

Welcome to Lord of Life!

We are a member
of the Evangelical
Lutheran Church in
America (ELCA)

MINISTERS
The Lord of Life
Faith Family

WORSHIP TIMES
Sunday
Traditional
8:30 am

Sunday
Contemporary
10:30 am

Wednesday
Evening
6:30 pm

OFFICE HOURS
Mondays, Tuesdays,
and Thursdays:
8:30 am - 5 pm

Wednesdays:
11 am - 5 pm

**Our Office is closed
on Fridays**

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The Good News at Lord of Life

April 2024

The Ministry of Listening Pastor Erika Nilsen

After the resurrection, when the disciples were still in disbelief and didn't understand what had happened to Jesus, they were walking along the road, dismayed and confused.

Suddenly, though they didn't recognize Jesus, Jesus appeared on the road with them and listened as they shared with him everything that had happened and how they felt about it.

Jesus listened.

Think of a time when you really felt cared for. Chances are someone focused on what you had to say, was attentive to your needs, and listened to how you felt instead of telling you how you should feel or what you should do.

Listening is one of the most powerful ministry tools at your disposal. It demonstrates that you care about the other person. In Stephen Ministry, a great deal of time is spent in teaching and practicing listening skills because of its importance as a caregiving tool.

Here's a sample of what Stephen Ministers learn in

their training about listening:

1. Listening is active. It takes energy and commitment to listen really well. Focus your attention on what the other person has to say instead of thinking of what you'll say next.

2. Listening takes patience. Often you need to build trust before someone will open up to you. Constant, patient listening is a key.

3. Listening involves more than just words. Pay attention not only to what is said, but to what is not said—or to what is said with a smile or a sigh. Pay attention to body language, too.

4. Good listeners aren't completely silent. They restate key thoughts or ideas to be sure they understood correctly, and they ask focused questions to encourage the person to reach a little deeper.

5. Listening happens over time. One conversation might build upon an earlier one. As you listen over several conversations, are there any recurring themes or patterns in what the person has said? Are there any contradictions from what was said

earlier? These are signs there may be more to explore underneath.

6. Listening is confidential. A great way to build trust and show the person you really care is to maintain confidentiality. Jesus was the model of a good listener. Much of his ministry was listening to people. By listening to what people had to say he demonstrated how much he really cared about them. Remember the stories of the woman at the well, Nicodemus, or the disciples on the road to Emmaus. All were times when Jesus showed his care and concern by first listening to people and then giving them what they needed.

Our Stephen Ministers at Lord of Life follow Jesus' model as a listener and caregiver, helping to make this a caring place where members and guests truly feel people care about who they are and how they feel. Just as our Stephen Ministers use good listening skills to communicate how much they care, so can you. Listening is a great gift we can give to one another, and one we can all use in our everyday caring and relating.

Youth Ministry Update

Lord of Life Rummage Sale

Spring came early this year! If it has you going through your house looking to change things up a bit think about donating gently used items to our annual rummage sale. Money raised from this sale will go to support the annual high school summer trip! This year we are traveling to the National

Youth Gathering in New Orleans, LA. Mark these dates on your calendar!

Sunday, May 5th Donation Drop Off Begins

Friday, May 10th & Saturday, May 11th Youth Rummage & Bake Sale

Volunteers needed for Rummage Sale

As we prepare to host this large fundraiser, we are in need of many people to help make it a success.

sale!

Do you like connecting with your neighbors and community consider being a part of our sale days!

Do you enjoy sorting and organizing things? Maybe you could help with the pre-sale set up!

There are many different volunteer positions you could help with. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Tim Slinger Youth Director.

Do you enjoy baking delicious treats and sharing them with others? Consider donating items to our bake

Confirmation Retreat

Our 9th grade confirmation families will be gathering together for one final retreat to wrap up their confirmation journey together. We will enjoy all camp has to offer and explore curriculum

around the confirmation promises made in the Affirmation of Baptism Service. We look forward to sharing highlights from this weekend with you later this month!



**Tim Slinger,
Youth Director**

Senior Recognition

If you have not done so already, we are in need of every Lord of Life graduating senior to fill out an informational form and also send in pictures for the slide show. Please visit our website to find the online form or contact the church office directly if you have any questions.

All forms and pictures must be received by Wednesday, April 17th

Summer Trip Update: National Youth Gathering Connects & Fundraising!

Join us in celebrating Lord of Life's high school graduating class of 2024! Senior recognition will be held on, Wednesday May 1st at 6:30 pm and Sunday, May 5th at 10:30 am. Here we

will present our seniors with quilts made by our Lord of Life quilters and enjoy a slideshow video learning more about each student and their future endeavors!

**Stay tuned for
summer
programming
news!**

April Calendar

Monday, April 1

Easter Monday - Office Closed

Tuesday, April 2

Whisper Book Study, 1 pm

Wednesday, April 3

Women's Bible Study, 10:30 am
Worship w/ Confirmation, 6:30 pm

Club 56, 7:15 pm
Teen's Upstream, 8 pm

Thursday, April 4

Quilters, 9 am
Men's Fellowship, 9:30 am
Parkinson's Support Group, 1 pm

Friday, April 5

Men's Breakfast, 7 am
Al-Anon, 7 pm

Saturday, April 6

Lots of Love AA, 7 pm

Sunday, April 7

Traditional Worship, 8:30 am
Contemporary Worship, 10:30 am
Soup Kitchen Serving, 11 am
NYG Connect, 5:30 pm

Monday, April 8

Tim at BHS, 11:30 am

Tuesday, April 9

Bible Study, 9 am
Sarah Circle, 1 pm

Wednesday, April 10

Women's Bible Study, 10:30 am
Finance Team Meeting, 4 pm
Worship w/ Confirmation, 6:30 pm
Club 56, 7:15 pm
Master Class, 7:30 pm
Teen's Upstream, 8 pm

Thursday, April 11

Quilters, 9 am
Men's Fellowship, 9:30 am
Martha Circle, 1 pm

Friday, April 12

Men's Breakfast, 7 am
Al-Anon, 7 pm

Saturday, April 13

Pre-Marriage Retreat, 9 am
Lots of Love AA, 7 pm

Sunday, April 14

Traditional Worship, 8:30 am
Contemporary Worship, 10:30 am
Pastor Steve's Concert, 2 pm

Monday, April 15

Tim at Forestview, 11 am

Tuesday, April 16

Advanced Care Planning, 9 am

Wednesday, April 17

Women's Bible Study, 10:30 am
Worship w/ Confirmation, 6:30 pm
Master Class, 7:30 pm
Teen's Upstream, 8 pm

Thursday, April 18

Quilters, 9 am
Men's Fellowship, 9:30 am
Tech Help Ministry, 11:15 am

Friday, April 19

Men's Breakfast, 7 am
Late Night Out, 5 pm
Al-Anon, 7 pm

Saturday, April 20

Lots of Love AA, 7 pm

Sunday, April 21

Traditional Worship, 8:30 am
Choir Practice, 9:30 am
Contemporary Worship, 10:30 am

Monday, April 22

Tim at BHS, 11:30 am

Tuesday, April 23

Bible Study, 9 am

Wednesday, April 24

Women's Bible Study, 10:30 am
Worship w/ Confirmation, 6:30 pm
Master Class, 7:30 pm
Teen's Upstream, 8 pm

Thursday, April 25

Quilters, 9 am
Men's Fellowship, 9:30 am
Church Council, 6 pm

Friday, April 26

Men's Breakfast, 7 am
Al-Anon, 7 pm

Saturday, April 27

NE MN Synod Assembly, 8 am
Lots of Love AA, 7 pm

Sunday, April 28

Choir Practice, 7:45 am
Traditional Worship, 8:30 am
Contemporary Worship, 10:30 am
Middle School YG, 5:30 pm

Monday, April 29

Tim at Forestview, 11 am

Our Team

Pr. Steven Rye,
Senior Pastor
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**Paul and Karen
Erickson,**
Custodians

Kennedy Niska,
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org

Koreann Martin,
Contemporary
Worship Leader

Annual Report

It is time to start planning for our Congregation's annual meeting, Sunday, June 2nd at 10:30 am.

In addition to voting for members of the Church Council and considering the annual budget, the meeting gives us a time to reflect on what Lord of Life has been up to this past year.

To help with that, groups are asked to begin preparing their annual reports so they can be added to THE Annual

Report.

These reports are an opportunity to tell the rest of the Congregation what your group has accomplished this past year, what challenges you need help facing, and your hopes for the future.

If your group would like to be included in Lord of Life's Annual Report, please submit your report to Tyler Jensen at tyler@lolbaxter.org, by Sunday, April 28th.

Submit your group's stories for the Annual Report

