

GOOD NEWS

March
2020

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
www.lolbaxter.org

Prior to coming to Lord of Life, I was a campus pastor at Purdue University. One of the most rewarding aspects of that job was writing letters of reference for college students who were seeking jobs or internships. Over the course of twelve years I would have written hundreds of them. This past week I had the joy of reminiscing as I wrote a letter of recommendation for Sarah Nesheim who has served on the Lord of Life council for these past three years.

I'm gratified that when our congregation changed its constitution, an allowance was made for a youth representative to be on council. We have been blessed by Sarah's presence and it is my hope that Sarah will take what she has learned at Lord of Life and bless the congregations she will be a part of in the future. An additional benefit is that I get to be back in the recommendation writing business again!

Another council change that I'm gratified we made was the move away from the old style which called for ten committee chairs to four "missional" council members. Three council members (In, Out, and Up) correspond to three facets of our mission statement: to deepen and enrich our connection to Christ (Up), our community (Out), and each other (In). A fourth missional council member is focused on the institutional and organizational matters necessary to support the other three (Ground).

In the past, it was easy for the committees to get narrowly focused on their own work and not consider their place in the overall mission of the church. It was also possible for a great portion of the congregation to be forgotten because they didn't fit within the structure of the ten standing committees. By tasking council members with oversight of, and responsibility for the work of the congregation that relates to a portion of the mission statement, our council conversations have been healthier overall, more robust, and greater consideration has been given to the needs of the whole since we made the change.

The organization of the council around our mission helps ensure that our congregation remains focused on its mission, which is the mark of all thriving congregations. It can be easy for parts of a congregation to inadvertently work at cross-purposes to the overall mission of the congregation. Already I've seen great fruits, which are gratifying. I look forward to our living into the future more faithfully in our time ahead.

Blessings,

Pastor Steve

March 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9a Worship 9:30a Pancake Breakfast 10a Coffee with Council 10:15a LIFE Group Study 10:30a Worship 11a Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen Ministry 4p Sunday Book Group	1 9a SAIL Program 1p Book Discussion	2 7a Baxter Area Kiwanis 7a Presidential Primary Elections 9a Staff Meeting 9a Tuesday Morning Bible Study 6p Legacy Chorale 6:30p Team Meeting Night	3 9a SAIL Program 12p Lenten Worship & Luncheon 5:15p Potluck Supper 6p 7th-9th Grade Confirmation 6p Worship 7p Choir Rehearsal 7p Club 56 7p Pastor Steve's Bible Study 8p Teen's Upstream	4 9a LOL Quilters 10a Men's Fellowship 1p Parkinson's Support Group 6p Baxter Sandpipers 4-H 6p ISD #181 Boy's Swim Team Banquet 7:30p Leah Circle	5 7:30a Men's Breakfast 9a SAIL Program 10a Those Older Folders 7p Friday Family & Friends AI-Anon	6 9a Pray & Ponder 7p Lots of Love Open AA
9a Worship 10:15a LIFE Group Study 10:30a Worship	8 9a SAIL Program 1p Book Discussion 6:30p Pinetree Patchworkers	9 7a Baxter Area Kiwanis 9a Staff Meeting 1p Sarah Circle 4:30p Stephen Ministry Continuing Education 6p Legacy Chorale 7p Martha Circle	10 9a SAIL Program 12p Lenten Worship & Luncheon 5:15p Wednesday Supper 6p 7th-9th Grade Confirmation 6p Worship 7p Choir Rehearsal 7p Club 56 7p Pastor Steve's Bible Study 8p Teen's Upstream	11 9a LOL Quilters 10a Men's Fellowship 6:30p Provider's Choice Training	12 7:30a Men's Breakfast 9a SAIL Program 10a Those Older Folders 7p Friday Family & Friends AI-Anon	13 7p Lots of Love Open AA
9a Worship 10:15a LIFE Group Study 10:30a Worship 4p Sunday Book Group 7p Lutheran Citywide Youth Group	15 9a SAIL Program 1p Book Discussion 5p 55+ Driver Improvement Class	16 7a Baxter Area Kiwanis 9a Staff Meeting 9a Tuesday Morning Bible Study 5p 55+ Driver Improvement Class 6p Legacy Chorale	17 9a SAIL Program 11:30a L.O.L.L.Y. 12p Lenten Worship & Luncheon 5:15p Wednesday Supper 6p 7th-9th Grade Confirmation 6p Worship 7p Choir Rehearsal 7p Club 56 7p Pastor Steve's Bible Study 8p Teen's Upstream	18 9a LOL Quilters 9:30a Heartland Conference Pastor's Gathering 10a Men's Fellowship	19 7:30a Men's Breakfast 9a SAIL Program 10a Those Older Folders 7p Friday Family & Friends AI-Anon	20 7p Lots of Love Open AA
9a Worship 10:15a LIFE Group Study 10:30a Worship 5p Hotdish & Hoopla	22 9a SAIL Program 1p Book Discussion 5p BHS Wrestling Banquet	23 7a Baxter Area Kiwanis 9a Staff Meeting 4:30p Stephen Ministry Continuing Education 5p Provider's Choice 6p Legacy Chorale	24 9a SAIL Program 12p Lenten Worship & Luncheon 5:15p Wednesday Supper 6p 7th-9th Grade Confirmation 6p Worship 7p Choir Rehearsal 7p Club 56 7p Pastor Steve's Bible Study 8p Teen's Upstream	25 9a LOL Quilters 10a Men's Fellowship	26 7:30a Men's Breakfast 9a SAIL Program 10a Those Older Folders 7p Friday Family & Friends AI-Anon	27 7p Lots of Love Open AA
9a Worship 10a BLAST Event 10:15a LIFE Group Study 10:30a Worship 5p Middle School Youth Group	29 9a SAIL Program 1p Book Discussion	30 7a Baxter Area Kiwanis 9a Staff Meeting 6p Legacy Chorale	31 9a SAIL Program 12p Lenten Worship & Luncheon 5:15p Wednesday Supper 6p 7th-9th Grade Confirmation 6p Worship 7p Choir Rehearsal 7p Pastor Steve's Bible Study 8p Teen's Upstream	1 9a LOL Quilters 10a Men's Fellowship 1p Parkinson's Support Group 6p Baxter Sandpipers 4-H 7:30p Leah Circle	2 7:30a Men's Breakfast 9a SAIL Program 10a Those Older Folders 7p Friday Family & Friends AI-Anon	3 9a Pray & Ponder 7p Lots of Love Open AA

Sunday's Lessons

March 1 - First Sunday in Lent

Psalm 19:7-10; Mark 10:17-31

March 8 - Second Sunday in Lent

Psalm Psalm 34:11-14; Mark 10:32-52

March 15 - Third Sunday in Lent

Psalm 26:8-13; Mark 12:1-12

March 22 - Fourth Sunday in Lent

Psalm 89:1-4; Mark 12:28-44

March 29 - Fifth Sunday in Lent

Psalm 102:12-17; Mark 13:1-8, 24-37

Join us Wednesday Evenings!

Join us each Wednesday night starting at 5:15 pm for supper from March 4 to April 1. Join us at 6 pm for worship and Holden Evening Prayer. We will be exploring the themes of trauma and healing through a series entitled *Stripes Toward Healing*. The series will be based on the book by Dr. Bessell van der Kolk, a Dutch psychiatrist, author and educator.



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

Pray & Ponder

Women's Breakfast and Bible Study

Pray & Ponder will meet on Saturday, March 7, from 9 am to 11 am at LOL. Join us for great food, conversation, inspiration and prayer. If you have any questions contact Wendy Adamson at wendyadamson@ymail.com.



Wednesday Suppers

Join us on Wednesdays at 5:15 for supper. We will have a potluck on March 4 and regular suppers March 11, 18 and 25.

WHY



JESUS?

Wednesdays at 12:00 pm during Lent

Join us during Lent where we will have a short worship service at 12:00 pm followed by a simple soup and bread meal. At each noon service, one member of the congregation will share their answer to the question, "Why Jesus?" They have been asked to reflect on two guiding questions as they consider their testimony: why are you a Christian, and in what way has Jesus made a difference in your life?

Please come and be blessed by the faith stories of others and the communion of participating in a meal around the table together.

Why Jesus? - Faith stories from LOL members

March 4 - Shirley Hansen

March 11 - Tom Koop

March 18 - Howard Bahn

March 25 - Lolly Kalinoski

April 1 - C. B. Bylander

Spring LIFE GROUPS

Gather with us and ponder deeply the meaning of **mercy** and how we experience it from God and how we share it with ourselves and others.

Anne Lamott's book *HALLELUJAH ANYWAY: Rediscovering Mercy* will be an excellent companion throughout the season of Lent. Our Lenten theme this year is **Stripes Towards Healing** – *But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed. Isaiah 53:5*

As we consider the woundedness we all bear in this world and the woundedness of Jesus, we discover through mercy the gift of healing and hope.

Are you Interested in walking through this book with others? Join us on Sundays at 10:15 am - facilitated by Lolly Kalinoski.



Henrik Charles Braid
 Baptism: February 8, 2020
 Parents: Erin & Zachary Braid



Liv Charlize Blakemore
 Baptism: February 2, 2020
 Parents: Shawn Blakemore & Amanda Ford



Lilliana Mae Shelby
 Baptism: February 23, 2020
 Parents: Brent & Amanda Shelby



Chili Cook-Off

Our chili cook-off took place on Wednesday, February 12. We had six chili recipes this year and Wendy Adamson took home the Golden Ladle!

Join us for a pancake breakfast, Sunday, March 1, from 9:45 am to 10:30 am. Free-will donations will go towards our 2020 Summer Mission trips.



Prayer Shawl Gathering

We will be meeting on Tuesday, March 17, at 2:00 pm at Lord of Life for a Prayer Shawl Gathering and Blessing. Please join us as we continue this faithful ministry at Lord of Life. Prayer Shawls may be knitted or crocheted and there are patterns available, or any pattern you'd like to use. There is no pressure to complete or deadlines to meet! Questions? Please contact Jeannine zumBrunnen (829-2177) or Brenda Johnson (831-9725).

Driver Improvement Classes

St. Cloud University offers Driver Improvement classes for Minnesota licensed drivers 55 and older. Participants can earn a 10% discount on their auto insurance premium by taking the initial 8 hr course. The next 8 hour class (in two parts) will be offered at Lord of Life on Monday, March 16, and Tuesday, March 17, from 5 pm to 9 pm. For more information and to register for the class, call St. Cloud University Driver Improvement Program toll-free 1-888-234-1294 or visit their website at www.mnsafetycenter.org.

Pizza Ranch Night

Come have supper with us on Monday, March 30th from 5 pm to 8 pm at the Pizza Ranch. All the tips and 10% of the sales for the evening go towards the Tanzania Mission Trip in June.

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).

Time to Clean Out Your Closets

Lord of Life is having its annual Rummage and Bake Sale on **May 8th & 9th** and we would love for you to donate items to our sale. Please put aside gently used items for the sale. No televisions, computers, or adult clothing. Kids and junior clothing are welcome. Donations will be accepted the week of May 4th.

THE STORY OF STEPHEN MINISTRY

Stephen Ministry – Where did it all begin? It dates back to 1974 when Kenneth C. Haugk, a pastor and clinical psychologist, was pastor of St. Stephen's Lutheran Church in St. Louis, Missouri. Fresh out of seminary, his strengths and heart were in caregiving ministry, and he was looking forward to making a positive impact on his congregation and community by providing pastoral care to all those experiencing divorce, grief, hospitalization, discouragement, and other life difficulties.

Very quickly, though, he found that the needs for care by far exceeded that which he alone could provide. He faced one of a pastor's greatest frustrations: seeing people slipping through the cracks because their urgent needs were going unmet. In November of 1974, he discussed the situation with two seminary friends over a cup of coffee. The conversation turned to Ephesians 4 and "equipping the saints for the work of ministry." Haugk realized that God didn't intend for pastors to monopolize ministry. Rather, God gave all His people gifts for ministry and one of his roles as pastor was to equip others to use their gifts in ministry.

Haugk returned to St. Stephen's with a plan. In the coming months, he recruited nine lay people who had the gifts and heart to do caring ministry. He then used his combined backgrounds in theology and psychology to develop a training program in Christian caregiving. By March of 1975 the nine were commissioned as "Stephen Ministers." Their first care receivers included a widower, a blind person, a truck driver forced to retire early, and an inactive member struggling with faith issues.

The impact was immediate. People began receiving the focused Christian care they needed. Fewer people were slipping through the cracks, and Haugk found he had more time to perform his other pastoral duties. The Stephen Ministers were surprised by the spiritual growth they encountered as they saw God working through them to bring love and healing to others.

The story could have ended there, had not two of the Stephen Ministers cornered Haugk on a hot May morning after worship services. "This is good stuff," they said to him. "We're not going to let you go until you promise to bring this ministry to other churches!" Still wearing his vestments and perspiring from the heat, Haugk gave in and agreed to find a way to bring Stephen Ministry to other churches.

In November of 1975, Haugk and his wife Joan founded the not-for-profit Stephen Ministries Organization and began to bring Stephen Ministry to other congregations. It spread like wildfire. Today, Lord of Life is one of more than 13,000 congregations from more than 180 Christian denominations that now have Stephen Ministry. More than 600,000 people have been trained as Stephen Ministers. More than 1.5 million people across the United States, Canada, and 30 other countries have been touched by God's love through a Stephen Minister. And that is the mark of God's doing, because finally the story of Stephen Ministry is a million stories and more of caring ministry.

For more information and to see several videos about Stephen Ministry, take a look at www.stephenministries.org or speak with any of Lord of Life's Stephen Ministry Leaders:

Deb Bergstrom – (701)678-4053 deb.bergstrom@lolbaxter.org

Lolly Kalinoski – (218)829-8207 lollykadlec@hotmail.com

Pastor Erika Nilsen - (218)828-9374 erika.nilsen@lolbaxter.org

Pastor Steve Rye – (218)828-9374 steve.rye@lolbaxter.org



Mission Interpreter Update

The topic for March is ELCA Advocacy. Much of what the advocacy office has worked on in the past is about immigration, laws relating to poverty, peace and justice and defending God's creation. However, with the bitterness we see among political parties, how can they create laws that both sides will support? This requires a lot of prayer from everyone in our country. As stated on the ELCA website, "ELCA advocacy works for change in public policy based on the experience of Lutheran ministries, programs and projects around the world and in communities across the United States. We work through political channels on behalf of the following biblical values: peacemaking, hospitality to strangers, care for creation, and concern for people living in poverty and struggling with hunger and disease." The ELCA Advocacy website <http://www.elca.org/advocacy> has links to sign up for their blog, advocacy resources, and advocacy alerts. ELCA Advocacy offices help address local and national issues such as housing and homelessness, hurricane and disaster recovery, a farm bill, creation care, hunger, women's issues, and much more. Minnesota has an advocacy office in the Twin Cities, supported by our synod, to address more of our state needs <http://www.lutheranadvocacymn.org>.

God's peace,

Wendy Adamson
LOL Mission Interpreter

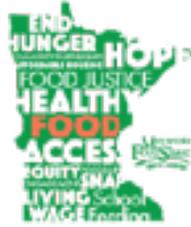
Dear Lord of Life Church,

On behalf of the Board of Education and Brainerd Public Schools, I would like to thank you for the \$310 for the Fuel Up Forestview and Pantry at Forestview Middle School.

Your generosity, unending support and investment in student learning is sincerely appreciated. Together we provide opportunity, innovation and success for all learners. thank you.

With Kind Regards,

Laine D. Larson
Superintendent-ISD 181



Pack the Pews Sunday, March 15 & Wednesday, March 18

Fill a bag for the Local Food Shelf!

Respond to food insecurity in our community by filling a grocery bag with much needed food and household items.

Needed items:

- Proteins - canned meat, fish, and beans, nuts and nut butters
- Fresh/dried herbs & spices
- White, wild, & brown rice varieties
- Gluten-free flours & flour blends
- Personal care items - Shampoo/soap, deodorant, toothpaste, feminine hygiene, diapers, toilet paper
- Household supplies - laundry & dish detergent, kitchen & bathroom cleaners, paper towels

Now The Green Blade Rises 2020 EcoFaith Summit Raising a Grassroots Movement among the People of God

Saturday, March 28, 2020
Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Brainerd
9:00 a.m. Registration and Coffee
9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Summit

How do we proclaim the Resurrection for a wounded creation? What is motivating young activists to address climate change? What green blades for earth's healing are rising in our midst?

What will happen at the Summit? Worship, young activists share what motivates them, breakout sessions for worship and grassroots action in your congregation and community, how to have conversations about important yet sensitive environmental issues. Networking for: musicians, students, creation care teams, church gardeners, youth leaders, preachers, public advocates and more.

Registration cost is \$20 per person, \$10 for ages 25 and younger. Registration at:
nemnsynodecofaithsummit2020.eventbrite.com



Hotdish & Hoopla



Join us at Lord of Life
Sunday, March 22
Starting with supper at 5 pm
and Talent Show to follow

We are looking for people of all ages to participate in this event. If you have a talent for singing, dancing, playing an instrument, telling jokes or juggling—sign up in the Narthex.

Free-will donations will go towards our youth mission trips this summer.

Summer Youth Trip Fundraisers

As spring rolls around fundraising for our upcoming youth summer trips will ramp up! Groups have been busy already both here and out in the community. This month we be offering these additional fundraisers: Hotdish & Hoopla and Butter Braids.

Butter Braid Sale Ends March 15th

These delicious pastries are great to have for Easter gatherings with family and friends. You will have them by Easter! We will have a table set in the Narthex throughout the sale.



Mark your calendars! Sunday, March 29, is our next BLAST Event. We will be focusing on preparing our hearts for Holy Week with crafts and activities.

We are always looking for new faces to join our Children's Education Team. Please join us at our next meeting on Tuesday, March 3, at 6:30 pm. We will be discussing what Easter will look like for Children's Ministry and looking ahead to summer programming. We love new ideas!



Daylight Saving Time is March 8. Be sure to set your clocks ahead Saturday night March 7th as daylight saving time ends at 2 am.



March Youth Ministry Update!

Here we go! We are getting close to spring and with that our program focus will begin to take a different turn and look. In the coming months, you will be hearing more about the great summer programs we will be offering here at Lord of Life. But until then, here is what is happening this month!

Lenten Season - Time Change for Confirmation

Time change: 6 pm-7:30 pm

Confirmation students will be journeying through Lent together! They will attend our Lenten worship services and following the service work to process what they hear. Our students will also spend time focused on studying the passion story. 7th & 8th graders

will gather in their small groups while 9th graders will gather with their mentor. Thank you to all the adults who will help to journey with our confirmation students during this time!

Club 56 Update!

Our last 4-week class is about to start for our 5th & 6th graders during Lent. Thank you to everyone who has participated so far. Don't forget all 5th & 6th graders are welcome to join us. Here is some information about our final class!

Time: 7-8pm on Wednesday Nights

Dates: March 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th

5th Graders First Communion Class - Register at <http://bit.ly/39UXYK0>

6th Graders Baptism & Pre-Confirmation Focus - Register at <http://bit.ly/38ORdt2>

*** All 5th graders please sign up online for the First Communion Class. You can do so by visiting our website. ***

3rd Annual Snow Fun Day With LCC

Middle school youth from Lord of Life and Lutheran Church of the Cross gathered together for a day of fun in the midst of winter last month! This year looked a little different than in the past. Half the day was spent outside enjoying everything the winter season has to offer, with the snow conditions just right for sledding, great memories were made! The 2nd half of the day we enjoyed traveling to a small-town bowling alley in Pine River, MN. There is nothing better than enjoying some pizza and bowling with your best friends! Thank you to all who participated. It was a President's Day to remember!

Thank you for the continued support of the youth ministry programs!

Tim Slinger,
Youth Director



Snow Fun Day With LCC



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



Alternate Ways to Give to Lord of Life

Give Online

Make a One-Time or Recurring Gift Online via Pushpay at <https://pushpay.com/pay/lolbaxter/recurring> or from the Give page in Church Community Builder at https://lolbaxter.ccbchurch.com/give_detail.php. You can contribute via electronic check or credit/debit card.

Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) from IRA

Individuals age 70 ½ or older can distribute otherwise taxable IRA amounts up to \$100,000 per year directly to Lord of Life. Contact your financial advisor or tax advisor for more details.

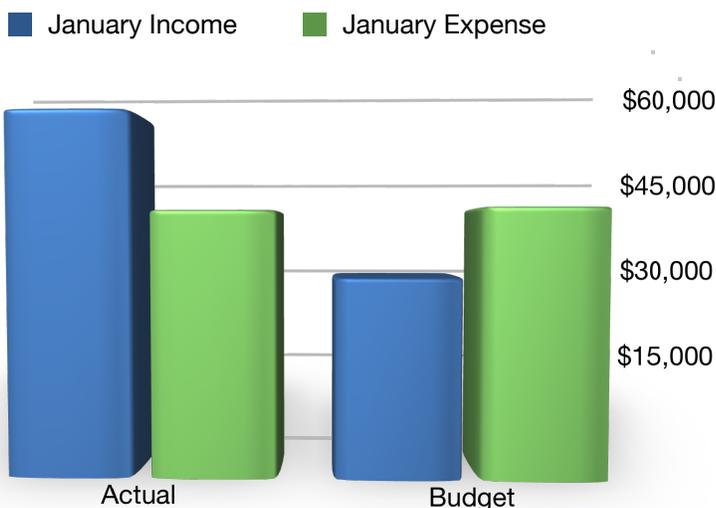
Donor-Advised Fund

Current Lord of Life members and attenders can donate via Fidelity Charitable and Schwab Charitable and/or BNY Mellon Charitable Gift Fund. You will need to initiate a grant request to Lord of Life Lutheran Church (Federal Tax ID 41-1677843). Please keep in mind that your tax receipt will be issued by the Fund, not Lord of Life. Lord of Life will include any Donor Advised Fund gifts on your contribution statement, under the 'non tax deductible' section. Please advise the Donor Advised Fund with the instruction for which fund the gift is intended.

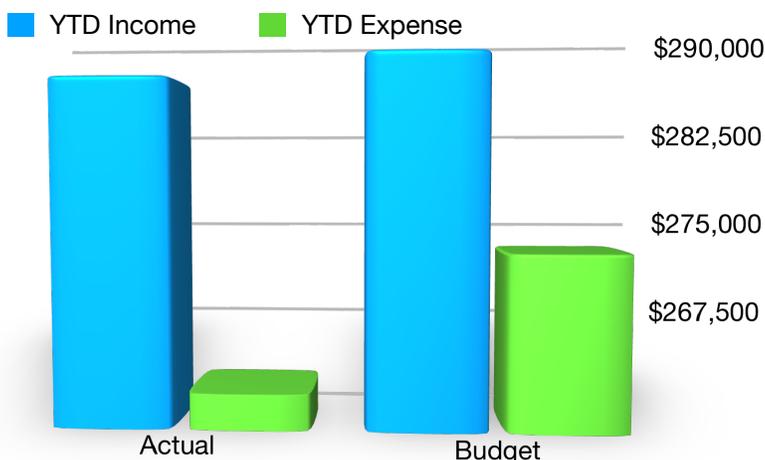
Amazon Smile

Lord of Life Lutheran is registered as an eligible charity and you may designate Lord of Life to receive the .5% donation by clicking on AmazonSmile above or <https://smile.amazon.com/>. In order for Lord of Life to receive credit you must use smile.amazon.com rather than www.amazon.com to make purchases.

January 2020 General Fund



July 2019-January 2020 YTD - General Fund



Lord of Life Lutheran Ministry Opportunities

Connecting to Christ

Circle, Leah - Meets the 1st Thursday of the month at 7:30 pm off-site. For more information contact Jeanne King at 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.

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

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

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

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

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 or Brenda Johnson 831-9725-brensid@brainerd.net. Check our website at 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.

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

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

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.

Wednesday Night Supper Prep & Serving - Assist with cooking and serving of our Wednesday evening meal. Contact the church office at 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.

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

March 1-7

Jon & Heidi Anderson	Kevin & Andrea Carlson
Troy & Lori Fink	David Johnson
Alanna & Alison LeBlanc	Eric & Karla Nesheim
Lori Rehnblom	Rick & Ann Smallman

March 8-14

Travis & Tracy Banks	Jack & Irene Christofferson
Bonnie Henningson	Corry & Teresa Lund
Chuck & Steve Olson	Dennis & Gloria Rosenquist
Denise Stromme & Phil Hunsicker	

March 15-21

John & Mary Belanger	Tyson Genz & Alex Nelson
Steve & Lisa Kohls	Gail Massie
Kelcie Parrish	Pastor Steve & Suzanne Rye
Gary & Sharon Syvertson	Bunny & Bill Window

March 22-28

Mike & Judy Bialka	Stephanie & Dustin Dorn
Pete & Gloria Gregersen	Andy & Dan Holmes
Marcie & Jeffrey Krall	Casey & Christa Miller
Amanda Peterson	David & Vicki Schliek
Jill Trtanj	

March 29-April 4

Lance Borgstrom	Matt & Angela Feigum
Amanda & Adam Langan	Bob & Gina Nelsen
Kurt & Kate Porter	Jenna Shirrell
John & Wendy VanMoer	

Lord of Life Office & Program Staff

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

A HUGE thank you to everyone at Lord of Life Church for all their generous donations to Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota! We received more than 50 blessing bags full of food and personal care items to support youth and families experiencing homelessness. Your gifts inspire hope and support transformational change in people's lives. We are grateful for your support!

Thank you,
Lutheran Social Services

Dear Lord of Life,

Please accept our apologies for the delay in sending this note, along with our deepest thanks and gratitude for your generous support in sponsoring the Run for Hope 5K & 10K this past September. Your sponsorship is helping us reach and assist families in the Brainerd Lakes Area.

With Gratitude,
The Bridges of Hope Team

Lord of Life,
Thank you so very much for the donated bags filled with essential goodies. Our students and families truly appreciate these items. Please know your kind gesture does not go unnoticed. We are blessed to have wonderful support!

Thank you,
The Riverside Elementary Family



MARCH

Birthdays

- 1 Mason Kruse
- 2 Kobe Ahonen, Tim Cook, Addy Helmricks, Evan Nelson, Bev Owen
- 3 Evan Heittola, Marilyn Kraemer
- 4 Gary Dirlam, Amber Heittola, Nicole Lasher-Filas
- 5 William Frank, Rob Freelove, Claire Nybeck, Paul Rud, Trevor Wangsness
- 6 Erin Van Hon, Levi Sazama
- 7 Blair Benson, Joe Bisek, Jan Walters
- 8 Shelby Fitch, Lucy Houde, Jan Sheets, Colton Stout, JP Whalen, John Zemke
- 9 Trevor Christenson, Lindsey Jensen, John Larson
- 10 Becky Beckerleg, Sarah Borchert, Boone Fromm, Doug Schultz, Karla Skwira, Jerry Westphal
- 11 Ken Campbell, Jase Erikson, Deb Koop, AJ Felix, Glorya Narveson, Mark Parrish, Olivia Stirewalt, Ryan Weihemuller
- 12 Sayali Blowers, Kelly Jo Mogensen, Rachel Stoen, Mandy Wangsness, Jean Weizenegger
- 13 Keith Binggeli, Lizz Coonfield, Emilee Freed, Emily Isackson, Sid Johnson, August Johnson-Ding, Kate Smith, Tina Smude
- 14 Thomas Getty, Ensley Gordon, Avery Rauen, Shelley Hansch
- 15 Tanner Heinlen
- 16 Jody Blowers, Sharon Freelove, Conith Mackner
- 17 Jacob Blong, Teresa Lund, Rachel Monasmith, Curtis Nelson, Craig West
- 18 Linda Bylander, R. J. Campbell, Anabelle Holcomb-Smith, Jake Meyer, Eli McConkey
- 19 Wade Haapajoki, Kathi Lind, Seth Sazama, Erica Swenson
- 20 Bob Nelsen, Isla Porter, William Porter, Luther Skwira
- 21 Connie Fordyce, Gary Krall, Margie Young
- 22 Paula Mangan
- 23 Darren Larson
- 24 Sydney Foss, David Johnson, Megan Marlatt, Saydie Olson
- 25 Darlene Blake, Diane Flesher, Jackie Sliver, Cally Robertson, Christopher Rud
- 26 Russell Heittola, Diane Hoglin, Jordan Peterson, Brandon Thompson
- 27 Atlie Danielson, Joshua Hukriede, Brenda Jentsch, Tammy Stellmach
- 28 Dean Clink, Hanson Devine, Kim Larson, Kelsey Pape, Kaden Schilling
- 29 Joseph Anderson, Christine Cox, Tray Lofstrom, Erik Speer, Avery Vagts
- 30 Raegan Coonfield, Rory Peterson, Tony Smith
- 31 Leesha Bisek, Jim Jackson



MARCH

Anniversaries

- 3/2 Dave & Rita Linder
- 3/4 Gary & Diane Hoglin❖
- 3/5 Dave & Kari Stengrim
- 3/8 Dan & Lisa Tupy
- 3/9 Brian & Maria Orlowski❖
- 3/11 Gary & Iris Weihemuller❖
- 3/12 Dick & Carol Rodseth
- 3/20 Dan & Beth Selinger❖
- 3/24 Amber & Mark Taylor
- 3/28 Gary & Betty Krall†
- 3/30 Chris & Wendy Adamson❖

❖=Celebrating 24-49 years!

†=Celebrating 50 years or more!

Dear Members of Lord of Life,

Thank you for your continued partnership. Your gift of \$154 makes a huge difference in our ministry.

Camp these days is busy with weekend retreats, summer camp registration, summer staff recruiting and planning for 2020. Please keep our staff in your prayers as we continue the amazing work of building Christ-centered relationships, promoting camp at churches and in our community and recruiting summer staff.

In addition, we are reaching out to individuals and churches to help with the Rise Up Campaign to remove our debts from the cabin, dining hall, chapel and green space projects. This campaign will work to set Luther Crest on a strong foundation for the future. We have raised over \$430,000 so far and are on our way to reach our final goal of \$1.1 million.

Your continued support makes a difference! Thank you for your generosity.

Check out www.luthercrest.org for the latest news from camp. Feel free to stop by for a visit any time. We look forward to connecting with you in the very near future!

2020 is Luther Crest's 75th Anniversary year. Get ready to celebrate all the great memories and stories of 75 years of ministry.

Have a blessed Year!

Dave Holtz
Executive Director



Flipping Pancakes

Youth going on the 2020 Jamaica Mission Trip in June helped with the Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen on Sunday, February 2.