

# GOOD NEWS

December  
2019

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 pm-3 pm

Ministers  
The Lord of Life  
Family of Faith

Pastors  
Steven J. Rye  
Erika R. Nilsen

Contact Info  
Phone: 218-828-9374

Email:  
[office@lolbaxter.org](mailto:office@lolbaxter.org)  
[www.lolbaxter.org](http://www.lolbaxter.org)

*To speak of sorrow  
Works upon it  
Moves it from its  
Crouched place barring  
The way to and from the soul's hall.  
Denise Levertov*

It feels a bit wrong to speak of grief during what most want and some experience as the "most wonderful time of the year." Yet it is most precisely during this time when we long for all to be well, that the grief and pain of loss rings loud in our hearts – drowning out the holiday cheer and the sounds of Christmas and joys told to the world.

So what is one to do with grief and pain and loss during this holiday season when the world looks happy and wants you to be too? We speak of it! That's what we do! We name it and talk about it and sit in silence with it and light a candle for it and share it. And we do it together because genuine community has the power to heal our bodies and souls. As Francis Weller writes in his book, *The Wild Edge of Sorrow*, "We need to create circles of welcome in our lives in order to keep leaning into the world, to keep moving grief through our psyches and bodies, so we can taste the sweetness of life."

Will you join together on Monday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm for a worship service of Grief and Hope? Will you join together with a few or many who walk daily with grief as a companion, boorish as it may be? Will you join together to speak of sorrow – so that we can work on it and move it – just a bit – if but for a moment – and free our souls from its grip? Will you join together and lean into the dark? Will you join together as we wait for the light of the world to come once again and scatter our darkness? It just may be the best gift you can give to yourself this holiday season.

And if grief is not your companion at this time in your life, honor those for whom it is and walk gently by their side. Offer space and silence for their sorrow or invitation for them to tell you about it. Then listen, to the words and the silences, with your whole heart. Your presence is a gift.

May the joy that Christ brings to the world, one day, transform our mourning into dancing!

With you in this Season,

Pastor Erika



Church Office Closed  
December 25, 26, January 1

## Christmas Caroling

Mark your calendars and join us for Christmas caroling after the 10:30 am worship service on December 8.



Christmas Caroling

## Wednesday Suppers



Join us on Wednesdays at 5:15 for supper. December 4 will be a potluck; please bring a dish to pass. December 18 will be a regular supper, and December 11 will be a fundraiser supper for the Tanzania Mission Trip.

## Year End Tax-Deductible Contributions Deadlines -

- **In Person:** 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 31, 2019.
- **Via USPS:** Post-marked no later than December 31, 2019.
- **Online:** Must have an "approved" status by December 31, 2019.
- **Stock:** If you wish to gift Stock to Lord of Life, please contact Anne Laechel for more information. Transfer of ownership must be completed by Tuesday, December 31, 2019 to be considered a 2019 gift. As the process can take 1-2 weeks, requests should be initiated by Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Any gift received or post-marked on or after January 1, 2020 will be credited to 2020.

## Prayers for Strength, Comfort and Healing for...

**Natalie Sauter**, who is recovering from surgery.  
**Seth Pederson**, son-in-law of Bruce & Carol Femling, who has cancer of the liver and is having further tests done.  
**Bruce Femling**, as he recovers from a single lung transplant.

## Our members & family in the Military:

Eric Nelson, James Nelson, Aaron Sopelle, Ben Correll

## Sunday's Lessons

**December 1 - First Sunday in Advent - Hope**  
Jeremiah 33:14-18; Mark 8:27-29

**December 8 - Second Sunday in Advent -Peace**  
Isaiah 40:1-11; Mark 1:1-4

**December 15 - Third Sunday in Advent - Love**  
Ezra 1:1-4; 3:1-4, 10-13; Luke 2:25-32

**December 22 - Fourth Sunday in Advent - Joy**  
Luke 1:5-25, 57-80, Psalm 113

**December 29 - First Sunday after Christmas**  
Mark 1:1-20, Psalm 91:9-12



Join us for a pancake breakfast, Sunday, December 1, starting at 9:45 am. Free-will donations will go towards our 2020 Summer Mission trips.

## Pray & Ponder

### Women's Breakfast and Bible Study

Pray & Ponder will meet again on Saturday, December 7, at 9:00 am, and all LOL women are invited. This is a great way to kick off the Advent Season as we gather for food, fellowship, and conversation. The Friday Men's Breakfast Group has graciously agreed to continue the LOL tradition of serving breakfast for us. This is always a fabulous feast and a treat for us all. All are welcome, so perhaps you know of someone to invite who hasn't previously attended Pray & Ponder.

I'd like to continue our tradition of collecting gift cards for the Women's Shelter. It's a difficult time of year for women and children living at the shelter, so please consider picking up a card from Target, Walmart, grocery stores, or another place of business you feel would be appropriate.



## Give this Christmas

In this busy holiday season, there are 2 different ways to give to the local community.

**ANGEL TREE:** Some little angels in our community need some extra help this year to make their holiday bright.

Select a tag from the Angel

Tree and purchase any gift listed, please include at least one clothing item. All unwrapped gifts need to be **dropped off at the Salvation Army at 208 South 5<sup>th</sup> Street by Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>**. Please have the unwrapped gifts include the Angel Tag and make sure the information on the tag is also on the gifts.

**Gift Cards:** Please consider donating grocery and gas gift cards from area businesses. These gift cards are used for local families in need during the holiday season and throughout the year. Any denomination helps. Gifts cards can be placed in the box by the Angel Tree.



## Let's Get Festive

Wear your Christmas/ugly sweater to worship on Sunday, December 22.



## Prayer Chain In-service

Our next in-service will be Wednesday, December 4, at 7:00 pm or Sunday, December 8, at 10:30 am.

We require a commitment of each member to attend at least one prayer chain in-service during a 12-month period. It is the individual's responsibility to be sure they attend an in-service.

What is the Prayer Chain? To faithfully lift up in prayer the needs and concerns of our church family and our loved ones, remembering what Jesus told us:

*"Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." Matthew 18:19-20:*

Successful accomplishment includes praying for new requests received via phone, email, or our website; praying for people who receive prayer shawls; and praying for the newly baptized. If you would like to join this group, please come to our next in-service.

## The Giving Tree

Our Giving Tree is up and ready for your handmade scarves, hats and mittens. If you would like to help fill our tree, we have yarn available in the Narthex. If you are not a knitter and would like to donate store-bought scarves, hats and mittens, we will gladly take them. If you are a teacher or if you know of someone that could use hats, mittens and scarves this winter, please take the item(s) off our Giving Tree and take the items to them or let them know about our Giving Tree at LOL.

## Christmas Poinsettias 2019

I wish to give \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for Poinsettias and other decorative Sanctuary enhancements.

Cost per poinsettia is \$10.00     \_\_\_ I will take my poinsettia(s) home.

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

*Place your completed form and payment in the offering plate by Sunday, December 15th.*

*Poinsettias may be picked up after the 9 pm candle light service on December 24th.*

*Due to overwhelming supply, we do not donate left-over poinsettias to area nursing or assisted living facilities.*

## STEPHEN MINISTERS LISTEN WELL

She was hurting. She had contemplated divorce three other times, but each time had given in to his needs. No one would believe her when she said he abused her physically and emotionally. Her needs kept getting brushed aside. She stuffed her feelings. Years passed, the relationship got worse, and she began to have health problems. Then she heard of Stephen Ministry. During the next year, she had someone who would believe her, who would listen without giving advice, without judging her, and someone whom she knew would keep absolute confidence. She was finally able to carry out the divorce and start a new life.

He had lost his job and was angry and hurt. With his Stephen Minister, he worked through the transition with less stress and more confidence.

She was new in town and had not wanted to move here but had to because of her husband's job. With her Stephen Minister, she was able to make the transition much easier as they talked through her feelings and explored ways to become part of the community.

These are just three of the many stories telling of the caring experiences of Stephen Ministry. Stephen Ministers are there for those who are dealing with low self-esteem, illness, hospitalization, family frustrations and challenges, moving, death of a loved one, financial setbacks, faith issues, terminal illness, loneliness, job loss, aging, separation or divorce, pregnancy or adoption issues, or losses of any kind.

A Stephen Minister is a caring, compassionate friend, a good listener, a firm believer in God's love and grace, and someone who keeps confidences. A Stephen Minister is ready to be that person who might be of help as a well-trained, confidential, active listener, and a compassionate care giver.

Stephen Ministers are not trained counselors and don't pretend to be. Their only purpose and commitment is to give people who are experiencing challenges, hurts, or crises a listening ear. A Stephen Minister will not give advice, will not judge, but will be a sounding board when a hurting person needs to talk.

Could you benefit from having a Stephen Minister listen to you? Or... are you a person who would like to receive training to be a Stephen Minister? We're ready to answer your questions!

Have a blessed Advent and Christmas Season!

Lord of Life's Stephen Ministry Leader Team:

Deb Bergstrom, Lolly Kalinoski, Pastor Erika Nilsen, and Pastor Steven J. Rye

### Supplies Needed for Tanzania Mission Trip

The Tanzania group is asking for your help in collecting painting, medical and children supplies to take with to Tanzania. Items needed:

**Paint supplies:** brushes, rollers, painter's tape, roller pans, etc.

**Medical supplies:** rolls of gauze, ace bandages, alcohol packets/swabs, cotton balls, band aids, shower curtains, sheets (any size)

**Children supplies:** beanie babies, small stuffed animals, match box cars, baby hats, receiving blankets, cloth diapers, quilts, newborn/small baby outfits/sleepers, reading glasses, children's vitamins (especially with iron; not gummy vitamins)

**Adult supplies:** reading glasses, prenatal vitamins (must not be expired or expiring in less than 6 months of June 2020).



### 3rd Grade Bible Class

Levi Aadland  
Charles Behr  
Annie Brown  
Irelyn Doud  
Kate Ehlert  
EJ Fordyce  
Kasey Hamlin  
Elle Kemp

Elsa McCool  
Grady Mogensen  
Cameron Oehrlein  
Claire Rangen  
Grace Rangen  
Andrew Rioux  
Taylor Schmeck  
Andi White

Whenever a pastor joins a congregation in which they once served, the ELCA requires that an agreement be drawn up to guide their participation within the church. What follows is the contract that Darrell Pedersen, President Cindy Swenson, and Pastor Steve have signed. It is shared here for your understanding. It is with great joy that we welcome Darrell and Jennifer back into the life of our community.

### Pastoral Agreement

Between Pastor Steve Rye, Lord of Life Lutheran/Baxter, and Pastor Darrell Pedersen.

We, the undersigned, agree to covenant together for the sake of our Synod and ELCA Constitution, our congregational Constitution and for the good of Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Baxter, Minnesota concerning Pastor Darrell Pedersen's return to membership at Lord of Life Lutheran, Baxter, Minnesota.

Pastor Darrell Pedersen, former pastor at Lord of Life, along with his spouse, Jennifer, are approved for membership at Lord of Life. For good order to be practiced, Pastor Pedersen met with Pastor Rye and Bishop Aitken on June 3, 2019 for clarification of the role of pastors in this church. It is hereby understood, that Pastor Pedersen will not accept invitations from any members of Lord of Life to do pastoral acts nor encourage such requests in any way. He will make clear in the advent of any such requests, that it is against the governing documents of this church for former pastors to discharge duties assigned only to the current pastor(s) of the congregation. This includes weddings, baptisms, funerals, pastoral care and the Rite of Confirmation as per our Constitution. It will be further understood that at the discretion of the Senior Pastor there may be rare occasions where Pastor Darrell may be invited by the Senior Pastor to participate in a pastoral act such as noted above.

#### References:

Manual of Policies and Procedures for Management of the Rosters of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, November 11, 2018 (p 37).

#### Congregational Membership

A retired pastor should not remain a member of the congregation served at the time of retirement. Transferring one's membership to another congregation allows the successor pastor to assume pastoral leadership more readily. It also provides an opportunity for the retired pastor to enter fully into the life of a different congregation with clarity about the pastor's retired role.

#### Pastoral Service

At the time of retirement, a minister of Word and Sacrament is no longer pastor of a congregation and therefore must discontinue the functions of the pastoral office in any congregation previously served unless specifically authorized to do so. Ministers of Word and Sacrament must respect the integrity of the ministry of congregations which they do not serve as well as the authority of the current pastors of such congregations.

#### Northeastern Minnesota Synod ¶S14.19

Ministers of Word and Sacrament must respect the integrity of the ministry of congregations which they do not serve and shall not exercise ministerial functions therein unless invited to do so by the pastor, or if there is no duly called pastor, then by the interim pastor in consultation with the Congregation council. The title of Pastor Emeritus has no official standing and carries with it no compensation or authorization for service or for other responsibilities.

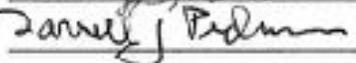
Signed by



Pastor Steve Rye



Council President



Pastor Darrell Pedersen

Date 7-25-2019



Thank you to all those who decorated a vehicle at our Trunk-or-Treat on October 30<sup>th</sup>. We had 12 vehicles handing out treats and goodies, a bonfire where people could warm up and roast s'mores, and a huge jungle bounce house. The winner of the "Best Dressed" car award was Rose Bankers with Modern Day Burning Bush. We estimate that around 250 kids attended the event. It was a fantastic event and we look forward to doing it again next year.

Are you looking for a way to get plugged in with Children's Ministry? Join our Children's Education Team which meets the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm. This is a wonderful group of people who brainstorm ideas, plan and execute events, and help grow our Children's Ministry Program at Lord of Life. Catch the next meeting on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. We would love to see new faces!



On Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at our 9 am and 10:30 am services, the children of our church along with the Senior Choir will be performing "Angels, Lambs, Ladybugs, and Fireflies". The children have been working very hard behind the scenes preparing songs and rehearsing lines. Children's Ministry is excited to share this wonderful Christ-centered musical with the congregation.



*Halloween Fun!!!*





### **Used Gnome' ore Holiday Sale a Success!**

Thank you to everyone who took part in our first ever holiday & bake sale. It took many people, from those who helped coordinate it, to everyone who brought in donated items and those that took part in the sale! Together we raised over \$2,000 for our high school summer mission trip to Jamaica! Below are a few photos from the event.

### **Middle School Youth Gathering:**

This past month 20 middle school students from Lord of Life gathered with hundreds of youth from around the NEMN Synod. Cragun's Resort was transformed the weekend of November 22-24<sup>th</sup> to host the annual NEMN Middle School Youth

Gathering, an action-packed event where our kids took time to focus on this year's theme "The Ten Commandments" Look for pictures to come in the January newsletter!

### **9<sup>th</sup> Grade NOOMA Retreat:**

This past month our 9<sup>th</sup> grade confirmation class and mentors participated in the annual NOOMA Retreat hosted at Lord of Life. This overnight retreat has a mixture of fun, team-building activities and faith life discussions that followed the Rob Bell NOOMA video series. For some of our mentors and students, this is one of their highlights of the confirmation year!

### **Lunch at Brainerd High School:**

This month I will be gathering with a few of my Lutheran ministry colleagues to have lunch at the high school, hoping to brighten your Monday and make a great start to the week. Stop by our table and say hi!  
December 2<sup>nd</sup> South Campus; December 9<sup>th</sup> North Campus.

### **Important December Calendar Information:**

- December 1<sup>st</sup> Middle School Youth Group 5 pm-7 pm
- December 20<sup>th</sup> Last Night of Wednesday Night Programming
- December 25<sup>th</sup> & January 1<sup>st</sup> No Wednesday Night Programming

As the year comes to a close, I want to thank you for your continued support of the youth programs here at Lord of Life! If you would like to learn more about the youth programs, please do not hesitate to ask!

Blessings,

Tim Slinger  
Youth Director



## Council Members

**President** - Cindy Swenson  
**Vice President** - Dan Tupy  
**Secretary** - Laura Campbell  
**Treasurer** - Chris Adamson  
**Council Representative** - Sarah Nesheim  
**Mission Upward** - Darcy Dwyer  
**Mission Inward** - Pat Huhta  
**Mission Outward** - Lori Rehnblom  
**Mission Ground** - Layne Danielson



### Lord of Life Church Council Regular Meeting Sunday, November 17, 2019, at 6:00 pm

#### Consent Agenda:

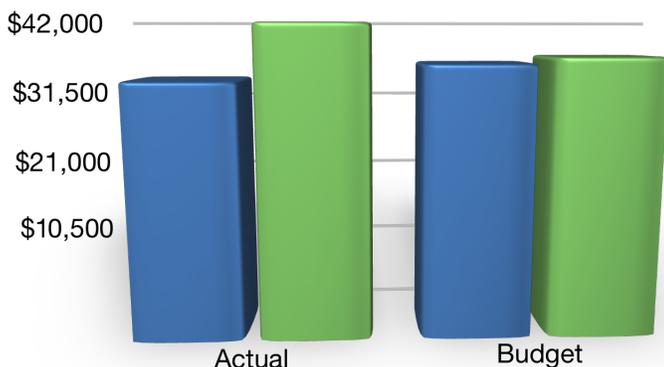
- TO APPROVE the October 27, 2019, Council Meeting Minutes, per the revision distributed on 11/17/2019 at 11:42 am (CC.2019.11.2)
- TO AUTHORIZE renewal of the Gold+ benefit package from PORTICO for 2020. (CC.2019.11.3) • (CC.2019.11.4)
- TO ACCEPT the 10th Grade Confirmation Class: 28 as new members on the ceremony date of October 27, 2019 as presented by Pastor Erika Nilsen. (CC.2019.11.5)
- Motioned by Pastor Steve Rye; seconded by Layne Danielson, all approved.

#### Other Approved Motions:

- Motion to receive for audit the October 2019 Treasurer's Report. Pastor Steve Rye motioned, Laura Campbell seconded, all approved. (CC.2019.11.6)
- Motion to authorize Pastor Steve and Colleen Bush to sign the Luther College Cathedral Tour contract. Motion by Layne Danielson, seconded by Pastor Erika Nilsen, all approved. (CC.2019.11.7)
- Motion to appoint Brittney Peterson and Kevin Olson to the Interior Design Team. Motion by Pastor Steve Rye, seconded by Chris Adamson, all approved. (CC.2019.11.8)
- Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer  
 Council Meeting Sunday, December 15, 2019 at 6:00 pm; Thursday, January 16, 2020 at 6:00 pm

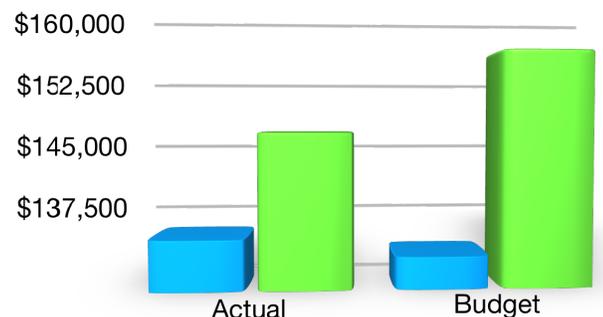
### October 2019 General Fund

■ October Income    ■ October Expense



### July 2019-October 2019 YTD - General Fund

■ YTD Income    ■ YTD Expense



# Lord of Life Lutheran Ministry Opportunities

## Connecting to Christ

**Circle, Leah** - Meet the 1st Thursday of the month at 7:30 pm off-site. For more information contact Jeanne King at [jeannerosepotvin@hotmail.com](mailto:jeannerosepotvin@hotmail.com).

**Circle, Martha** - Meets the second Tuesday of the month off site at 7:00 p.m. (August-June) For more information contact Sally Jacobsen at 218-829-1704, [sally@jacobsenlaw.com](mailto:sally@jacobsenlaw.com).

**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, 7:30 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](mailto:steve@lolbaxter.org)

**Pray & Ponder Women's Breakfast** - A gathering of women on one Saturday each month, 9:00 a.m.-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)

**Prayer Chain** - Faithfully lift up in prayer the needs and concerns of our church family and their loved ones. Contact Lolly Kalinoski at 829-8207.

## Connecting to our Community

**Caring for Creation Workgroup** - 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 Sally Jacobsen with any questions at 218-829-1704, for more information.

**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 (Sept.-May). 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 p.m. 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 9:00 a.m. 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).

**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, Adult Education, Evangelism, Finance, Property, Social Concerns, Stewardship, Worship, Youth - Pastor Erika 828-9374 [erika@lolbaxter.org](mailto:erika@lolbaxter.org)

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

**Wednesday Night Supper Prep & Serving** - Assist with cooking and serving of our Wednesday evening meal. Contact the church office at [colleen@lolbaxter.org](mailto:colleen@lolbaxter.org).

**Those Older Folders** - Our energetic group meets every Friday at 10:05 a.m. to fold bulletins for the Sunday services.

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.

### **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 January Newsletter  
are due December 16.

# 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.

## **December 1-7**

Michele & Adam Albright	Scott & Tessa Hall
Anadell Johnson	John & Jennifer Larson
Stan & Lolly Kalinoski	Dave & Rita Linder
Bryan & Mandy Selisker	Richard & Bette Speed
Bruce & Judy Tollefson	

## **December 8-14**

Allen & Jessica Balsley	Ken & Phyllis Campbell
Tom & Vonnie Ferkingstad	Jan Hardesty
Eric & Brooke Nybeck	Ben & Becky Robertson
Troy & Karen Skarolid	Jacob & Valerie Vandenberg
Nikki & Scott Wheeler	

## **December 15-21**

Mark & Becky Beckerleg	Megan & Dustin Christenson
Josh & Andrea Fordyce	Marcia Helman
Wayne & Aleatha Knopf	John & Conith Mackner
Christian & Chelsea Ornelas	Frank & Joy Ruzich

## **December 22-28**

John & Char Berns	Christine & James Cox
Adam & Becky Fulton	Alex & Riley Hirsch
Marilyn Kraemer	Mike & Kelly McConkey
Sandy Schaefer	Rachel Stoen

## **December 29-January 4**

Sarah & Paul Borchert	Geoff & Kelly Gorvin
Paul & Glenda Hoheisel	Denise & Joe Laber
Nate & Jessica Mogensen	Michael & Kasey Pierzinski
Todd Swedberg	Charles & Margie Young

## **Lord of Life Office & Program Staff**

<b>Ministry Operations Manager</b>	Anne Laechel <i>anne@lolbaxter.org</i>
<b>Sr. Pastor's Ministry Assistant</b>	Colleen Bush <i>colleen@lolbaxter.org</i>
<b>Youth Director</b>	Tim Slinger <i>tim@lolbaxter.org</i>
<b>Senior Choir Director</b>	Sarah Aamot <i>sarah-lundin@hotmail.com</i>
<b>Parish Nurse</b>	Deb Bergstrom <i>deb@lolbaxter.org</i>
<b>Custodians</b>	Karen & Paul Erickson <i>kde12112@gmail.com</i>
<b>Worship Director</b>	Jennifer Person <i>jennifer.person@lolbaxter.org</i>
<b>Children's Ministry Coordinator</b>	Susan Rioux <i>susan@lolbaxter.org</i>

## **CONTACT THE CHURCH... 828-9374**

- ❖ When you or a family member is hospitalized or will be hospitalized.
- ❖ When there is a birth or death in the family.
- ❖ When there is a crisis.
- ❖ When you change your address.
- ❖ When new neighbors move in near you and they are looking for a church home.
- ❖ When you have good news to share.
- ❖ When you have a suggestion to make or a comment to share.
- ❖ If you do not wish to receive our newsletter.
- ❖ If you have a college or post high-school young person no longer living at home.

Your pastors are available to walk with you in times of sadness and joy. Please contact the church office by phone at 828-9374, or email at [colleen@lolbaxter.org](mailto:colleen@lolbaxter.org).

### **The pastors can also be reached via email:**

Pastor Steve: [steve@lolbaxter.org](mailto:steve@lolbaxter.org)  
Pastor Erika: [erika@lolbaxter.org](mailto:erika@lolbaxter.org)



- 1 Blake Peterson
- 2 Hannah Larson, Dave Linder, Jared Senger, Trent Spreeman, Hannah Staehling
- 3 Emma Dewey, Leigha Janey, Tyler Schaitberger
- 4 John Berns, Benjamin Johnson, Lexi McElfresh, Maverick Pierzinski, Justin Youngquist, Mary Zeise
- 5 Macy Anderson, Marcie DeBoer, Charles Young
- 6 Howie Bahn
- 7 Helen Herbon, Zach Rude, Paul Springstead
- 8 Emmy Ehlert, Ella Helmrichs, Lauren Hardinger
- 9 Emery Dumpprope, Tim Hardinger, Connor Marichalar, Kristi Weideman
- 10 David Kelm, Tyler Stoen, Isaac Tupy
- 11 Ed Braland, Mary Ann Goering, Brittany Peterson, Kristofer Rye
- 12 Adam Crimmins, Steve Kohls, Gabe Maurer
- 13 Patti Baillif, Jessica Balsley, Katy Kelm, Karen Rubado, Logan Sazama
- 14 Pam Caughey, Rob Felix, Parker McAllister
- 15 Troy Bialka, Adelaide Fisher, Aubrey Mithun
- 16 Stacey Pederson
- 17 Vincent Johnson-Ding, Hannah Paysse
- 18 Joey Clark, Cole Kunesh, Mike Owen
- 19 Travis Banks, Tia Bruggeman, Nan Farrington, Lori Fink, EJ Gehrke, Jeff Johnson, Tammy Schultz
- 20 Kim Quincer, Laurel Sietsema
- 21 Stephanie Dorn, Mary Ann Majerle
- 22 Brandon Borgstrom, Jamie Daniels, Greta Isackson, Morgan Price
- 23 Vickie Borgstrom, Brenda Johnson, Dan Larson, Xander Norquist, Dave Stengrim
- 25 Riley Anderson, Ted Anderson, Amy Foley, Carol Rodseth, Mark Workman
- 26 Brett Johnson, Gracie Kiffmeyer, Reilly Peterson, Taylor Schmeck
- 27 Tiffinni Dewey, Ellen Frank, Helen Landecker, Krista Mithun, Faelynn Mulholland, Kevin Peterson, Sarah Speer
- 28 Lori Hoelzel, Donna Peppel
- 29 Henrietta Erickson, Taytum Hanson, Greg Parks
- 30 Gloria Gregersen, Shirley Hansen, Amanda Langan
- 31 Elle Kempf

- 1 Tom & Sandie Youngblom
- 2 Brian & Janice Gapinski❖
- 4 Kevin & Jan Hall❖
- 11 Richard & Deb Koop❖  
Eric & Brooke Nybeck
- 13 Chuck & Ruth Nelson❖
- 14 Cliff & Maxine Sanders†
- 17 James & Christine Cox
- 19 Dan & Andy Holmes❖
- 20 Terry & Karen Hermanson❖
- 21 Jim & Tammie Benson  
Rod & Val Rangen❖
- 22 Jon & Mary Belanger❖
- 23 Tom Koop & Kris Harsh
- 26 Dan & Jenny Owens  
Jason & Darcy Walkowiak
- 27 Arlo & Gary Hill†  
Kevin & Joyce Olson❖
- 28 Charlie & Amy Campbell  
Steve & Ellen Frank❖
- 29 Kurt & Kate Porter
- 30 Chris & Amy Foley❖
- 31 Kirstin & Ben Nelson

❖=Celebrating 24-49 years!

†=Celebrating 50 years or more!



Lord of Life,

Thank you so much for allowing us to have our Matter of Balance Class at your church! We appreciate it so much!

Signed by 14 Matter of Balance Class Members



6190 Fairview Rd  
Baxter, MN 56425-8285



*Christmas Eve  
Candlelight Services  
3 pm, 5 pm and 9 pm*

There will be no worship service on Wednesday, December 25 or January 1.

We will have one worship service on Sunday, December 29 at 9 am.

*Behind the Scenes*

December 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>9a</b> Worship <b>9:30a</b> Pancake Breakfast <b>10:30a</b> Worship <b>11a</b> Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen Ministry <b>5:30p</b> Hanging of the Greens <b>5:30p</b> Middle School Youth Group <b>6:15p</b> District Band Rehearsal	<b>9a</b> SAIL Program <b>1p</b> Monday Book Group <b>6p</b> Grief Support Group	<b>7a</b> Baxter Area Kiwanis <b>9a</b> Staff Meeting <b>9a</b> Tuesday Morning Bible Study <b>6p</b> Legacy Chorale <b>6:30p</b> Team Meeting Night	<b>9a</b> SAIL Program <b>10:15a</b> Women's Bible Study <b>5:15p</b> Wednesday Supper <b>6p</b> Worship <b>7p</b> 7th-9th Grade Confirmation - Parent Night <b>7p</b> Choir Rehearsal <b>7p</b> Prayer Chain Inservice <b>8p</b> Teen's Upstream	<b>9a</b> LOL Quilters <b>10a</b> Men's Fellowship <b>12p</b> Parkinson's Support Group <b>7:30p</b> Leah Circle	<b>7:30a</b> Men's Breakfast <b>9a</b> SAIL Program <b>10a</b> Those Older Folders <b>7p</b> Friday Family & Friends Al-Anon	<b>9a</b> Pray & Ponder <b>7p</b> Lots of Love Open AA
<b>9a</b> Worship <b>10:15a</b> Prayer Chain Inservice <b>10:30a</b> Worship <b>6:15p</b> District Band Rehearsal	<b>9a</b> SAIL Program <b>1p</b> Monday Book Group <b>4:30p</b> Legacy Chorale Auditions <b>6p</b> Grief Support Group <b>6:30p</b> Pinetree Patchworkers	<b>7a</b> Baxter Area Kiwanis <b>9a</b> Staff Meeting <b>1p</b> Sarah Circle <b>7p</b> Martha Circle	<b>9a</b> SAIL Program <b>5:15p</b> Wednesday Supper <b>6p</b> Worship <b>7p</b> 7th-9th Grade Confirmation <b>7p</b> Choir Rehearsal <b>8p</b> Teen's Upstream	<b>9a</b> LOL Quilters <b>10a</b> Men's Fellowship <b>7p</b> Membership 101 Class	<b>7:30a</b> Men's Breakfast <b>9a</b> SAIL Program <b>10a</b> Those Older Folders <b>7p</b> Friday Family & Friends Al-Anon	<b>7p</b> Lots of Love Open AA
<b>9a</b> Kid's Christmas Program <b>9a</b> Worship <b>10:30a</b> Kid's Christmas Program <b>10:30a</b> Worship <b>6p</b> Church Council	<b>9a</b> SAIL Program <b>1p</b> Monday Book Group <b>6p</b> Grief Support Group - Blue Christmas Service	<b>7a</b> Baxter Area Kiwanis <b>9a</b> Staff Meeting <b>9a</b> Tuesday Morning Bible Study	<b>9a</b> SAIL Program <b>11:30a</b> L.O.L.L.Y. <b>5:15p</b> Wednesday Supper <b>6p</b> Worship <b>7p</b> 7th-9th Grade Confirmation <b>7p</b> Choir Rehearsal <b>8p</b> Teen's Upstream	<b>9a</b> LOL Quilters <b>10a</b> Men's Fellowship	<b>7:30a</b> Men's Breakfast <b>9a</b> SAIL Program <b>10a</b> Those Older Folders <b>7p</b> Friday Family & Friends Al-Anon	<b>7p</b> Lots of Love Open AA
<b>9a</b> Worship <b>10:30a</b> Worship	<b>9a</b> SAIL Program <b>4p</b> Membership 101 Class	<b>7a</b> Baxter Area Kiwanis <b>9a</b> Staff Meeting <b>3p</b> Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship <b>5p</b> Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship <b>9p</b> Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship	Church Office Closed - Christmas	<b>9a</b> LOL Quilters <b>10a</b> Men's Fellowship	<b>7:30a</b> Men's Breakfast <b>9a</b> SAIL Program <b>10a</b> Those Older Folders <b>7p</b> Friday Family & Friends Al-Anon	<b>7p</b> Lots of Love Open AA
<b>9a</b> Worship	<b>9a</b> SAIL Program	<b>7a</b> Baxter Area Kiwanis <b>9a</b> Staff Meeting	New Year's Day - Church Office Closed	<b>9a</b> LOL Quilters <b>10a</b> Men's Fellowship <b>1p</b> Parkinson's Support Group <b>7:30p</b> Leah Circle	<b>7:30a</b> Men's Breakfast <b>10a</b> Those Older Folders	<b>9a</b> Pray & Ponder <b>7p</b> Lots of Love Open AA