

# GOOD NEWS

April  
2018

Lord of Life  
Lutheran  
Church  
(ELCA)

Worship Schedule  
Sunday 9:00 am  
& 10:30 am  
Wednesday 6:00 pm

Office Hours  
Monday-Friday  
9:00 am-12 pm  
1:00-3 pm

Ministers  
The Lord of Life  
Family of Faith

Pastors  
Steven J. Rye  
Erika R. Nilsen

Contact Info  
Phone:218-828-9374  
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[office@lolbaxter.org](mailto:office@lolbaxter.org)

## THIS CHANGES EVERYTHING

Throughout the season of Lent we explored how God's call, God's love, God's hope, God's grace and God's son Jesus changes everything. We shared stories and worshipped together. We dug into 5 key stories from scripture and discovered the power of God at work in our world and in our lives. So what now? Lent is over! Spring has arrived! Easter is NOW! How do we live as Easter people?

Jan Richardson describes the Easter life this way in her poem *SEEN*,

You had not imagined  
that something so empty  
could fill you  
to overflowing,  
and now you carry  
the knowledge  
like an awful treasure  
or like a child  
that curls itself  
within your heart:  
how the emptiness  
will bear forth  
a new world  
you cannot fathom  
but on whose edge  
you stand.

So why do you linger?  
You have seen,  
and so you are  
already blessed.  
You have been seen,  
and so you are  
the blessing.

There is no other word  
you need.  
There is simply  
to go  
and tell.

There is simply  
to begin.

How will you begin to live the changed, forgiven, blessed life you've been given? What will you say? What do you have to tell with your life? Where will you go? Who needs to hear this good news? Go! Tell! Begin! Resurrection changes everything!

Blessings

Pastor Erika R. Nilsen

[paintedprayerbook.com/2012/04/06/easter-sunday-  
seen@JanRichardson](http://paintedprayerbook.com/2012/04/06/easter-sunday-seen@JanRichardson)



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
7a Easter Sunday Sonrise Worship 8a Fellowship 9a Worship 10:30a Worship 11a Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen Ministry	1 Church Office Closed - Easter Monday 6a Women's AA 9a S.A.I.L. Program 1p Book Discussion 6:30p Grief Support Group	2 7a Baxter Area Kiwanis 9a Book Discussion 1p Office Staff Meeting 6:30p Team Meeting Night	3 9a S.A.I.L. Program 5:15p Wednesday Night Supper - Potluck 6p Wednesday Worship 7p 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation 7p Choir Rehearsal 8p Teens Upstream	4 10a Men's Fellowship 6p Baxter Sandpipers 4-H	5 6:30a Men's Breakfast 1p Those Older Folders	6 7p Open AA 7
9a Worship 9:45a Pancake Breakfast 10:30a Worship 11:30a Fellowship 5:30p Middle School Youth Group 6:30p Sunday Evening Book Discussion Group	8 6a Women's AA 9a S.A.I.L. Program 1p Book Discussion 6:30p Grief Support Group 6:30p Pinetree Patchworkers	9 7a Baxter Area Kiwanis 7a School District Polling - Baxter 1E 1p Office Staff Meeting 1p Sarah Circle 7p Martha Circle	10 9a S.A.I.L. Program 5:15p Wednesday Night Supper 6p Wednesday Worship 7p 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation 7p 9th Grade Confirmation 7p Choir Rehearsal 8p Teens Upstream	11 10a Men's Fellowship	12 6:30a Men's Breakfast 1p Those Older Folders	13 9a Pray & Ponder 7p Open AA 14
9a Worship 10a Fellowship 10:30a Worship 11:30a Fellowship 5:30p Middle School Youth Group	15 6a Women's AA 9a S.A.I.L. Program 1p Book Discussion	16 7a Baxter Area Kiwanis 9a Book Discussion 1p Office Staff Meeting	17 9a S.A.I.L. Program 11:30a L.O.L.L.Y. 5:15p Wednesday Night Supper 6p Wednesday Worship 7p 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation 7p 9th Grade Confirmation 7p Choir Rehearsal 8p Teens Upstream	18 10a Men's Fellowship 7p Council Meeting	19 6:30a Men's Breakfast 1p Those Older Folders	20 7p Open AA 21
9a Worship 10a Fellowship 10:30a Worship 11:30a Fellowship 2p NE MN Synod Journey Adult Leaders Meeting 5p Hotdish and Hoopla Talent Show 5:30p Middle School Youth Group 7:30p Synod Journey Meeting	22 6a Women's AA 9a S.A.I.L. Program 1p Book Discussion 7p Caring Friends Meeting	23 7a Baxter Area Kiwanis 1p Office Staff Meeting	24 9a S.A.I.L. Program 4:30p Care for Creation team meeting 5:15p Wednesday Night Supper 6p Wednesday Worship 6:45p 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation 7p Choir Rehearsal 8p Teens Upstream	25 10a Men's Fellowship	26 6:30a Men's Breakfast 1p Those Older Folders	27 7p Open AA 28
9a Worship 10a Fellowship 10:30a Worship 11:30a Fellowship 5:30p Middle School Youth Group	29 6a Women's AA 9a S.A.I.L. Program 1p Book Discussion 6p Brainerd Ski Loons	30 7a Baxter Area Kiwanis 9a Book Discussion 1p Office Staff Meeting 6:30p Team Meeting Night	1 9a S.A.I.L. Program 5:15p Wednesday Night Supper 6p Wednesday Worship 7p 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation 7p Choir Rehearsal 8p Teens Upstream	2 10a Men's Fellowship 6p Baxter Sandpipers 4-H	3 6:30a Men's Breakfast 1p Those Older Folders	4 9a Pray & Ponder 7p Open AA 5

## LIVING THE FULL LIFE AT LORD OF LIFE

*"Come to me all you that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."*

Matthew 11:28-30

According to many of the intelligent and wise in the world, a major life purpose is to accumulate money and other resources as a hedge against insecurity, and to use time and talent in the pursuit of that goal. But Jesus suggests a different way to find security and rest. To take on his yoke. To lead a generous life.

We're all aware it's tax season.

And in doing them, if we take the time to stop and think, we can be made aware of how we've been blessed by God. The majority of us are blessed in that we have the financial means to pay taxes. We might grumble. But paying taxes means we have an income. As citizens of our country, we owe a great deal.

There are, of course, many other ways that God blesses us. Relationships. Favorable weather, perhaps that's a bad example this time of the year. And living in the middle of a community of faith.

During the month of April, you're encouraged to reflect on how it is that living a generous life brings us blessing and the full life that Jesus calls us to. As Jesus said, "I came so that all would have LIFE, and have it to its fullest." [John 10:10b].

Pastor Steven J. Rye



### Lenten Round Robin

By: Pastor Steven J. Rye

This year, Lord of Life and three other area congregations cooperated together to hold a "Lenten Round-Robin." A preaching round-robin is where a number of pastors each take a unique Bible text or theme and preach the same sermon but rotate week-by-week through up to five different area congregations. During my growing-up years these were quite popular among the congregations in my area.

The pastors from First Lutheran, Bethlehem Lutheran, and Crosslake, as well as Lord of Life participated in this year's round-robin. Personally, I found that it was a great opportunity to experience the variety of churches in the area. It was also a wonderful opportunity to talk about how Lord of Life came together as a cooperative effort and was not a congregation born out of conflict. Conflict in a congregation's history can create a challenging legacy, and we are blessed by the loving support we received during the early years of Lord of Life's birth.

Soon we'll be holding conversations about how the various congregations experienced the round-robin this year. The jury is still out about doing the same thing next year – but I am at least open to the possibility.

Please share your feedback if you have any. I'm all ears.



**Martha Circle** - will meet at 7 pm on Tuesday, April 10, at Jeannine zumBrunnen's home. Contact Sally Jacobsen at [sally@jacobsenlaw.com](mailto:sally@jacobsenlaw.com) for more information.

**Sarah Circle** - will meet at Lord of Life on Tuesday, April 10, at 1 pm. For more information, contact Bugs Schmidt at 829-3864.

### Pray & Ponder Women's Breakfast

Join us Saturday, April 14 (note date change), from 9:00 am to 11:00 am at LOL for great food, conversation, inspiration and prayer. If you have any questions contact Wendy Adamson at [wendyadamson@ymail.com](mailto:wendyadamson@ymail.com).

### LOLLY (Lot's of Living Left Yet)

LOLLY will meet at LOL on Wednesday, April 18, at 11:30 am for a potluck and presentation with Deb Bergstrom on "Honoring Choices". If you have any questions, please call Mary Anderson at 218-330-6171.



### Sunday, April 8 starting at 9:45 am

Free will donation will go towards our youth going to the Youth Gathering in June.



Sign up to help at the Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen. We are in need of groups or families to sign up in June. Sign up on the clipboard in the Narthex for the month that works for you. If you need more

information please contact Nancy Smith at 820-4273.

### Potluck Supper Wednesday, April 4

Bring a dish to pass and join us on Wednesday, April 4, for a Potluck supper at 5:15 pm.



Regular suppers will be on April 11, 18, 25. Our last Wednesday supper will be May 2 for a picnic supper.

### Prayers for strength, comfort and healing...

Bruce Femling,  
David Schliek, Beth Selinger

### Promise of Comfort & Resurrection for....

The family and friends of Diane Schmoll, Lori Hodge's mother, who passed away.

### Membership Spring Classes

If you are looking for a church home, Lord of Life offers a **New Member Orientation 101 Class**. These classes are for those interested in membership at Lord of Life and those seeking more information on Lord of Life's mission and ministries. New Member Orientation 101 Class is a one-night event, and attendance is required by all who wish to become members of Lord of Life Lutheran Church. This class will be held on Wednesday, April 4, from 7 pm to 8 pm.

**Membership 201** session is available for those seeking more information about the Lutheran Church and a chance to meet the pastors during the three-night session. If you have been confirmed in the Lutheran Church and will be transferring your membership from an ELCA Lutheran congregation, it is not necessary you attend these classes; however, you are highly encouraged to do so. This is a three-night session: **April 9, 16 and 23 from 7:00-8:30pm**.

Visit the [lolibaxter.org](http://lolibaxter.org) website and click on "I'm New" on the upper bar. Then click on "Becoming A Member". Each adult needs to complete a separate form. If you have children, add their names on the form where indicated. Children do not need to attend the class; however, they are welcome to attend.



### "We Packed the Pews"



Thank you for helping us fight hunger in our state. Your donations of food and dollars to **Minnesota FoodShare** went directly to local food shelves in the Brainerd/Baxter area. This year Lord of Life provided 200 lbs of food and \$409.47 in cash donations. We appreciate your generosity!

Social Concerns Committee



LOL kids waving their palms on Palm Sunday!

## RUMMAGE SALE

### Clean Out Your Closets!

Lord of Life is having its annual Rummage and Bake Sale on **May 11th and 12th**, and we would love if you would donate those items to our sale. Please put aside gently used items for the sale and drop them off Sunday, May 6 from 11:30 am - 3 pm and Monday, May 7, and Tuesday, May 8, from 8 am - 8 pm. We do not take TV's, computers, or adult clothing, kids' and junior clothing are welcome. Mark your calendars and come and help with this fun event.

### Treasure Trove Thursday

Exclusive sale event LIMITED to 50 people. Shop without crowds and get first pick. Thursday, May 10th, 5-7pm ONLY. Cost is \$10.00 per person. Children under the age of 12 are free with a paid adult. Tickets will be on sale at the church office starting Monday, May 7th, 8 am-5pm or at the door if any tickets are still left.

### Spring Clothing Share

Friday & Saturday, May 18 & 19, from 9 am-3 pm. This event is open to the public, and all items of clothing are free.

- Donations of all gently worn adult and children's clothing will start on Sunday, May 13, from 11:30 am - 2 pm and Monday-Thursday from 9 am - 5 pm.
- We are also in need of hangers and hanging clothing racks (you will get back). Volunteers are needed during the week for folding or hanging items and during the Giveaway.

Look for more information to come.

## Sunday's Lessons

### April 1      Easter

Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24;  
1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Mark 16:1-8

### April 8      Second Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:32-35; Psalm 133;  
1 John 1:1-2:2; John 20:19-31

### April 15      Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 3:12-19; Psalm 4;  
1 John 3:1-7; Luke 24:36-48

### April 22      Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:5-12; Psalm 23;  
1 John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18

### April 29      Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 22:25-31;  
1 John 4:7-21; John 15:1-8

## 10 Stewardship Principles

(one principle featured each month)

Our role as God's stewards is one of many dimensions: grateful, responsible, self-sacrificing, willing, sharing, proportionate, committed, regular, genuine, and challenged. By generously giving of ourselves, we discover joy in Christ.

*"...you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."*  
2 Corinthians 9:7

### Stewardship Principle of the Month 10: Accept a Challenge

means recognizing the dynamic nature of our faith. As our faith grows so will our blessings and our responsibilities. Paul writes,

*"...the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully."*  
2 Corinthians 9:6



## **What Will Bring You Greater Fulfillment in your life?**

by: Pastor Steven J. Rye

What will bring you greater fulfillment in your life?

It's a question I've been asking a lot lately as I've called up Lord of Life members. It is part of a project that Pastor Erika and I are engaged in. The project started from a realization that there will be a great need at Lord of Life for a rotation of leadership. People will soon be going off of council. Teams will soon need fresh hands and fresh ideas. We are launching Stephen Ministry. And we need to address paying off our mortgage and get about the long-overdue business of expanding our kitchen and dining facilities.

But rather than trying to guess which member might be good for what leadership role, it has seemed a good idea to instead call members and ask about their sense of fulfillment. Certainly there is still the hope that down the road it will lead to the right match for some sort of volunteer position at Lord of Life – but perhaps not. These conversations have made us pastors first and recruiters second. It puts us in the role of what pastors should be about—not recruiters but companions on life's journey....helping parishioners find fulfillment in their lives and seeing what will bring them a greater sense of being Jesus' disciple.

One of the key things highlighted in these conversations is the change in structure at Lord of Life. These changes will provide many more opportunities for people to find a niche to serve at Lord of Life. What changes? Well, it used to be that if you were a council member you also had to lead one of the ten congregational teams. This meant council members not only served on the visionary and governing body of the congregation, but they had to micromanage one of ten areas in the congregation.

Last year we split those roles so that the council can focus on being a vision-and permission-giving team. The team leaders are able to focus on the things that the Spirit stirs in their life to accomplish here within the congregation. We are also in the process of reorganizing the work of teams. For example, the Social Concerns Team in the past took care of many and various projects. I look forward to the day when mini-teams gather around taking care of the Thanksgiving Baskets or the Giving Tree. This will free up the Social Concerns Team to really focus on being a catalyst for the overall social concerns ministry of our congregation and fostering new and innovative ministries. It will also provide a place for someone who wants to serve by handling the Thanksgiving Baskets – but DOESN'T want to sign up for an entire year of monthly meetings.

The vision of all of this is to provide a large number of places where people can find just the right fit for themselves. Hopefully everybody will find either a big niche or small niche at Lord of Life. Regardless, this is not just about filling a slot. It's about asking what the Holy Spirit is stirring in people's lives and how they might live that out.

When I call, I don't ask anyone to serve in a particular place. But I do ask each person to both pray for themselves with specific thought about their involvement in the congregation and to pray for the whole church. This effort is fostering a renewal in leadership here at LOL.

Having read this entire article, I invite your prayers and input, too. Let us know what you think. Let us know what the Spirit is stirring within you.

## First Communion

We made some changes to the First Communion class this year. For the first time we held First Communion on Maundy Thursday. Maundy Thursday is the service in which we celebrate the last supper in which Christ instituted Holy Communion. At the end of the service, the altar is stripped – meaning all of the paraments and candles are removed.

Many commented after worship what a powerful moment it was to have the 5th graders commune with their families right after they themselves were communed for the first time. It was also powerful to have them take part in the stripping of the altar.

An unscientific poll of congregations in the area conclude that most do First Communion on Maundy Thursday. We may have begun a new tradition here at Lord of Life.



### Care For Creation Workgroup Succeed in Reducing Easter Waste



The Care for Creation Workgroup has been working hard to raise awareness and the practice of recycling within Lord of Life. Most recently, recyclable cups have been purchased to replace styrofoam. These two pictures illustrate the success of their work. The picture on the left shows the garbage that couldn't be recycled after the Easter breakfast. The photo on the right shows the recyclables. Taken together they represent a drastic reduction in waste from past meals. Kudos to the Care of Creation Workgroup!



### Lutheran Men in Mission Northeast MN Synod Retreat

The Lutheran Men in Mission Northeast MN Synod Retreat will be April 13-14 at Lutheran Church of the Cross in Nisswa. This two-day retreat will feature a study led by Gord Gilby from LAMP, as well as breakout sessions on men's topics.

Breakout sessions will be: Painting God's Creation; Let the Light Shine:Philanthropic Photography; Genealogy and Tracing Your Ancestry; Last Man Standing; Brewing 101.

Keynote Speaker Gord Gilby has served as Executive Director of Missionfest and is a missionary with LAMP. Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots Inc. is a cross-cultural ministry sharing Jesus Christ with God's people in remote areas of Canada. He will address the universality and uniqueness of missions, as well as the need for unity within the worldwide church.

Registration forms are at the Welcome Center in the Narthex. Cost is \$50; first-time attendees \$35; high school and college students \$20.



Our 5th Graders and parents spent four Monday evenings in February learning about the gift of Holy Communion, the significance of bread and wine and the blessing of being a part of a faith community.

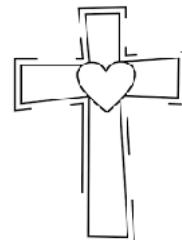
First Communion was celebrated on Palm Sunday at the 10:30 am service and on Maundy Thursday at the 7 pm service.

### First Communion Celebrated By:

Josh Anderson  
Shane Carlson  
Hayden Freed  
Kiley Jendro  
Julia Schmeck

Riley Anderson  
Zoe Cervantez  
Brynn Haapajoki  
Abbigail Larson  
Amelia Sjostrom

Nora Behr  
Aizlynn Ford  
Derek Hoglin  
Madi Miller  
Kade Stengrim



## Spring Youth Update!



Spring has arrived! It's time to start thinking ahead to summer programs as our school-year programs begin to wrap up. Here is a quick update about what has been happening in Youth Ministry along with a look ahead at programs to come!

**7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation:** With just over a month to go, students have worked through the Small Catechism and now are focusing on important conversation such as Grace, The Cross and The Neighbor. This has been a great group to work with. Thank you to all the volunteers and adult leaders who have helped throughout this year!

### Important Calendar Announcement: April 25<sup>th</sup> B.A.Y. Rally

**Middle School Youth Group:** As the snow begins to melt and the days get longer, you won't want to miss out on MSYG from 5:30 pm-7 pm on Sundays. Join us for fun activities, engaging faith conversation and snacks. Weather permitting, we will be spending sometime outdoors in April. Time to start thinking about 9-Square in The Air, volleyball and campfires!

**Youth Summer Trips:** Only a few months away from the busy summer here at LOL. Youth participating in our summer mission trips will be busy sharing their stories, flipping pancakes and serving in worship. If you get a chance to meet these kids, take some time to get to know one another, spend time sharing stories, asking questions and getting to know each other. Thank you for all your support, blessings, prayers and financial contributions. This month we have a couple fundraisers happening. Stay connected with the church calendar for fundraising events and important details.

#### Count down to our summer trips: (As of April 1<sup>st</sup>)

**ELCA Youth Gathering/ Synod Journey = 100 Days**

**YouthWorks Lake Traverse, SD = 129 Days**

**Teens Upstream:** Whether we are creating homemade slime, jamming on the Jukebox, discussing life and exploring the Bible, there is something for everyone! Wednesday nights from 8 pm-9 pm. It's not too late to join us. Hope to see you in April!

#### May: Summer Program Sign Ups:

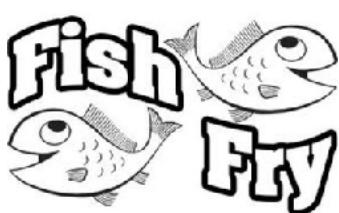
**Summer Stretch: June 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, July 11<sup>th</sup> (Twins Game), July 19<sup>th</sup> (Youth going into 7<sup>th</sup>- 9<sup>th</sup>)**

**ServeCAMP: August 6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> (For kids going into 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>)**

For more information on the youth programming offered here at Lord of Life, feel free to email me. at [tim@lolbaxter.org](mailto:tim@lolbaxter.org).

Spring Blessings!

Tim Slinger  
Youth Director



### Fish'n For A Mission Fish Fry

Mark your calendars for Sunday evening, April 29. A fish fry will be hosted at Lord of Life Church to raise funds to support our upcoming Youth Mission Trip. A free-will offering will be taken to cover the cost of the meal, with additional contributions going to the Youth Mission Trip fund. If you like fried fish, all you have to do is show up! The fish fry will run from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm and will include fish, coleslaw, potatoes, bread, refreshments and desserts.

## WEBSITE CHANGES AT LORD OF LIFE

In my "off hours" – time spent watching some sporting events, etc. – I've taken up the hobby of web redesign and completely rebuilt the Lord of Life website. All of what you read next has been accomplished in a little over a week's time.

I do hope that you'll take a moment or two to wander over to lolbaxter.org and see the fruit of my work. What you'll find there is far less graphic but is also far more smart-phone friendly. The site is packed with information in an easy-to-find format.

Some of the changes I'm happiest about:

- We can now begin to take advantage of the full power of Church Community Builder's many features.
- People can have their group schedule automatically update on their smartphone and tablets using the "Add to my Calendar" button that is now available.
- People can express their passions, skills and spiritual gifts in a way that we'll be able to effectively match with ministry opportunities.
- The new easy-to-navigate main menu.
- We'll now offer a way for people to conveniently notify us of an upcoming hospital stay so we can arrange a pastoral visit. Of course, calling the office is still an option – but folks can use the website for their convenience.
- People throughout the world (including my mom) can access sound files of our latest sermons.

Mostly I'm happy about the fact that the website is super easy to edit...so we receive new pictures from events...we can put them up on the front page. Or if there is a cancellation, we can make that edit in a quick, simple process.

A big thanks to the folks at Faster Solutions (the Knowles family) for all their help and for their continued willingness to host the Lord of Life Website.

If you have any suggestions for additional changes – I'll be happy to hear them.

Blessings!

Pr. Steve

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### Quilt Blessing

The Lord of Life Quilters have been hard at work making 91 quilts this year.

The quilt blessing took place on Palm Sunday, and the quilts will go to 35 graduating seniors on May 20. Quilts will also be donated to Safe Harbor Transition House, Lutheran Social Service, VA Hospital, Camp Knutson, Luther Crest, Brighter Days Foundation, Brainerd Senior Center, NE MN World Hunger, and the hospital.



Save your aluminum cans for the quilters.



**You Are Invited to Attend Our 31st Annual Convention/Gathering  
At Sugar Lake Lodge near Grand Rapids, MN  
Monday, June 4 through Wednesday, June 6, 2018**

Our Gathering theme this year is "God's Amazing Grace" taken from the King James version of the Bible verse, 2 Corinthians 12:9, "My grace is sufficient for Thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness." The theme color is shades of purple and the song is "Amazing Grace". We will be blessed to have Liz Cheney as our **Gathering Chaplain** this year. She will provide us with a **Bible Study** on our theme and you will be able to visit with her in the **Prayer Room** for any personal prayer needs you may have.

Our **keynote speaker** will be Tracy Schreifels, who will be addressing the **trauma associated with mental health issues**. She uses a Powerpoint presentation interspersed with video clips, including research and stories from her experiences as an educator and parent and guidelines on how to support others even when you do not know the type and extent of trauma they may have experienced.

Wonderful **worship opportunities** and **workshops** are being planned. We brought back the **choir** after many evaluation form requests. This year we will have a **Hands-On Project** sponsored by the "**Rippers, Strippers and Rollers**" of Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Aurora. This group will be **Rolling Bandages** (hence the name of the group) and making **Newborn Kits**, which are this year's **In-Kind Focus** for mission work. Other workshops include **Grace House**, **Young Adults in Global Mission**, **Mind, Body and Spirits Strategies**, and our **Social Statement**. Look for more information on these in our next mailing.

Our **Alexander III ballroom** will be a busy place again this year. We will have our **Triennial Marketplace**, where you can bring an item or a basket for the **Silent Auction** or the 'Buy it Now' shop. Proceeds from the Marketplace help defray expenses for those attending the next Triennial gathering that will be in Phoenix in 2020. Our Partners in Ministry will now be called the **Global Health Fair**. There are four groups that will be participating this year: **Lutheran World Relief**, **Global Health Ministries**, **Skip the Grid** and **Rippers, Strippers and Rollers**. **Grace House** will be accepting donations in this same room. Needed items are listed on page 20. Please look it over and see what you might want to bring.

**Women of the Kettle River Conference** are busy making the **backdrop quilt** and the **Lake Superior Conference women** have designed a **beautiful logo** centered around our Bible verse.

Sugar Lake Lodge also offers MANY amenities for you to enjoy, which include a FREE round of golf, paddle-boats, shuttle service, swimming, hiking, bonfires, horseshoes, and opportunities to just sit, talk, and enjoy God's creation on the beautiful serene grounds of the Lodge itself.

This event promises to be a true retreat and time of renewal. **PLEASE read the registration materials carefully and register completely!!** You must register for the Gathering separately from housing and meals at Sugar Lake Lodge. See pages 8 and 9 for registration blanks.

Pat Norby (Convention/Gathering Co-Chair) and I look forward to meeting many of you again at your Spring Gatherings. We ask you to pray about this and urge you to plan to attend.

Your Sister in Christ,  
Sherry Johnson, Convention/Gathering Chair

# God's Amazing Grace

NE MN Synod Women of the ELCA

Summer Convention/Gathering Registration  
Monday June 4--Tuesday June 5--Wednesday June 6, 2018  
Sugar Lake Lodge - Cohasset, MN

**Registrant Information** (One form per person –  
Please print clearly - Info used for Nametag & Mailings)

**First & Last Name:** (as you want it on your nametag) \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** (Street/PO Box, City, State, Zip) \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

**Church Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Church City:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Conference:** (please circle) Heartland Kettle River Lake Superior Laurentian Living Waters Other

## **Registration Status**

Please check your Registration Status from the options below. Each Congregation is encouraged to send one official voting member as well as other interested participants from their WELCA groups.

- Voting Member
- Congregational Participant/Non-Voting Attendee
- SWO Board Member
- Convention/Gathering Staff:
  - Accompanist
  - Chaplain
  - Churchwide Rep.
  - Conference Coordinator
  - Historian
  - Music Leader
  - NE Lights Editor
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - Parliamentarian
  - Registrar
  - Scholarship Recipient
  - Scholarship Advisor
  - Synod Council Rep.
  - Workshop Presenter

## **Housing Registration**

3-day Convention/Gathering participants must **register separately** for their attendance at the Convention/Gathering and their lodging and meals. Use the enclosed form to register for lodging and meals with Sugar Lake Lodge. To help us ensure that your registration for both Convention and Lodging is completed, mark your selection below.

- Lodging and meals at Sugar Lake Lodge  
My roommate(s) will be \_\_\_\_\_  
  
 FYI – My family will be coming with me.
  - Lodging and meals at Sugar Lake Lodge
- Help me find a roommate!** My age range is (circle):  
18-35 36-45 46-55 56-69 70-79 80+
- Commuter with meals - Off-site lodging or at home; meals from Sugar Lake Lodge (See the FAQ article for info about the great pricing at Sugar Lake Lodge)

## **Special Accommodation Requests**

Early Bird Registration Deadline:

April 15, 2018

Convention & Lodging Registration Deadlines:

May 4, 2018

Questions? Contact Registrar Anne Laechel at  
[anne.laechel@gmail.com](mailto:anne.laechel@gmail.com) or 218-851-2214 (Please leave a message)

## **Volunteer Positions**

Please mark those you are interested in assisting with.

(Descriptions are in the FAQ in the February & May Northeastern Lights

and also in the Synod Handbook:

<http://www.nemnsynodwomen.org/resources/synod-handbook>:

- Credentials Committee (Voting Member Only)
- Elections Committee (Voting Member Only)
- Minutes Committee (Voting Member Only)
- Quilt Truck
- Scripture Readers
- Workshop Assistants
- Resolutions Committee (Voting Member Only)
- Offering Committee (Voting Member Only)
- Triennial Marketplace
- Ushers (during worship)
- Communion Assistants
- Registration Asst./Hostess

## **Convention Registration**

- Early Bird 3-day Convention/Gathering** - \$90  
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday – Registering prior to April 15
- Regular 3-day Convention/Gathering** - \$100  
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday – Registering after April 15
- Monday Convention/Gathering** - \$85  
(includes dinner – no separate form required)
- Tuesday Convention/Gathering** - \$155  
(includes breakfast, lunch and dinner banquet – no separate form required)
- Wednesday Convention/Gathering** - \$85  
(includes breakfast – no separate form required)
- Sign me up for the Tuesday Pontoon Ride - \$10

## **Total Remitted** \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to **Women of the ELCA**  
Please do not staple check to the registration form.

Mail check and registration form to:

**Anne Laechel, Registrar**

**6190 Fairview Rd - Baxter, MN 56425-8285**

# Hotdish &



# Hoopla!

**Join us at Lord of Life for a Talent Show**

**Sunday, April 22**

**starting with supper at 5 pm**

**Talent Show at 6 pm**

**Anyone can participate in the Talent Show!**

Sign up in the Narthex  
if you would like to bring a dish to pass for supper  
or participate in the talent show.

Free-will donation - proceeds will go to the Youth Mission Trip.

# *Lord of Life Lutheran Ministry Opportunities*

## Connecting to Christ

**Circle, Martha** - Meets the second Tuesday of the month off site at 7:00 p.m. (August-June) For more information contact Mary Anderson 330-6171  
[maryteda@charter.net](mailto:maryteda@charter.net)

**Circle, Sarah** - Meets the second Tuesday of the month at 1:00 p.m. (Sept-May) at Lord of Life. For information contact Bugs Schmidt 829-3864  
[shmidye@icloud.com](mailto:shmidye@icloud.com)

**Men's Breakfast** - Fridays, 6:30 a.m. at LOL for Bible study, fellowship, fun and food - *Ted Anderson 218-831-1372*

**Men's Fellowship** - Thursdays, 10:00 a.m. at LOL for Bible study, fellowship and fun - *Ted Anderson 831-1372*

**New Member Class** - For individuals and families interested in joining Lord of Life. Childcare is provided upon request. - *Pastor Steve 828-9374 steve@lolbaxter.org*

**Pray & Ponder Women's Breakfast** - A gathering of women on one Saturday each month, 9:00-11:00 a.m. in the Commons. (Oct.-May). Experience great food, conversation, inspiration and prayer. Contact Wendy Adamson at

[wendyadamson@ymail.com](mailto:wendyadamson@ymail.com)

## Connecting to our Community

### **Caring for Creation Workgroup**

We will meet from 4:30-5:30 the third Wednesday of the month. The Caring for Creation Workgroup on ecology and the environment is grounded in a biblical vision of God's intention for the healing and wholeness of creation. This group will meet to discuss ways to help take care of God's Creation. Contact Todd Holman with any questions at [tholman@tnc.org](mailto:tholman@tnc.org)

**Habitat for Humanity** - Scott Hall, (w) 828-8517- [scott.hall@lakesareahabitat.org](mailto:scott.hall@lakesareahabitat.org)

**LOL Quilters** - The LOL Quilters will meet Thursdays, from 9 am to 12 pm. Quilts are made for our graduating seniors, local charities and special requests. Thursdays are used for quilt designing, packaging into kits for LOL volunteers to sew into quilt tops, and also for tying and binding. Sewing experience is not required! If you have any questions you can contact Jan Hardesty at 218-828-1434.

**Prayer Shawl Group** - Meets 3 to 4 times a year.

Anyone who is interested in this wonderful ministry is welcome to join our group. Please contact Jeannine zumBrunnen 829-2177-[zummyb@brainerd.net](mailto:zummyb@brainerd.net) or Brenda Johnson 831-9725-[brensid@brainerd.net](mailto:brensid@brainerd.net) Check our website at [www.shawlministry.com](http://www.shawlministry.com) for more information.

**Soup Kitchen** - Serving meals at Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen (923 Oak St., Brainerd), first Sunday of each month at 11:00 a.m. - To volunteer contact Nancy Smith (820-4273) or sign-up on the clipboard in the Narthex.

## Connecting to Each Other

**Sunday Evening Book Discussion Group** meets on alternating Sundays at 6:30 p.m. (Sept. - May). All book lovers are welcome. Contact: Jerry Kuehn at 218-820-8566.

**Monday Afternoon Book Group** will meet at 1:00 pm each Monday (Sept. - May). For more information contact Nancy Smith 820-4273.

**Tuesday Morning Book Group** This group meets on the 1st and the 3rd Tuesdays of the Month at 9:00am and focuses on studying biblical books to expand our knowledge of the bible and grow in faith. Contact Claire Rud at [paulclairerud@msn.com](mailto:paulclairerud@msn.com).

**Faithful Mothers** - Join us on Wednesday mornings from 9 am to 10:30 am for Faithful Mothers (Sept.-May). Childcare is available. For more information contact the church office at [www.lolbaxter.org](http://www.lolbaxter.org).

**Caring Friends Ministry** - Find out how to become a Caring Friend or to receive this ministry as you navigate life transitions. Meets the fourth Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Contact Jeannine zumBrunnen 829-2177

[zummyb@brainerd.net](mailto:zummyb@brainerd.net)

**LOL Ministry Teams** - Congregational Life, Children's Education, Youth/Adult Education, Evangelism, Finance, Property, Social Concerns, Stewardship, Worship, Youth - *Pastor Erika 828-9374 erika@lolbaxter.org*

**LOLLY (Lots of Living Left Yet)** - Meets the third Wednesday of each month at 11:30 a.m.; ages 55+ (Sept-May). Call Mary Anderson at 330-6171 or Ted Anderson at [maryteda@charter.net](mailto:maryteda@charter.net) for more info.

**Pre-Marriage Retreat** - For couples preparing for the joys and struggles of married life. This is a prerequisite for couples planning to be married at LOL. For more information, contact Anne in the church office at 828-9374 or [anne@lolbaxter.org](mailto:anne@lolbaxter.org)

**Wednesday Night Supper Prep & Serving** - Assist with cooking and serving of our Wednesday evening meal. (Sept.-May) Contact the church office at [www.lolbaxter.org](http://www.lolbaxter.org)

**Those Older Folders** - Meet every Friday at 1 pm in the Commons area of the church, or at other times as need be, to fold bulletins. Just show up whenever you can make it. This is a fun fellowship group that does not take a long time (and you do not have to be "old" to join this group)! For more information contact the church office at [www.lolbaxter.org](http://www.lolbaxter.org).

For updated information on the above events, check out our website:

<http://www.lolbaxter.org>



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

# Daily Prayers and Staff

The Scripture tells us to pray for each other (James 5:16). As a body we pray for our congregation, alphabetically rotating through our church family on an annual basis. Each week we will pray for specific Lord of Life families. Although you may not know each member of our congregation, our God listens to the prayers we bring on each other's behalf before his throne. Please make a commitment to include your brothers and sisters at Lord of Life Lutheran Church in your daily prayers.

## April 1-7

Chris & Wendy Adamson  
Gary & Kathy Engelmann  
Pat Huhta  
Daniel & Bonnie Nowacki  
Tammy & Bob Stellmach

Verdell Bose  
Don & Shelley Hansch  
Nancy Larson  
Grant & Carolyn Reller  
Jean Weizenegger

## April 8-14

Jana Austad  
Tom & Vonne Ferkingstad  
Kevin & Elise Jensen  
Sharon Orser  
Dan & Patty Sura

Mike & Colleen Bush  
Andrew & Ashley Hayes  
Corry & Teresa Lund  
Bryan Rude  
Mike & Elaine Youngquist

## April 15-21

James & Beth Bastian  
John & Jeanni Foss  
Jim & Teresa Kingsley  
Gloria Slathe  
Tom & Sue Thoele

Tonya & Rick Caughey  
Bob & Michelle Joyce  
Gail Massie  
Melissa & Derek Schmeck

## April 22-28

Jim & Tammie Benson  
Alan & Dawn Genz  
Glen & Elaine Kraemer  
Amanda Peterson  
Jackie & Neil Tyrrell

James Cowell  
Terry & Karen Hermanson  
Danise Miller & Craig Erpelding  
Mike & Jana Shogren

## April 29-30

Kathy Blake & Nancy Smith  
Audrae & Paul Gruber  
Alex & Ashley Kunesh  
Audrey & Wes Powers  
Bradley & Nancy Wadsten

Lisa Dewey  
Tim & Lisa Hoglin  
Bob & Gina Nelsen  
Rick & Deb Smith

## Lord of Life Office & Program Staff

<b>Ministry Operations Manager</b>	Anne Laechel <a href="mailto:anne@lolbaxter.org">anne@lolbaxter.org</a>
<b>Sr. Pastor's Ministry Assistant</b>	Colleen Bush <a href="mailto:colleen@lolbaxter.org">colleen@lolbaxter.org</a>
<b>Youth Director</b>	Tim Slinger <a href="mailto:tim@lolbaxter.org">tim@lolbaxter.org</a>
<b>Senior Choir Director</b>	Sarah Aamot <a href="mailto:sarah-lundin@hotmail.com">sarah-lundin@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Spiritual Gifts Coordinator/</b>	
<b>Parish Nurse</b>	Deb Bergstrom <a href="mailto:deb@lolbaxter.org">deb@lolbaxter.org</a>
<b>Custodians</b>	Karen & Paul Erickson <a href="mailto:kde12112@gmail.com">kde12112@gmail.com</a>
<b>Pianist</b>	Jennifer Person <a href="mailto:jennifer.person@lolbaxter.org">jennifer.person@lolbaxter.org</a>
<b>Sunday Traditional Group Dir.</b>	Jennifer Person
<b>Wed Musician Coordinator</b>	Jennifer Person



## Newsletter Team

Editor: Colleen Bush. Please send all Newsletter articles to: [colleen@lolbaxter.org](mailto:colleen@lolbaxter.org)

The **Good News** is published monthly. Articles for the May Newsletter are due April 16.

## April Birthdays

1	Graycen Blum, Dawn Genz, Alex Getty, Eric Jendro, Beckett Miller, Steve Schaitberger
2	Gary Engelmann, Annie Foss, Luke Swanson, Zach Olds
3	Elle Bruggeman, Nate Felix, Mike Fraki, Dorothy Nelson, Pat Saxum
4	Arabella Dumpprope, Kathy Hauble, Joel Kingsley, Lisa Strelow-Kohls
5	Bruce Jensen, Anadell Johnson, Mark Lange, Rick Smith, Hammy Staehling
6	John Davidson, Jim Larson, Lindley Mithun
7	Kim Erickson, Dorothy Karlson, Kay Rineck, Addison Selisker
8	Carol Blowers, Ernie Bruckner, Karli Knopf, Mary Jo Kobes, Alison Kohout, Scott Rude
9	Ron Meyer
10	Hayden Carlson, Jocie Daniels, Simon Foss, Keenan Runde, Keaton Walkowiak
11	Abbigail Larson, Lynn Miller
12	Avery Davidge, Ethan Koering, Maura Halverson, Lauren Rud, Evan Shogren
13	Jerry Bruggeman, Arlo Hill, Lucas Hoglin
14	Pat Einarson, Daniel Nowacki, Kelcie Parrish, Jolene Parks
15	Mari Devine, Elizabeth Dirlam, Mike Marlatt, Nick Peterson
16	Jon Belanger, Luke Jacobsen, Mike Patrick
17	Everett Grams, Bunny Window, Drew Whitlock, Ethan Wolfe
18	Gladi Eschenbacher, KC Walsh
19	Ellie Hughes, Sandy Jensen
20	Debra Kron, Mel Nefstead
21	Jim Benson, Phyllis Campbell, Don Narveson, Rick Redshaw
22	Roland Anderson, Deb Bergstrom, Kelsey Binggeli, Carter Workman
23	Megan Christenson, Todd DeBoer, Caleb Patrick
24	Tim Caughey, Amber Taylor
25	Hannah Drietz, Dalen Hodge, Sophia Hohman, Jana Shogren
26	Emily Bastian, Troy Fink, Ryan Goos, Sharon Syvertson
27	Dustin Christenson, Lucas Janey, Blake Smith
28	Irene Christofferson, AJ Gratke, Ron Hensel, Carlene Lange
29	ReNee Leonard, Teri Mackedanz, Austin Mau, Charlie Rude, Eric Rude, Iris Weihemuller
30	Levi Aadland, Kari Campion, Josh Freelove, Marcie Krall, Walker Peterson, Austin Rubin

## April Anniversaries

4/3	Dalen & Lori Hodge♦
4/5	Dustin & Megan Christenson
	Tim & Kaarin Hanske
4/7	Bob & Maxine Fromm♦
4/11	David & Renae Goos♦
	Bruce & Sandy Jensen♦
4/12	Dennis & Teri Mackedanz
4/16	Pat & Raquel Kiffmeyer
4/17	Rod & Deanna Kohout♦
	Roger & Leisha Tietz♦
4/19	Mark & Carlene Lange♦
4/20	Troy & Lori Fink♦
4/23	Allen & Becky Braak
4/26	Chris & Kim Erickson
4/28	Adam & Heather Bartelt
	Wayne & Aleatha Knopf
4/29	Paul & Glenda Hoheisel♦

♦=Celebrating 24-49 years!

†=Celebrating 50 years or more!

## *Thank You*

Dear Lord of Life,

The families and staff of New Pathways thank you for your donation in support of our program. We are thankful and appreciate your commitment. Because of you we continue to serve homeless families with children from our community.

New Pathways

Lord of Life Church,

Thank you so much for the use of your space to assemble the Operation Sandwich Holiday packs this winter. Your generous gift allowed us to share over 400 packages this year!

With sincere appreciation,  
Your United Way Staff



6190 Fairview Rd  
Baxter, MN 56425-8285



Our Lenten theme this year was “This Changes Everything”. Our new art work in the commons reflects this theme.

Thank you to Kevin Olson for putting together this display and the Gary Ruschman display.

## *Check out the Commons Wall Displays!*

The **disciples**  
heard  
Jesus invitation,  
dropped their  
nets,  
and followed...  
THIS changes  
everything.

The **woman**  
touched  
the cloak of  
Jesus,  
was healed,  
and trembled...  
THIS changes  
everything.

*Behind the Scenes*