



September 2026

Lord of Life Lutheran Church

MAST

Greetings Church Family, From the Church Office ...

It is hard to believe it is already September! Fall will be here at the end of the month even though it still feels hot and humid everywhere right now. Additionally, football season is starting, and the holidays are just around the corner.

Please note, we have a new addition to the church lobby... **A Prayer Request Box.** We would like to stay informed so that Pastor Bob as well as the congregation can pray and respond to those in need of prayer. Please contact Lisa or Pastor Bob at the church office, put a prayer request in the box, or simply leave them on my desk, whichever is easier for you.



James 5:16

Therefore, confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

Blessings & Hope to all,
Lisa at the 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...

Stewardship is Faith in God!

Here he goes again, talking about money? It's time to, as some have said to me, "time to pay our dues to the church!" Am I correct, did you think of any of these or another one, as soon as you saw the title of my article?

In the next few months, you will hear from our stewardship committee as we begin our stewardship campaign. The other thing you will also hear about is that stewardship is NOT all about money. There is also Time and Talents that each of us has to give to the church also. You see, time and talents, although very important to proclaiming the gospel, is a commitment to stepping out of your comfort zone and really challenging yourself in a new area of ministry.

Finances are a very important part of the inner workings of every church. You see, the power bill has to be paid if you want to be able to see during worship, have the organ, and most importantly air-conditioning. Ministries of the church need to be sustained financially; choir won't have new music, the altar guild won't have new candles, wine bread, cups. There will be no way to print bulletins. We could be ok, using hymnals, bread from the store, and using the common cup, but NO air conditioning.

Ministries come with faith and sacrifice. Jesus did not tell his disciples that ministry was going to be easy. Moses wandered for 40 years, Paul struggled. However, what did they all have in common? FAITH! They all had to rely on God and find their Peace in Him! This faith and peace often came after they failed repeatedly on their own and humbly came to the Lord realizing that they had to stop trying it their own way. They humbly had to admit that God was providing for their needs.

There will be many opportunities to volunteer also when you fill out your pledge cards and time and talent sheets.

Pray about your tithing, pray about how and where you would like to help in the ministry of your church.

Your Brother in Christ,

Pastor Bob

OPPORTUNITIES FOR US TO CONNECT WITH OUR SYNOD:



Woven Together
FORWARD IN FAITH

Worship + Meal + Learning Labs



SOUTHEASTERN SYNOD
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

GOAL:
5+
people from
each church

REVIVAL DAY

Synod

\$15
*per person, includes lunch

"Will you not revive us again, so that your people may rejoice in you?" (Psalm 85:6)

Register Today!

elca-
ses.org/synod-
revival-days

LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF THE RESURRECTION
- MARIETTA, GA

AUG.22

LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF THE REDEEMER
- SAVANNAH, GA

SEP.19

SIGN UP TODAY, THE COST IS \$15 WHICH INCLUDES LUNCH. SEE WHAT IS HAPPENING IN OUR SYNOD:



Woven Together
FORWARD IN FAITH

Southeastern Synod



Congregational Leaders Zoom

With Bishop Strickland





September 14, 2026 - 7:00 pm (ET)

Register Today!

For Lay and Rostered Leaders

“Who is a God like you, who pardons sin and forgives the transgression of the remnant of his inheritance? You do not stay angry forever but delight to show mercy. You will again have compassion on us; you will tread our sins underfoot and hurl all our iniquities into the depths of the sea.” Micah 7: 18-19

I think the hymn writer, Eddie Espinosa, understood the concept of ‘forgiveness’ when he wrote “Change My Heart, O God.” A simple tune, a simple text, and yet, a profound message.

It is only one verse and it reads:

“Change my heart, O God; make it ever true. Change my heart, O God; may I be like you. You are the potter; I am the clay. Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.”

Perhaps Espinosa understood that asking God to make in us a new ‘heart’, a heart full of compassion, and a heart that embodies and exudes God’s mercy, we would be become better ‘doers’ of his word. Perhaps this hymn writer understands that forgiveness is born in the development and nurturing of a compassionate heart.

We all get angry; Micah reminds us that even God gets angry. He also reminds, however, that God delights in showing mercy. He ‘delights’ in showing mercy and “*will continue to show compassion on us.*” It is in this verse that we find the key to forgiveness. When we develop and grow a compassionate heart we are able to continue to be in relationship even with those with whom we get angry. We are able to ‘*delight in showing mercy*’. It is in this compassionate place of humility that Jesus resides. It is in this place that forgiveness becomes the bridge between the pain of a severed relationship and the reconciliation of that relationship.

Perhaps Espinosa understood that without a compassionate ‘changed heart’, forgiveness is not possible.

Change my heart O, God; mold me and make me into your compassionate servant.



***A Special Thank You to Karen Cate
From Sharon Borich...***

*We are "sew" happy! Thanks to Karen for
the donation in memory of your mother
to the quilt group!*



**Visit our Facebook Page at
www.facebook.com/LordofLifeSSI**



**We joined in prayer over the
handmade quilts by our Sew
Happy group and donated
quilts to send to Lutheran
World Relief and Coastal
Coalition for Children. Thank
you to all of the skilled
handcrafters who put love in
every stitch.**



Hello my friends! Thank you to those who have agreed to volunteer in this years Holiday Market. I have noted below (as “unconfirmed”) the folks who I have not gotten a chance to speak with yet.

Susanne - Chairperson and vendor liaison 🧑‍💻

Cathy - Raffle and Gift baskets 🛒

Mary Ellen - Bake sale 🍰

Pastor Bob and Warren - pre event vendor floor taping incl outdoor booth measurements (Thursday Dec 3rd in the afternoon) 🧰

Gale - Seed money and post event money count 💰

Vanessa - Used book sale 📖

Lucy Zantow - Food/Kitchen 🍳

Jane - Publicity 📰

Tom & Gale (unconfirmed) - signage set up Friday evening (day before event)

Kate B- volunteer sign up sheet 📝

George (unconfirmed) - Parking 🚗

Bud (unconfirmed) - Friday overnight security 🚔

Klaus (unconfirmed)-Santa 🎅

Pastor and I have already reached out to the Boy Scouts to see if they would be able to help out.

If I have missed any other critical areas/people please let me know.

Please also think about how best to use proceeds from this event.

Thank you for your time and talents!

Susanne “God’s work. Our hands.” A dedicated day of service in our community.



We will be partnering with Second Harvest to serve our community.

1. Food Donations 🛒 - we will be collecting food (basket is located in Church lobby). We will present this bountiful basket to our friends at **Second Harvest on Sept 14th.**

2. Volunteer at the Second Harvest Warehouse - **Monday, Sept 14th 9:30 AM- 11:00 AM.** Save the date! Sign up sheet is in the Church hallway.

All are Welcome! 🙏🏠✝️



16th Annual Holiday Market Craft Fair

When: Saturday, Dec 5, 2026

Where: Lord of Life Lutheran Church

2801 Frederica Road, St Simons Island, GA

Time: 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Over 35 vendors will sell quality hand-crafted items, including Artisan crafts, tasty specialty foods and holiday décor...specialty soaps, accessories and so much more! Vendors will be both indoors and outdoors.

The church will feature its delectable baked goods, used book sale and raffle prizes! In addition, we will be offering coffee, breakfast, snacks and lunch.

Santa will be joining in the fun...so make a list, check it twice at the Holiday Market!

FROM THE EVANGELISM COMMITTEE:

There are some new opportunities to volunteer for and serve. They are:

Eucharistic Minister – Serve on a team of two and visit and provide communion to homebound, shut-ins and hospitalized on a monthly basis.

Training is scheduled for October.

Meal Ministry – Providing meals to families in times of need.

Transportation Ministry – Provide rides or “ride along” for doctor appointments, grocery store, airport, etc.

Prayer Chain Ministry – Pray for the requested prayers of the church. Call the next person on the prayer chain and pass on the information.

All of these ministries have been around and now is the time to ensure everyone who wants to be involved has the chance. ***In John 13:34, we read: “A new command I give you. Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.”*** We are asked to love our neighbors (brothers and sisters in Christ) and this is a good way. Please call me if you have any questions.

In Christ,

Mary Ellen Long (912-270-4160)

Sacristan's Need Help

The duties and responsibilities of a sacristan are:

- Prepare communion and set up the altar and sanctuary for worship Saturday
- Clean up after worship on Sunday
- Serve one weekend per month
- Serve with a team of two or three people.

***If you are interested, please call Mary Ellen Long at 912-270-4160**

FROM VIRGINIA LENSCH:

Via de Cristo Ultreya
(Gathering)

You are invited to attend an Ultreya (gathering) at Lord of Life on Saturday, September 19, 2026. A potluck lunch will be held in the fellowship hall at 12:00 Noon, immediately followed by the Ultreya.

If you're curious about Via de Cristo, come fellowship and worship with us.

Virginia Lensch, 912-996-2679 or vlensch@bellsouth.net



VIA DE CRISTO

Via de Cristo is a Spanish expression meaning "Way of Christ." Via de Cristo is a three-day retreat which takes a New Testament look at Christianity as a life-style.

Via de Cristo is designed to strengthen and renew the faith of Christian people, and through them, their families, congregations and the environment in which they live, work, and play. This is accomplished by a combined effort of lay people and clergy working together as a team to bring renewal to the church. Via de Cristo provides a simple method through which one's grace-filled life may, in a natural loving way, be lived and shared with others.

The next opportunity to participate in a Via de Cristo weekend for women is October 8-11. We ask you to keep an open mind and heart in making your decision to attend. Many of those who have attended also wondered whether they should go. Now that they have, they want to share this wonderful gift from God with you.

Questions? Ask Jane Bozza, Don and Mary Ellen Long, Pat Morris, Dave and Cathy Erickson, Gay Eubanks, and the list continues...

For those interested in attending **the October weekend**, applications are being accepted now. Don't worry, if the Fall date is inconvenient, there is always the Spring weekend next year.

God loves you and so do we!

Bud and Virginia Lensch

Come, Let Us Pray



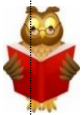
“Being on our knees in private fellowship with God is our only assurance that we will have Him with us in our personal struggles or in our efforts to convert sinners.” – E. M. Bounds

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.

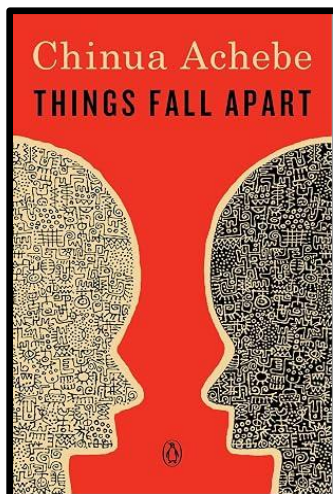
Fellowship

Brush off your cookbooks to prepare a favorite casserole, meat, salad and/or side dish for our First Sunday Potluck, on September 6, immediately following service. It's your choice to prepare or buy a breakfast, brunch or lunch item.

Our voices will already be warmed up to sing a rousing rendition of “Happy Birthday” for our September birthdays. Cake will be provided.



Lord of Life Literary Society



Our September discussion will be hosted by Carla Temple, on **Tuesday, September 22, at 10:00 AM, in the Council Room.**

Carla's selection is *Things Fall Apart*, by Chinua Achebe.

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

RSVP to Carla and join us for discussion, fellowship, and

FROM DAVE ERICKSON (Property Committee Update):

Due to several very generous donations, the following projects will be implemented.

1. Both the front and back awnings will be replaced. Once started, the project will take 4-6 weeks to complete, but the actual time the awnings will be down will be no more than two weeks. **Tom Comer has volunteered to paint the Sacristy door. Thank you, Tom.**
2. The two-story building across the street has a second story fire escape. It is in bad need of repair and paint. Again, a very generous donation will allow this project to be completed. In the long run, this repair will save us from a major repair or complete rebuild. Thank you, donor.

The next projects on the to-do list are:

1. Repair and paint the wall that holds the original rose window, which incurred water damage a couple of years ago. While that is being done, the north wall of the narthex will also be painted.
2. Sand and paint the outside hand rails.

With your continued support, new projects will be considered on an as-needed bases. If you have any questions or suggestions for future projects, please let Dave Erickson know.

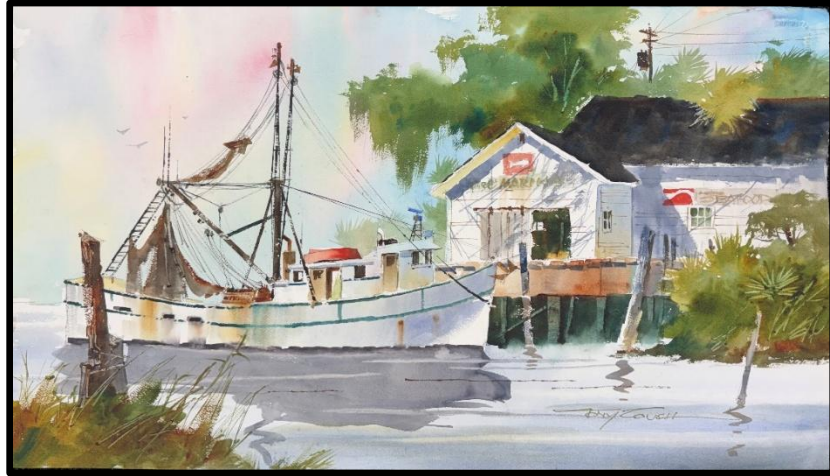
Blessings,
Property Committee

A Red Tail Hawk recently visited our church! Dave captured this in a beautiful photo. It reminds us in the Gospel of Matthew 6:26 to *"Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?"*

Photo by Dave Erickson



FROM CATHY ERICKSON:



Tony Couch Watercolor Raffle...

RAFFLE INFORMATION:

As many of you know, Tony is a nationally known watercolor artist and teacher from Atlanta. He has held Artist workshops here at Lord of Life for the past 20 years. Each year he has gifted us an original watercolor painting with the intention of raising money for an established ministry of Lord of Life. **Tony is well into his 90s now and this may be the last opportunity for us to benefit from his generous gift.**

Proceeds from the sale of raffle tickets this year will be given to **SOAR**. SOAR, is a 501(c)(3) that strengthens the quality of life for individuals with developmental disabilities in Glynn and McIntosh Counties. Weekly programs are offered to promote health and wellness as well as building self-esteem and unity for this adult population. SOAR also supplies funding for Special Olympics in Southeast Georgia.

Starting Sunday, September 7, raffle packets will be ready for pick up. All information for the sale of tickets is contained on the packets.

See Cathy Erickson if you have further questions.

Holiday Market

Lord of Life is getting ready for the Holiday Market. We are looking to make up 13 baskets, each with a value of **\$100 to \$150 dollars for the raffle. Basket themes in the past have been: Birding Basket, Family Game Night, Coffee Clatch, Fire Pit, Gardening, Handmade Quilts, and Doggie Treats.** If you would like to make a themed basket or contribute an item, please contact **Cathy Erickson.**



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS...

Lucy Zantow, September 2nd

Joy Wehunt, September 4th

Judy Cressman, September 5th

Chelsea Hilton September 6th

Lynn Amie, September 14th

Ann Schomber, September 15th

Joan Wiley, September 15th

Russ Marane, September 17th

Carol Campbell, September 18th

A.J. Phillips, September 21st

Chase Taylor, September 21st

Kelly Kasting, September 22nd

Gloria Burns, September 29th



SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES...

Steph & Kevin Manson, September 4th

Judy & Kirby Crawford, September 4th

Lu & Mike Miller, September 5th

Lynne & Jack Amie, September 6th

Gloria & Allen (III) Burns, September 16th

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Tai Chi 10:00 am	2 Open Sewing 9:00am	3 Tai Chi 10:00 am	4	5
6 Service 9:30 am Fellowship Pot Luck Meal & September Birthdays Celebration to follow	7 Tony Couch raffle begins Bible Study 10:00am LABOR DAY	8 Tai Chi 10:00 am	9 Open Sewing 9:00am	10 Manna House Tai Chi 10:00 am	11	12
13 Service 9:30 am	14 Second Harvest 9:30am- 11:00am Congregational Leaders Zoom Meeting NO BIBLE STUDY	15 Tai Chi 10:00 am	16 Open Sewing 9:00am	17 Tai Chi 10:00 am	18	19 Ultrea (gathering) 12 noon at the Church SYNOD REVIVAL DAY Savannah, GA
20 Service 9:30 am	21 Bible Study 10:00am	22 Quilting Retreat Begins Book Club 10:00 am in the Council Room Tai Chi 10:00am FALL BEGINS	23 Quilting Retreat Open Sewing 9:00am	24 Quilting Retreat Tai Chi will be rescheduled	25 Quilting Retreat	26 Quilting Retreat
27 Service 9:30 am	28 Bible Study 10:00am	29 Tai Chi 10:00 am	30 Open Sewing 9:00am			



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

02 Lutheran Worship: Fundamentals



Rev. Andrew Lewis

03 Introduction to the Old Testament



Rev. Dr. Niveen Sarra

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



Rev. Andy James



Rev. Justin Eller

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



Rev. Dr. Ron Bonner

06 Designing Art-Inspired Faith (Re)formation Series



Rev. Krystle Moraska

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



Rev. Patti Axel

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

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

Jeffrey West a family member of Jim & Jody Fraser , Gerry & Duane Fink a friend of the Zantows, 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 or put requests in the new Prayer Box in the lobby.*

