

# GOOD NEWS

May  
2020

Lord of Life  
Lutheran  
Church  
(ELCA)

## Ministers

The Lord of Life  
Family of Faith

## Pastors

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"We live in unprecedented times." That sentence has been thrown around a lot these days. It has me thinking about the word, "unprecedented." Google defines the word this way: "never done or known before." By that definition, I'm not sure if we can call these times unprecedented or not. Certainly WE have never known times like these before. Many, many, generations have had to live out their lives in the middle of a scary pandemic. These times FEEL unprecedented to us because we have been lucky (or I prefer blessed) so far to live in a time that has been free from a global pandemic. Until now.

Our denomination takes its name from Martin Luther, a Bible teacher in the 1500s who was also seen as an authority on all manner of things. It just so happens that in Europe they had to deal with what became known as the Black Death. The disease was very scary. It resulted in fever, rapid pulse, delirium, loss of consciousness, boils as large as an egg, and could lead to rapid or even the instant death of someone who appeared healthy. At its height, its mortality was somewhere between 30% and 90% of those who were infected and overall it killed about one-fourth of Europe's population. Which makes me think that these days we're living in may not be as unprecedented as we may think.

What are unprecedented are the capabilities we are able to draw upon to deal with our current pandemic. Thanks to science, we have a much clearer understanding of the mechanisms of the disease itself. We have modern-day tools such as ventilators to assist the sick in breathing that would have been inconceivable in Luther's day. We have tools like Zoom and modern tele-communications that allow us to communicate as a human culture. In those senses, and probably many more, we can rightly say that these times are unprecedented.

During the height of the plague, Martin Luther was asked about the proper Christian reaction to what was happening. He responded by writing a piece entitled, "Whether one may flee from a deadly plague." In it, Luther had much to say about the response of those who were leaders. People in positions of authority in society--positions dedicated to the public welfare--needed to continue to act so their function in society would continue. Clergy ought to continue to minister. Hospitals should continue to be staffed. Orphanages should continue to have people care for the children. In his counsel, I found resonance with our current approach of supporting the ongoing work of essential workers.

Luther also discusses the difference of opinion that existed in his day about how to address the plague. Some felt as if you should just go about your business. That the plague was God's work in the world and who are we to run from it? Of them Luther writes: "They are much too rash and reckless, tempting God and disregarding everything which might counteract death and the plague. They disdain the use of medicines; they do not avoid places and persons infected by the plague, but lightheartedly make sport of it and wish to prove how independent they are." Luther says, "This is not trusting God but tempting him. God has created medicines and provided us with intelligence to guard and take good care of the body so that we can live in good health."

In giving these words, Luther has given us a wise precedent. One that we ought to follow. Which makes me think our times aren't nearly as unprecedented as we may think.

Blessings,

Pastor Steve

## Sunday's Lessons

### May 3 - 4th Sunday in Easter

Acts 17:1-9; 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10; Mark 13:9-11

### May 10 - 5th Sunday in Easter

Acts 18:1-4; 1 Corinthians 1:10-18; Mark 9:34-35

### May 17 - 6th Sunday in Easter

1 Corinthians 13:1-13; Mark 12:28-31

### May 24 - 7th Sunday of Easter

1 Corinthians 15:1-26, 51-57; Mark 12:26-27a

### May 31 - Pentecost

Acts 2:1-4; 1 Corinthians 12:1-13; Mark 1:4-8

**Worshiping On Wednesdays and Sundays** - Worship services are not only held on Facebook (click [here](#)), but also on YouTube ([LordofLifeBaxter](#)), and can be accessed by visiting [lolbaxter.org](#).

**Daily Devotions and Prayer** - Join us each weekday for prayerLIFE@12:45 on Facebook. Videos will also be uploaded to our YouTube Channel, [LordofLifeBaxter](#).

### **Prayers for our friends, members & family in the Military:**

Eric Nelson  
James Nelson  
Aaron Sopelle  
Ben Correll  
Jacob Haefner  
Josh Haefner

If you'd like someone added to this list, please contact the church office at 218-828-9374 or [office@lolbaxter.org](mailto:office@lolbaxter.org).

**Wednesday Worship/Devotion Time** - Join us at 6 pm on Wednesday nights for a time of sharing and hearing God's word. Check out page 9 and 10 in our Newsletter for inserts that we will use on Wednesday nights.

**Stephen Ministry Information Meeting** - Would you like to learn more about Stephen Ministry? We will be having an informational Zoom meeting coming up soon. If you are interested in learning more about this ministry, please email [colleen@lolbaxter.org](mailto:colleen@lolbaxter.org).

**Sound Booth Training** - If you are interested in being trained in the sound booth to help with streaming our worship services, please email [colleen@lolbaxter.org](mailto:colleen@lolbaxter.org).

**If you would like to borrow a ELW hymn book** - to use at home, please email [colleen@lolbaxter.org](mailto:colleen@lolbaxter.org). This would also come in handy when we host a hymn sing in the future.



Dear friends,

How I wish that we could enjoy all that spring has to offer, but I guess we still can, in a different way! I have some ideas and hints to help us get through this pandemic time. You know the importance of washing your hands and there are many songs that we can wash them to for the best effect. One thing about washing our hands so often is that they can become chapped, red, and cracked. It is important to use a good moisturizing lotion, as cracked skin is a good vessel for germs to enter our bodies. Of course, getting outside and walking is excellent exercise, knowing that any type of exercise helps for depression, boosts immunity, and gives us satisfaction. Even if you are not having symptoms, take a few deep breaths a few times a day, this not only keeps our lungs working better, but is also good for stress. Please try to connect as you can in this time, read that book, watch that movie, call an old friend and know that God has our backs!

Blessings

Deb Bergstrom,  
Parish Nurse



## An Easter Story of Hope, Pooky's Triumph

*Like a struggling butterfly, my grief will emerge into something beautiful and new.*

My mother, Marguerite Bretscher, died suddenly on July 4, 1998, at an airport as she and my father were returning home from vacation. Just 16 hours earlier she'd called to tell me of my niece's birth—her 22<sup>nd</sup> grandchild. When our conversation ended, I didn't know that I had told my mother good-bye for the last time. The months following her death were filled with disbelief, emptiness and utter despair. Despite my upbringing in a Lutheran parsonage, I found that I desperately needed repeated reassurances of God's love and promises. As the Easter following my mother's death approached, I yearned for a visible metaphor of resurrection.

During Lent, our Sunday school youth raise mail-order caterpillars that are timed to enter into the chrysalis stage and emerge as butterflies for an Easter morning release. Maybe I should join them? Our family had released butterflies at my mother's burial service. So I brought home three caterpillars and named two of them Dot and Mildred in memory of my great-aunts. The third one I called by my mother's nickname, "Pooky."

On Holy Saturday morning, my children discovered Mildred, now a butterfly, hanging beside her chrysalis. Later that day we watched in awe as a newly created Dot appeared. By Easter morning we could see Pooky's orange and black wings within a transparent membrane breaking through her chrysalis. We hoped she would emerge soon so we could release her with Dot and Mildred in the Sunday school butterfly ceremony. But on the long ride to church, traumatized perhaps by the moving car, Pooky violently trembled and struggled to break free. During Sunday school she became very still, and the chrysalis that entombed her blackened. She remained motionless as we drove home after church, quite in contrast to the way she had writhed on the trip earlier that morning. It weighed on me that the reassurance I so desperately sought was not forthcoming.

That afternoon, as we drove our two children back to college, I couldn't stop thinking about the dark, motionless chrysalis. "It's only a caterpillar. It doesn't matter that its name is Pooky," I told myself. "There will always be other caterpillars that you can name Pooky. Just pretend Dot or Mildred was Pooky. What difference does it make? It doesn't change anything." Still, despair overwhelmed me on the ride home. "I killed this butterfly," I thought. "Why did I take it to church and upset it with the car ride? Whatever made me think it was a good idea to name it Pooky anyway?" And then, "Why did God have to do this to me this Easter? Doesn't God understand what I'm going through right now? Couldn't God take care of one stupid little butterfly?"

I decided that in the morning I would take the chrysalis into the woods and leave it. Perhaps the butterfly was still alive and would emerge? I would never know, but I could always cling to that hope. That evening I was reluctant to look in the butterfly cage, but some movement caught my eye.

There sat a butterfly, triumphantly fanning her wings. Instantly I was struck by more than just the butterfly. Pooky was perched over her empty chrysalis, which was split open and withering. Under the chrysalis were red blood-like stains of waste material from the hatching. Yet above these signs of death and struggle—a living butterfly!

That image remains a powerful metaphor, reassuring and resurrecting in its own right: the suffering, the pain, the hopelessness, the empty tomb, the exhilarating joy, the new and glorious life. I began to see my grief as the traumatized struggling butterfly in the hands of a loving, merciful Father. I learned to trust that through God's grace something beautiful and new would emerge even in the face of my weakness, tears, pain and hopelessness. I, too, would live again, now and forever.

The Lord is risen! He is risen indeed! (And so has Pooky.)



### **May Youth Ministry Update:**

In just over a month we have found ourselves continuing to feel the impacts of COVID-19 in our day-to-day lives. COVID-19 has forced many changes, when it comes to programming both currently in our week-to-week connections along with some difficult summer programming decisions. Usually our May newsletter is filled with an overview of our summer programs and what it will look like. This year our May newsletter will look a little different. I wish I had concrete answers for all of you, as to what our summer will look like together, but I do not. I will share with you what I know at this time:

### **Confirmation Wrap Up:**

I want to thank students and parents who were a part of our confirmation program this year. April 29<sup>th</sup> was our last confirmation class for the school year which was conducted online. This year there were a few changes to the program and especially with the last month being online. I want to thank students and parents for being a major part of our confirmation program this year! I look forward to gathering back together with all of you in the Fall!

### **Teen's Upstream Zoom Meetings:**

Teen's Upstream is meeting regularly at 8 pm on Wednesday nights and will continue to do so through the remainder of the school year. We are meeting through Zoom. If you are in 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade and would like to join us for youth group, please email me at [tim@lolbaxter.org](mailto:tim@lolbaxter.org) for more information.

### **Senior Slide Show: Pictures Needed:**

Class of 2020-we are working on putting together a slideshow which will be shared during our May 17<sup>th</sup> worship service online. Please note that senior recognition at Lord of Life is postponed until a later date. We still want to honor you this spring through our senior slide show. There is a form, which you should have received through email. Please fill the form. We are also requesting you send in four pictures to be shared. If you did not receive an email from us, please let us know right away. <https://lolbaxter.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/108/responses/new>

### **Summer Registrations on Hold at This Time:**

At this time, we are not sending out registration forms for our summer youth programs until we get a clearer picture of what these might look like this summer. This includes the following: Summer Stretch & serveCAMP. As we gather more information about COVID-19 in the coming weeks we will be making decisions on the potential impact it may have on how we conduct our summer programs. Please stay connected with us through email, our website, and social media outlets, for more information as it becomes available.

### **Cancellation of 2020 Youth Summer Mission Trip to Jamaica:**

In April through a series of conversations with Director Jeff Peterson of Mission Jamaica and trip participants, we have made the difficult decision to cancel our 2020 summer mission trip. Thank you to everyone who has supported our summer mission trip this year. The money that has been raised will be used for future youth mission trips.

Please stay connected with us in the coming month as more information will become available with regards to what our summer programming will look like this year. Know that during this time when we are unable to get together, my thoughts and prayers are with you! I look forward to the day when we can begin to gather back together again.

Blessings,

Tim Slinger  
Youth Director



Lord of Life Staff is lifting all our families and children up in prayer during this time. We miss the liveliness in our church and Sunshine Room!

Looking for ways to stay connected during this pandemic? Visit and like Lord of Life Lutheran Children on Facebook. Here you will find a variety of resources for families and children, exciting videos and songs, different activities, and encouragement found through God's Word.

In May, Lord of Life likes to recognize and thank those who have been a part of Kids' Time in any capacity over the past ministry year. While we cannot do this in person, these people deserve to be formally thanked in our newsletter. Please see below for the list of volunteers who have served in Kids' Time during the past ministry year. I apologize in advance if a name has been missed, your generosity does not go unnoticed.

Kids' Time volunteers, you are deeply appreciated for the ways you invest in the children of our church. Thank you for selflessly giving time to teach our children the many truths and promises of God.

- |                 |                  |                     |                   |
|-----------------|------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Jessica Balsley | Laura Campbell   | Deb Cervantez       | Zoe Cervantez     |
| Tiffinni Dewey  | Amy Foley        | Kate Foley          | Emilee Freed      |
| Madi Genz       | Emily Isackson   | Kaarin Hanske       | Jeanne King       |
| Rita Linder     | Michelle Malchow | Mel Nefstead        | Jennifer Pedersen |
| Kate Porter     | Val Rangen       | Karla Skwira        | Tami Teague       |
| Jamie Wallace   | Becky White      | Jeannine ZumBrunnen |                   |

**PUZZLE**

**TransformationPOWER**

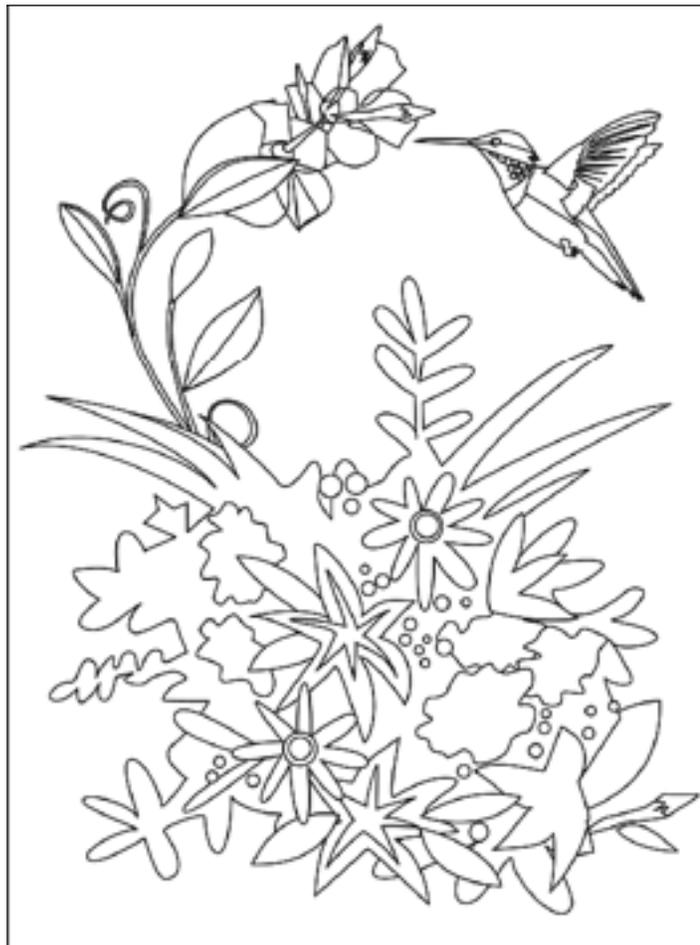
Just as the caterpillar becomes a butterfly, God transforms us from old to new.

Directions: Cross out the backward letters. Write the remaining letters in order in the space below to complete 2 Corinthians 5:17, NIV

BANGYONPE, COHRSISCT, HJEWK,  
 C'REABTIWQZN, JCSZME, DOL'Q,  
 GOQNEB, SNEZW, HBERGE

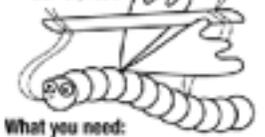
Therefore, if \_\_\_\_\_ is in \_\_\_\_\_,  
 the \_\_\_\_\_ has \_\_\_\_\_:  
 The \_\_\_\_\_ has \_\_\_\_\_,  
 the \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_!

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17, NIV



## CHANGED!

Make this cute puppet to show and tell the amazing story of metamorphosis.



### What you need:

- Needle and string
- 12 small pom-poms
- Wooden craft stick
- Scissors
- Googly eyes
- Glue
- Coffee filter
- Markers

### What you do:

1. Sew pom-poms together to make a caterpillar body. Tie off that string.
2. Thread another string up through the first pom-pom, leaving 12 inches to dangle. Repeat with the ninth pom-pom, leaving two dangling strings.
3. Wrap those strings around opposite ends of the stick, adjusting their length to about 6 inches. Tie in place.
4. Glue on eyes.
5. Flatten the coffee filter and draw a symmetrical design on it. Pleat in the center to create wings.
6. Move the caterpillar puppet by holding the stick. Glue on the wings as you describe the transformation into a butterfly.



Inspirational sidewalk chalk art done by Emma Campbell.

*“As you do to the least of these, you do to me.” – Jesus*

Over the past couple of weeks, millions of Americans have received a stimulus check from the Federal government, to help offset the financial strain placed upon American families by the Covid-19 global pandemic. This money comes to some, as the very thing that will help them get through until they can get back to work. For some it comes as help, but merely a drop in the bucket and will sustain them. For some it comes to household and bank accounts that have hardly been impacted by the pandemic and that’s okay. Before the pandemic we all found ourselves in very different places of economic stability – during and after the pandemic – it is no different. We find ourselves in different places of economic stability.

And so for those who find themselves in a place of financial strength or simply in a place of financial stability, I offer an encouragement to you-could your stimulus check or a portion of it be better used in someone else’s bank account or by another entity? Are you being given an opportunity to help amidst a situation in which you may be feeling utterly helpless? How often have we heard the phrase, “We’re living in an unprecedented time.” Could it be that you have the chance to give an unprecedented gift to someone who has been dramatically impacted by the pandemic either through personal health concerns, loss of employment or hours, or greater demands on family that are resulting in family stress and struggle?

There are a number of local agencies that are doing remarkable work to help keep kids and families fed, housed and stable during this crisis. There are organizations providing extended childcare for essential workers and sanctuary for women and children who are isolated in violent situations.

If the Spirit nudges you to share your stimulus check or an additional gift of money, I encourage you to consider these local agencies:

- **Bridges of Hope** – coordinating and resourcing efforts to ensure the needs of families are being met.
- **Operation Sandwich and Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen** – providing a weekly bag of groceries to over 150 families
- **Salvation Army** – providing food, energy assistance and other resources to those in need.
- **Lutheran Social Services** – providing resources and housing to teen and young adults.
- **Outreach Program of Brainerd Lakes** [Formerly Kids Against Hunger] – packing thousands of meals a week for hungry families
- **YMCA** – offering childcare and meals to the families of essential workers.

These are just a few of the organizations and businesses that are diligently and faithfully meeting the call to serve and doing what they can to offer help and hope. Any gift to any of these organizations is a gift of hope to a family or an individual in need.

Will you prayerfully consider cashing your stimulus check and allowing God’s spirit to transform it into an offering – an offering of hope – an offering of love?

If you’d like to talk with one of your pastors or seek more information about the good work that is happening in our community right now – please send us an email at [erika@lolbaxter.org](mailto:erika@lolbaxter.org) or [steve@lolbaxter.org](mailto:steve@lolbaxter.org). We’d love to talk with you about how to give!!

A Letter to the class of 2020!

Well, it truly is a year like no other – or an end of the year like no other. With such disappointment and sadness, the school year comes to a close without any of the usual hype and joy of reaching that graduation goal. From the staff at Lord of Life we extend our most heartfelt regret to you and your families and a prayer that in the midst of all that “isn’t” you are making peace with what “is.”

Seniors, you are a remarkable group of young men and women filled with gifts, talents, intellect, spirit, energy, and courage. You are living and growing at a time that is defining our country and our world, a time that will be written about in history books and reflected on for years to come. In the midst of change we cannot know exactly what it is doing to us, how it is shaping us, and what it will ultimately mean for us. And so we courageously take one day at a time, moving forward one step at a time, not necessarily knowing where it will all lead, but trusting God who holds our future.

**On Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup> – we’ll celebrate you in worship** – even though we’ll be worshipping in our homes, separated by time and space. When we can, we’ll celebrate you in community and wrap you in quilts made lovingly by our quilters – signs of God’s strong love around you and the embrace of your family of faith that will tearfully wish you well on your next adventure, whatever that will be, and joyfully welcome you home when you return.

God’s peace be with you!

Your Faith Family

## MAINTAINING BAPTISMAL PROMISES

Lord of Life – each and every time a child or adult is baptized, we make a promise. We promise to support them and pray for them in their new life in Christ.

I’m asking you to continue in that promise you have made and to pray for the high school seniors who are finishing up their high school career under such odd and disappointing circumstances. More than ever they need the prayers and faith of their church to sustain them and shape them.

**Please keep our Lord of Life 2020 High School Seniors in your prayers.**

Ian Aadland  
Ava Borchert  
Caleb Daniels  
Gabby Jensen  
Josie Kramer  
Sarah Nesheim  
Morgan Price  
Kaleb Sundquist  
Max Wheeler

Grace Balsley  
Quinn Budnick  
Atlie Danielson  
Christian Kadolph  
Mike Laber  
Caleb Patrick  
Lizzy Ryder  
Seth Vagts  
Megan Winter

Sam Bennett  
Wyatt Bunting  
Jacob Drietz  
Tennyson Kelm  
Peyton McConkey  
Hannah Paysse  
Jared Senger  
Teddy Wadsten  
Carter Workman

Megan Bisek  
Clare Ceynowa  
Kennan Hodge  
Karli Knopf  
Brendan Miller  
Broc Peterson  
Benjamin Staehling  
Cam Walkowiak  
Justin Youngquist





May 3, 2020

Acts 17:1-9; 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10



Church at Thessalonica

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



**Pray:** Light a candle. Open your devotion with prayer.

Loving Lord, your followers were faithful even in the face of strong opposition. Give us their courage and conviction to be worthy proclaimers of the Gospel of grace, in Jesus' name, amen.



**Read:** Read the key verse from Sunday's reading.

*But the Jews became jealous, and with the help of some ruffians in the marketplaces they formed a mob and set the city in an uproar. (Acts 17:5a)*



**Reflect:** Reflect on the scripture summary.

Paul and Silas were busy building a healthy church community. But others were not as excited to hear their truth.

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**Connect:** Connect in conversation with others in your household.

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

Faith communities have had conflict since the beginning. What conflict seems to be a hot topic in your community? How is it being resolved?

What has fear caused you to do? Have you let it paralyze you? Cause you to make poor choices? How can you lead with love instead of fear?

For the littles: What are you afraid of? God is with you when you are afraid.



**Bless:** Close your devotion with a blessing.

May you be lead by the love of God instead of fear of the unknown. Amen.



**Do:** By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

Conflict and fear can be fought with good communication. Look for a local workshop to participate in that deals with communication in difficult situations. Bring your learnings back to your community.



**Go Deeper:** Go to [clergystuff.com/daily-devotions](http://clergystuff.com/daily-devotions) for devotions on the daily readings.

Monday, 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10, Thanks to Thessalonica

Tuesday, Acts 6:1-7, Seven Chosen to Serve

Wednesday, Acts 6:8-15, The Arrest of Stephen

Thursday, Acts 7:1-53, Stephen's Speech to the Council

Friday, Acts 7:54-8:1a, The Stoning of Stephen

Saturday, Acts 8:1b-3, Saul Persecutes the Church

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May 10, 2020

Acts 18:1-4; 1 Corinthians 1:10-18



Church at Corinth

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



**Pray:** Light a candle. Open your devotion with prayer.

O Lord, you have made it clear that you desire your Church to be united. Break down the walls which separate us and build us back up again as one body in Jesus Christ, through whom we pray, amen.



**Read:** Read the key verse from Sunday's reading.

*Every sabbath he would argue in the synagogue and would try to convince Jews and Greeks. (Acts 18:4)*



**Reflect:** Reflect on the scripture summary.

The church in Corinth that Paul founded struggled because of divisions within their churches. But Christ still had and has a message of hope for all willing to hear it.

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**Connect:** Connect in conversation with others in your household.

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

What walls—metaphorically or literally—influence your community? Do these walls protect or cause harm?

Are all truly welcome in your community? What invisible walls might exist to cause division between you and your community?

For the littles: What is your favorite sound to hear? God loves to hear you pray.



**Bless:** Close your devotion with a blessing.

May the God of love break down the walls to unite you with the world. Amen.



**Do:** By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

Find someone that you haven't connect with much in your community and get to know them. Break down the walls of anonymity and unite your community even more deeply.



**Go Deeper:** Go to [clergystuff.com/daily-devotions](http://clergystuff.com/daily-devotions) for devotions on the daily readings.

Monday, 1 Cor. 1:10-18, Factions in the Corinthian Church

Tuesday, Acts 8:4-25, Philip Preaches in Samaria

Wednesday, Acts 8:26-40, Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch

Thursday, Acts 9:1-19a, The Conversion of Saul

Friday, Acts 9:19b-22, Saul Preaches in Damascus

Saturday, Acts 9:23-31, Saul in Jerusalem

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May 17, 2020  
1 Corinthians 13:1-13



Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.

 **Pray:** Light a candle. Open your devotion with prayer.

O God, you have shown that all we truly need is to love. Expand our hearts to embrace your world and show ourselves as children of a compassionate God, for the sake of your Son Jesus, amen.

 **Read:** Read the key verses from Sunday's reading.

*Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.* (1 Corinthians 13:4-7)

 **Reflect:** Reflect on the scripture summary.

In Corinth, Paul saw a world brimming with trade, an exchange of ideas, power, politics, art and culture. But the only thing that will endure forever is love.

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 **Connect:** Connect in conversation with others in your household.

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?  
What is the most loving thing you have seen another person do? Was it for a stranger? Where does love come from?  
What is the most loving thing someone has done for you? What loving thing have you done for someone else?  
For the littles: Who loves you? A lot of people—and God loves you, too!

 **Bless:** Close your devotion with a blessing.

May you be blessed with patient, kind, true, believing, hopeful and enduring love. Amen.

 **Do:** By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

Practice the real love elements—patience in traffic, kindness when people at work struggle, hoping in someone's future—find ways to show love that is God-like!

 **Go Deeper:** Go to [clergystuff.com/daily-devotions](http://clergystuff.com/daily-devotions) for devotions on the daily readings.

Monday, 1 Corinthians 2:1-5, Proclaiming Christ Crucified  
Tuesday, 1 Corinthians 2:6-16, The True Wisdom of God  
Wednesday, 1 Corinthians 3:1-23, On Divisions in the Church  
Thursday, 1 Corinthians 12:1-11, Spiritual Gifts  
Friday, 1 Corinthians 12:12-31, One Body with Many Members  
Saturday, 1 Corinthians 14:1-25, Spiritual Gifts

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May 24, 2020  
1 Corinthians 15:1-26, 51-57



Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.

 **Pray:** Light a candle. Open your devotion with prayer.

O Christ, you have indeed, been raised from the dead. Therefore, let us live as though death no longer holds us hostage, putting our hope in the one who goes before us, both in death and in eternal life, our Savior, Christ, amen.

 **Read:** Read the key verses from Sunday's reading.

*When this perishable body puts on imperishability, and this mortal body puts on immortality, then the saying that is written will be fulfilled: "Death has been swallowed up in victory." "Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?"* (1 Corinthians 15:54-55)

 **Reflect:** Reflect on the scripture summary.

Paul expressed Jesus' promised that death would not have the final say. Sin and death would be defeated by love.

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 **Connect:** Connect in conversation with others in your household.

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?  
What death had the most impact on your community? What was unique about it? How did the community support each other?

What is your first memory of death? How did those around you help you process? Are you comforted by the promise of eternal life?

For the littles: How do you say goodbye?

 **Bless:** Close your devotion with a blessing.

May you find hope and peace that death has been swallowed up in victory. Amen.

 **Do:** By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

Celebrate new life by volunteering in someone's spring garden. Find a neighbor who struggles with yard work and offer to plant flowers or trim grass.

 **Go Deeper:** Go to [clergystuff.com/daily-devotions](http://clergystuff.com/daily-devotions) for devotions on the daily readings.

Monday, 2 Corinthians 4:1-15, Treasure in Clay Jars  
Tuesday, 2 Corinthians 4:16-5:10, Living by Faith  
Wednesday, 2 Cor. 5:11-6:13, Ministry of Reconciliation  
Thursday, 2 Cor. 8:1-15, Encouragement to Be Generous  
Friday, 2 Cor. 9:1-15, Collection for Christians at Jerusalem  
Saturday, 2 Corinthians 10:1-18, Paul Defends His Ministry

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**Present (11):** Pastor Erika R. Nilsen, Laura Campbell, Cindy Swenson, Dan Tupy, Pastor Steven J. Rye, Chris Adamson, Sarah Nesheim, Pat Huhta, Darcy Dwyer, Lori Rehnblom, Layne Danielson

Guests Present (1): Anne Laechel

### Lord of Life Church Council Regular Meeting Thursday, April 16, 2020 at 6:00 pm

Motion to amend the 4/16/2020 Agenda to add the Jamaica Mission Trip refund to New Business and to amend in the Consent Agenda the date of the March meeting to March 16, 2020. Motion by Dan Tupy; seconded by Pat Huhta, all approved. (CC.2020.02.01)

Motion to Adopt the Agenda as amended. Layne Danielson motioned; Dan Tupy seconded, all approved. (CC.2020.04.02)

#### Consent Agenda, as amended:

- TO APPROVE the March 16, 2020 Council Meeting Minutes (CC.2020.04.03)
- Motioned by Dan Tupy; seconded by Darcy Dwyer, all approved.

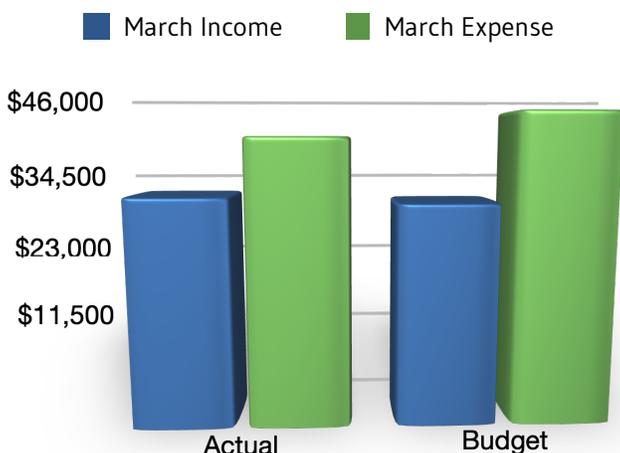
#### New Business:

- Motion to receive for audit the March 2020 Financial Report. Motion by Darcy Dwyer, Seconded by Dan Tupy, all approved. (CC.2020.04.04)
- Motion to approve regarding the CARES Paycheck Protection Program as a grant since it is our intention to maintain our staff according to the terms of the loan. Motion by Pat Huhta, Seconded by Chris Adamson, all approved. (CC.2020.04.05)
- Motion to approve moving from Account 4100 - Extraordinary Income to Account 9005 – Barrett Property the \$2000 from Timberlane Forestry from logging the Barrett Property. Motion by Layne Danielson; Seconded by Pat Huhta, all approved. (CC.2020.04.06)
- Motion to open discussion regarding the Property Team soffit and fascia repair proposal. Motion by Dan Tupy, Seconded by Layne Danielson (CC.2020.04.07)
- Motion to postpone to the May Council meeting the soffit and fascia repair and replacement proposal. Motion by Dan Tupy, Seconded by Pat Huhta, all approved. (CC.2020.04.08)
- Motion to approve, upon receipt of the refund from Mission Jamaica, refunding the youth who paid \$400 toward Jamaica Mission Trip the full \$400; to transfer \$1700 from the Youth Ministry account to the Youth Mission Trip account. Motion by Pr Steve, Seconded Darcy Dwyer, all approved. (CC.2020.04.09)
- Meeting Adjourned with the Lord's Prayer
- Thursday, May 21, 2020 at 6:00 pm – Council Meeting

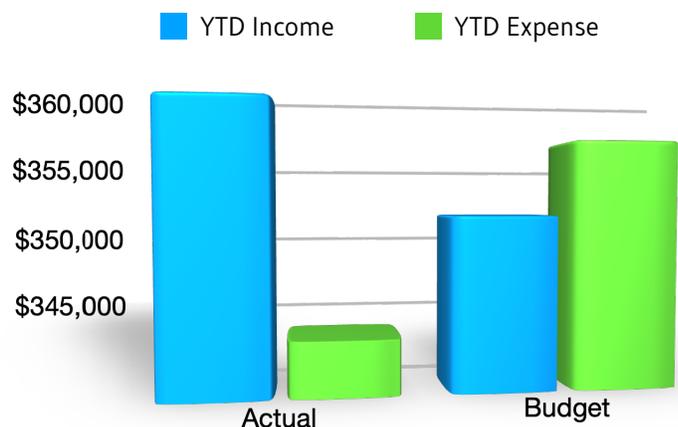
#### Follow up Actions:

- Request Colleen send request for Teams to submit Financial Reports by Friday May 15, 2020; Directional Council Members to follow-up with their teams about the request.

### March 2020 General Fund



### July 2019-March 2020 YTD - General Fund



## May Birthdays

- 1 Rony Tollefson
- 2 James Einarson, Jace Engelmann, Nate Engelmann, Noah Ruzynski, Alli Quincer
- 3 Becky Bennett, Cindy Brichacek, Hakon Haapajoki, Shannon Paysse, Stephanie Peterson
- 4 Wendy Adamson, Micky Busch, Camille Harmer, Reyna Knipple, Niki Wheeler
- 5 Etta Danielson, Paul Freelove, Owen Nelson, Jenny Thompson, Brienna Wyatt
- 6 Jackson Callian
- 7 Bella Bennett, Mackenzie Davidge, Patty Sura, Dan Shire
- 8 Kale Koop
- 9 Josh Fordyce, Gus Hanske, Isla Jones, Macey Whitlock
- 10 Katie Morris, Irelyn Doud, Cole Hames, Hawk Hawkinson, Sandy Olson, McKenna Westphal
- 11 Janice Gapinski, Jake Hodge, Ella Hoglin
- 12 Laura Campbell, Korbin Christenson, Beckett Flaten, Lisa Metzler, Landen Stoen, Eli Sundquist
- 13 Josh Anderson, Jolene Fromm, Adam Jensen, Alexa Jensen, Joseph Laber, Brenna Ryan, Patrick Ryan, Wes Powers
- 14 Chris Adamson, Toni Hukriede, Larry Lundblad
- 15 Jim Agre, Len Flesher, Melissa Grover, Megan Hensel, Grace Kulzer, Marie Kulzer, Patrick Mangan, Jenna Meyer, Matt Patrick, Mark Robideaux
- 16 Jackson Hames, Grace Larson, Gavin Vagts
- 17 Krista Anderson, Alex Bauer, Heidi Hahn, Parker Sundquist
- 18 Tonya Caughey, Summer Nichols, Will Schultz, Jon Stolski
- 19 Micah Halbersma, Amelia Sjostrom, Nick Wheeler
- 20 Dawn Buckwalter, Jason Feigum, Katie Getty, Dorthea Lindquist, Loretta Lindquist, Gus Lund, Jared Winter
- 21 Grace Balsley, Stephanie Ithivongkham
- 22 Brooke Nybeck
- 23 Mike Blowers, Michael Foley, Kylee Mogensen, Aleatha Knopf, Maggie Schilling, Greg Swenson, Bradley Wadsten
- 24 Taylor Budnick, Kevin Hall, Diane Larson
- 25 Sherry Dumpprope, Beth Hardinger, Ingrid Porter, Alyssa Silverness, Chelsi Wagner
- 26 Charlotte Burmeister, Todd Holman, Cindy Peterson, Dinah Sundberg, Gabby Wentzel
- 27 Lucille Nelson, Valerie Vandenberg, Joe VanDenBoom
- 28 Tyler Blong, Tom Campion, Audrae Gruber, Shari Nelson

## May Birthdays Continued

- 29 Jake Caughey, Kaitlyn Fredrickson
- 30 Pat Huhta, Darren Nelson, Nicole Pahl, Tom Patrick
- 31 Ted Anderson, Tristan Brecht, David Devine, Brandy Felix, Shawna Reed, Dan Tupy

## May Anniversaries

- 5/1 Scott & Robbi Berry❖  
Corey & Amanda Myran  
Doug Banks & Bonnie Shipman-Banks
- 5/2 Erik & Sarah Speer
- 5/3 Eric & Julie Davidge❖
- 5/4 Kurt & Lori Hoelzel
- 5/5 Ernie & Gail Bruckner
- 5/9 Nelson & Shannon Paysse
- 5/10 Kevin & Kim Larson
- 5/12 Charles & Bonnie Bahr❖  
Jerry & Deb Bergstrom❖  
Larry & Karen Lundblad❖
- 5/13 Joel & Stephanie Kingsley
- 5/14 Mike & Nadine Fraki❖
- 5/15 Darrin & Sherry Dumpprope
- 5/17 John & Jennifer Larson
- 5/18 Eric & Martha Jendro
- 5/21 Steve & Valerie Jones❖  
Marilyn & Keith Tuma†
- 5/23 Bob & Pat Roettger†
- 5/27 Bart & Nicole Harmer❖  
Wade & Jessica Haapajoki
- 5/30 Jeff & Cindy Peterson❖

❖=Celebrating 24-49 years!

†=Celebrating 50 years or more!

We remember, O Lord, all those people throughout the years who have made the supreme sacrifice for our country, for liberty, for us. Whenever we breathe the air of freedom or claim the right to justice or enjoy the privilege of worship, fill us with gratitude for those who selflessly gave the last full measure of devotion — their very lives — for our benefit.

May these brave men and women now know the joy of eternity and your presence. And may the families of the fallen receive comfort and peace amid their grief. Help us as we minister to their needs. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Resourced from The Newsletter-Newsletter*



# Windows of Hope

*Behind the Scenes*