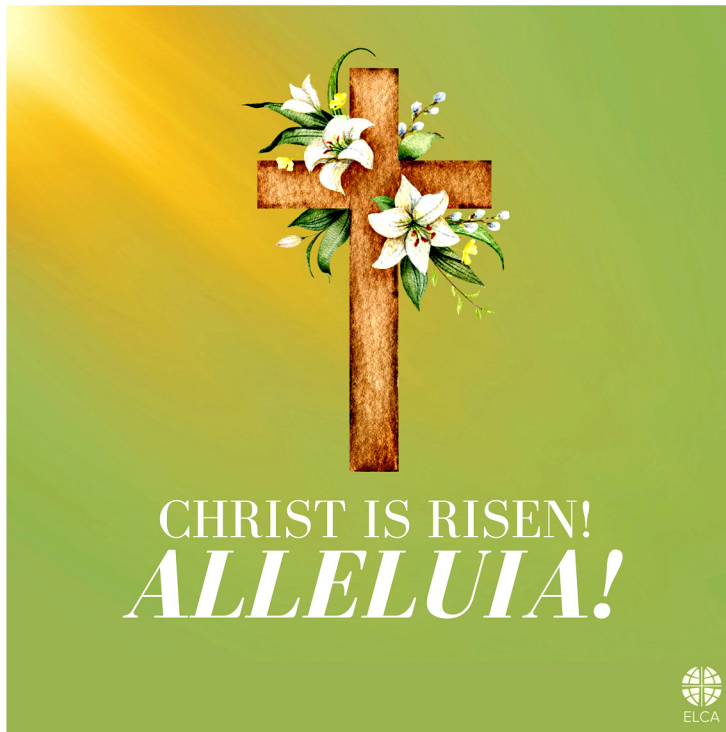


# APRIL, 2024 MAST



**Martin Luther said:**  
“The Bible is alive, it speaks to me;  
it has feet, it runs after me;  
it has hands, it lays hold of me.”



Sunday at 9:30 am, Worship and Communion



**Lord of Life  
Lutheran Church  
2801 Frederica Road  
St. Simons Island, GA 31522  
912-638-4673, lolssi2014@gmail.com  
Pastor - Bob Kasting  
Music Director - Mary Monroe,  
Council President - Tony Tate**



### *From the President*

Another reminder that June 9 at the Congregational meeting we will hold Council elections!

This means we have many opportunities for you to be engaged in *your* church. Seats are:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Education
- Evangelism
- Social
- Youth
- Worship
- Finance

Please consider serving. We are looking to engage candidates with new ideas, and opening spots for those that haven't served or haven't served in awhile.

Please prayerfully consider this.

Contact me or the Pastor with questions.

### **From the Endowment Committee:**

We are pleased to announce that there are funds available to disperse in each of the four quarters of 2024 for outreach. If you are involved with a nonprofit community organization that has needs and would like to apply for funding, please contact one of the members of the committee: Bud Lensch, Renee Balka, Mike Miller or Susan Paskins for an application.

Before funds can be distributed the application must be endorsed by the endowment committee and approved by the church council.



## The Importance of an Operating Budget

I've been writing about Stewardship and how we can be good stewards. This is a significant responsibility for the congregation of Lord of Life, and it should not be taken lightly. At the present time, we are \$8,000 behind budget. No doubt that we have been playing catchup; taking care of issues that were long overdue. But why is it important that we "catchup" the operating budget?

We have an operating budget which helps us to plan and control spending. This control ensures, as church leaders, we manage the money well and have the necessary resources to help fulfill the church's mission and vision for ministry, so our operating budget is the core of our ministry.

Operating budgets are not exciting, but let's face it: our ministry requires financial resources. We have a pastor and staff members are instrumental in the day-to-day ministry. Consequently, we must have the financial means to sustain these staff positions and ministries. The availability of funds in the general account directly influences staff, ministries, and facilities, and it's made possible through the congregation's generosity.

Again, why is it important that we "catch up" the operating budget? We cannot continue to operate at a deficit. With the opening of the pre-school, we have been able to set up contingency funds that will help us care for the maintenance of our buildings (school and church). But that's not the day-to-day operations.

We have come a long way this year in our stewardship giving. If each giving unit gave an extra \$135, we can wipe out that deficiency. Help us to fulfill our mission of expanding our reach in the community and sharing God's message.

Pat Morris

### MISSION STATEMENT

"Our Mission at Lord of Life is to Worship God,  
and Share the Love and Grace of Jesus Christ."

## FROM THE MUSIC DIRECTOR



I'm in Luke's gospel as the women came to the tomb to prepare the body of Jesus and found the stone rolled away and his body gone! I think about what their initial reactions would have been. They are most likely shocked to find the tomb empty and then all of a sudden two men show up, "in clothes that gleamed like lightning". They fell to their knees with their faces to the ground! These men (angels) reminded them of Jesus' words to them; that he, "the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, be crucified, and on the third day be raised again. THEN THEY REMEMBERED HIS WORDS". Imagine that recognition in that moment; knowing that God's words had come to fruition.....that overwhelming sense of joy!

Here we are over 2000 years later.....feeling that same joy, experiencing that same sense of wonderment and awe knowing what has been done for each of us; knowing the gift that we have received is eternal!

Like the women at the empty tomb that morning, we continue to be 'surprised' by our God in all that he does for us every day. Be alert to the blessings that you receive, big and small, be alert to his calling to you into the service of others with the use of the gifts you have been given, and always be alert to the sacrifice that has been done for you so that all you say and all that you do glorifies him alone.

Mary Monroe



## MANNA HOUSE



**Jesus prepared a meal for the multitudes to remind us that we feed people not because we believe they deserve it, but because they're hungry.**

johnpavlovitz.com

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

If you plan to help prepare a lunch on April 11, please be at Manna House by 9:00 AM, or to help distribute the bagged lunches, come at 11:15 AM.

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



## SOAR

On Friday, March 15, Lord of Life held a St. Patrick's Day Bingo night for SOAR. With lots of Bingo and food for all!



L-R, Cathy Erickson, Pat Morris, Pat Schwandt, Suzanne Paskins



## **Thank You**

A big THANK YOU to Pastor Bob, Mary, Dona and all those who helped make our Holy Week services so meaningful and to the Sacristans and all the volunteers who helped beautify the sanctuary, grounds and fellowship hall.

# APRIL 2024 MAST

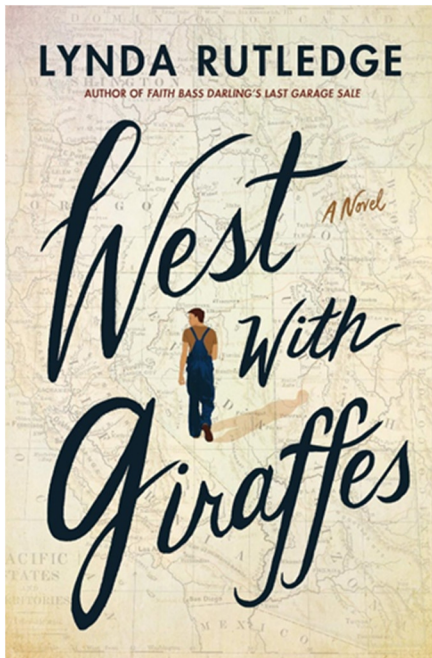
**Birthdays**  
 Grace Robertson, May 2  
 Gay Eubanks, May 7  
 Gayle Carpenter, May 7  
 Bebe Bonati, May 11  
 Anna Hammock, May 13  
 Dave Erickson, May 14  
 George Cressman, May 20  
 Margaret Alley, May 20

Rachel Alley, May 23  
 Mary K. Robertson, May 27  
 Diane Rancourt, May 29  
 Debbie Phillips, May 31

**Anniversary**  
 Barney & Joy Wehunt, May 23  
 Bob and Pat Schwandt, May 27  
 Gale & Paul Speich, May 29

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Office Closed No Bible Study	2 10 am Tai Chi	3 9 am Open Sewing	4 10 am Tai Chi Noon, Mary Martha	5	6
7 9:30 am Worship	8 10 am, Pastor Bible Study Solar Eclipse	2 10 am Tai Chi	10 9 am Open Sewing	2 10 am Tai Chi	12	13
14 9:30 am Worship	15 10 am, Pastor Bible Study  Yard Sale Drop Off: 10-12 am 6-7 pm	2 10 am Tai Chi  Noon-2 pm & 6- 7 pm, yard Sale Drop off	17  Yard Sale Drop Off: 10-12 am 6-7 pm	18 9 am-Noon, Set up for yard sale  No Tai Chi	19 9 am-noon, Set up for Yard Sale	20 YARD SALE 8 AM— NOON
21 9:30 am, Worship Council Meeting after service 2-5 pm, Cub Scouts	22 10 am, Pastor Bible Study	2 10 am Tai Chi	24 9 am, Open Sewing	2 10 am Tai Chi	26	27
28 9:30 am, Worship	29 10 am, Pastor Bible Study	2 10 am Tai Chi				

# Lord of Life Literary Society



Our April discussion will be hosted by Brenda Tate, on Tuesday, April 23, at 10:00 AM, in the Council Room.

Brenda's selection is *West with Giraffes*, by Lynda Rutledge.

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

Once you learn to read, you will be forever free — Frederick Douglas



"To God be the glory,  
to God who has sacrificed His Son for me  
and destroyed my sin."

Martin Luther

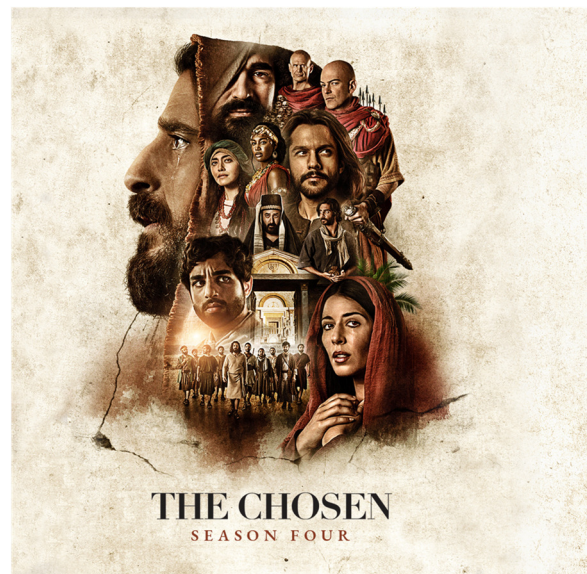


Mary Martha Circle  
Meets April 4 at Noon  
In the Conference Room

Bring a lunch and/or something to share as we enjoy Fellowship and Prayer in the Conference room. Join us.

**St. Simons United Methodist Church will be hosting an exclusive community-wide showing of *The Chosen*, Season 4**

**beginning on Tuesday, April 16th** and running every subsequent Tuesday from **5:30-6:45** through **Tuesday, June 4th**. All members of the Golden Isles community are welcome, whether you have been a viewer of Seasons 1-3 or if you want to jump right in to Season 4. This will be an eight-week series; each week we will view one episode of *The Chosen* followed by a very brief reflection time. *The Chosen* is appropriate for audiences including teenagers and older; nursery care will be provided for younger children. Please come join us to experience what has been a hugely impactful video series depicting the life of Jesus and his disciples when they were here on Earth. Please feel free to reach out to Jeff Zoul, who will be leading this series at [jeffzoul@gmail.com](mailto:jeffzoul@gmail.com) with any questions. No need to register; just show up!



**Capital Fund Campaign: Part of our Stewardship**



We did it! As a congregation we came together, and two of the three projects are complete. The upgrade to the Sound System and the Tree Trimming. When we started the capital campaign, we identified three projects; the third, Gutters is on its way to being completed. But we are only halfway there so we still need your donation. Again, if everyone gave just \$35, we'd have it done.

But, as with your home, there is always something to do. While the Trees, Sound system and gutters were priorities, we still have some projects to complete. Here's a list of projects that if we keep adding to our capital fund, we can complete as we raise the fund or one or two people might be able to fund a certain program.

Listed in no particular order here are the additional projects:

New Awning over Sacristy Door	Repair damaged pew fabric
Fountain electric repair	Refinish church doors
Fellowship hall paint/refresh	Purchase ice machine for fellowship hall
Front entrance garden re-do	Remodel fellowship bathrooms
Fellowship Hall windows fixed	Phase One of Fellowship Kitchen redesign
Sanctuary breaker box update	Improve parking surface
Sod Lawn	

If you are interested in funding one of these projects or want to help plan a fundraiser, please speak with a council member.

Acknowledging God's abundant provision and thinking about stewardship year-round makes it an integral part of our ministry rather than something that we do once-a-year, and in the process, we become faithful stewards of God's gifts.



# Yard Sale



**Saturday, April 20, 2024**

**8:00 am – 12:00 Noon**

**VOLUNTEER CHARTS: Sign up today!!**

**RECEIVING:** April 15 - 17, Monday & Wednesday, 10:00-Noon and 6:00-7:00 pm. Tuesday, Noon—2 pm and 6:00-7:00 pm (Call Cathy or Lucy if you need to drop off your items after April 1<sup>st</sup>, at the earliest.)

**SET-UP & PRICING:** April 18 - 19, Thursday and Friday, 9:00 – Noon

Items needed: Volunteers!! Furniture, household items, small appliances, jewelry, hand bags, decorative pieces, lawn and garden tools and furniture, children's furniture, books, and toys (batteries included). All donated items should be clean and in good repair. No clothes, shoes or mirrors.

To make arrangements for pick up of a larger item, call Lucy Zantow, 912-222-1995, or Cathy Erickson, 912-399-5640. Large items will be picked up April 16 - 17.

Questions or to volunteer? Speak with Lucy Zantow or Cathy Erickson.



**Yard Sale Note:** There are several dishes, bowls, platters, etc. that are accumulating in the kitchen. If you recently left an item in the kitchen, please claim it or you might see it displayed at the Yard Sale.

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

"From the Pastor's Desk

Kelly and I recently rewatched the movie [Evan Almighty](#) where 'God' comes down to Earth in 2007 to tell Evan to build an ark.

I'd like to share a moment in that movie in which Evan's wife, confused as to why her husband is building an ark and frustrated by being ridiculed by the community, unknowingly has a conversation with 'God' (who is portraying a waiter) about the situation...

**'God':** "I love that story, Noah and the Ark. You know, a lot of people miss the point of that story. They think it's about God's wrath and anger. They love it when God gets angry."

"I think it's a love story about believing in each other. You know the animals showed up in pairs. They stood by each other, side by side, just like Noah and his family. Everybody entered the ark side by side."

**Evan's Wife:** "But my husband says 'God told him to do it.' What do you do with that?"

**'God':** "...Sounds like an opportunity. Let me ask you something. If someone prays for patience, you think God gives them patience or does He give them the opportunity to be patient? If they prayed for courage, does God give them courage, or does God give them opportunities to be courageous? If someone prayed for the family to be closer, you think God zaps them with warm fuzzy feelings or does He give them opportunities to love each other?"

***"And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm, and steadfast."***

***(1 Peter 5:10)***

Although the message of the biblical account of the Flood, [Genesis 6](#), makes it abundantly clear that the devastating global flood was sent to punish mankind for their willful rebellion against God. The world was filled with terrible wickedness and violence, and mankind had demonstrated no hint of repentance. Therefore, the Lord God executed justice in pouring out his wrath on a sinful world. The real message of the biblical account, according to the 'God' of the movie, is about people 'believing in each other' and 'standing by one another'.

Could it be that the interpretation of both the Bible and the movie are correct? God was angry hence the flood **and** Believing in each other- building of the ark, Noah's family along with the animals placing trust in him?

Your Brother in Christ,  
Pastor Bob