pm ET / 6–8 pm CT via Zoom

01 Called and Sent: Vocation, Discipleship, and Telling God's Story



Rev. Will Starkweather

03 Introduction to the Old Testament



Rev. Dr. Niveen Sarra

05 Can I Get A Witness? A Guide to Speaking Up and Standing Out



Rev. Dr. Ron Bonner

07 Living A Spirited Life: An Exploration of God's Guidance and Meaning in Our Lives



Rev. Patti Axel

02 Lutheran Worship: Fundamentals



Rev. Andrew Lewis

04 Called to Lead: Preparing for and Assuming Church Leadership Roles



Rev. Andy James



Rev. Justin Eller

06 Designing Art-Inspired Faith (Re)formation Series



Rev. Krystle Moraska

08 Ministries of Presence: Visiting and Caring for Congregation Members



Dr. Bridget Piggue

FORMAT

Live Zoom + Online Platform

FALL 2026 TERM

September 13 – November 12

COST

\$60 per Course
Financial assistance available

TIME COMMITMENT

1–2 Hours Outside Weekly Class Sessions

CONTACT

Kari Eller, Ph.D. Director

leadershipacademy@elca-ses.org

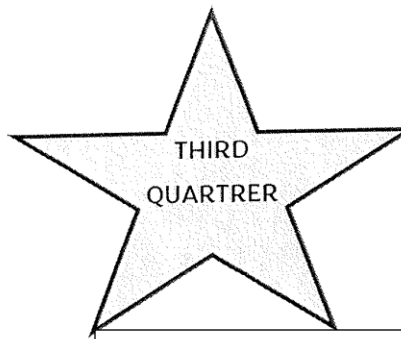
ENROLL INDIVIDUALLY OR AS A GROUP

[SESLEADERSHIPACADEMY.ORG](https://sesleadershipacademy.org)

Open to all adults 18+. No degree required.
Email before enrolling youth ages 13–17.



SUPPORT OUR WORK



Sunday Servants

*"To the servant of God.....every place is the right place, and every time is the right time."
-St. Catherine of Siena*

JULY

	Asst Minister	Acolyte	Lector	Ushers	Sound	Livestream	Greeters
5th	G. Cressman	Don Long	Dave Erickson	Bud Lensch J. Amie	Jasper Taylor	Racie Zantow	Ruth Kolumber V. Wardlow
12th	Virginia Lensch	Jasper Taylor	Fred DeFoe	Byron Zantow Don Long	Bud Lensch	Tom Comer	Gale Speich
19th	Mary Ellen Long	Racie Zantow	Kate Boyer	Bud Lensch Tom Comer	Cathy Erickson	Meyer Earl	Bob and Pat Schwandt
26th	S. Paskins	Meyer Earl	Diane Rancourt	Dave Erickson	Lucy Zantow	Racie Zantow	Sharon Borich

AUGUST

	Asst Minister	Acolyte	Lector	Ushers	Sound	Livestream	Greeters
2nd	Suzanne Paskins	Racie Zantow	Dave Erickson	Pat Morris	Cathy Erickson	Myer Earl	Ruth Kolumber
9th	G. Cressman	Jasper Taylor	Pat Morris	Jack Amie Bud Lensch	Lucy Zantow	Tom Comer	Gale Speich
16th	Gay Eubanks	Don Long	Mary Ellen Long	Tony Tate G. Cressman	Tom Comer	Jasper Taylor	Bob and Pat Schwandt
23rd	Jack Cheetham	Racie Zantow	David Temple	Bud Lensch Tony Tate	Racie Zantow	Lucy Zantow	Sharon Borich V. Wardlow
30th	Virginia Lensch	Meyer Earl	Kate Boyer	Dave Erickson Bob Schwandt	Byron Zantow	Racie Zantow	Steph. Manson

SEPTEMBER

	Asst Minister	Acolyte	Lector	Ushers	Sound	Livestream	Greeters
6th	G. Cressman	Meyer Earl	David Temple	Dave Erickson Jack Amiee	Cathy Erickson	Tom Comer	Bob & Pat Schwandt
13th	Virginia Lensch	Jasper Taylor	Diane Rancourt	Bud Lensch Don Long	Racie Zantow	Tom Comer	Steph. Manson
20th	Gay Eubanks	Don Long	Mary Ellen Long	Byron Zantow Jack Amie	Bud Lensch	Lucy Zantow	Sharon Borich V. Wardlow
27th	Suzanne Paskins	Racie Zantow	Diane Rancourt	Tony Tate Don Long	Myer Earl	Jasper Taylor	Steph. Manson

Please remember to find a replacement if you are not able to fulfill your role! The church office number is: 912.638.4673. If you would like to begin serving, YAY, let Pastor Bob know and he will help you find the best spot for your gifts to be offered!

AUGUST 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 -Service 9:30am -Blessings of the Backpacks -Fellowship Meal	3 -Bible Study 10:00am	4 -Tai Chi 10:00 am	5 -Open Sewing 9:00 am	6 -Tai Chi 10:00 am	7	8
9 -Service 9:30am	10 -Bible Study 10:00am	11 -Tai Chi 10:00 am	12 -Open Sewing 9:00 am	13 -Tai Chi 10:00 am -Manna House 9:00am or 11:15am	14	15
16 -Service 9:30am -Council Meeting	17 -Bible Study 10:00am	18 -Tai Chi 10:00 am	19 -Open Sewing 9:00 am	20 -Tai Chi 10:00 am	21	22
23 -Service 9:30am	24 -Bible Study 10:00am	25 -Tai Chi 10:00 am -Book Club 10:00 am	26 -Open Sewing 9:00 am	27 -Tai Chi 10:00 am -FaithWorks' Annual Celebration at the Jekyll Island Convention Center 6-8 pm	28	29
30	31					

Prayer List

Homebound Members: Nancy DeLong, Dot Donahoo, Cindy Koegl

Members:

Pat Schwandt, Linda Bullock, Brenda and Tony Tate, Gay Eubanks, Steve Bullock, Natasha Terrell, Kevin Manson, Alan Schomber, Vanessa Wardlow, Don Scheuerle, Kevin Terrell, Russ Marane

Friends & Family

The Cressmans' grand-daughter Addysen, Mary Monroe's son Jack, Nancy Day's daughter Meghan Jonas, Virginia Lensch's friend Elaine Rankin, Nicole Lodato, Blake Haynes, Christopher Godfrey, the Longs' nephew, Lu Miller, Marc Sabransky, friend of Daneen Brinckmann; Kat Brooks, Larry Wilkerson friend of the Ericksons, Grace Collins friend of Pat and Bob Schwandt, Ginger Lahkani, Pam Cofield's daughter, Lauran Wilson, Pat and Bob Schwandt's daughter; Dan Kelly, friend of Pat and Bob Schwandt; Carol and Mike DeFoe, Fred's brother and wife; Malakai Scott Henderson, Lensch's grand nephew; Lynda Gallagher, friend of the Schwandts; Bob Crawford

**Please contact Lisa at the Church Office to change or add info to this list*

