

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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Brainerd, MN, 56401

The Good News at Lord of Life

May 2024

The Ministry of Listening Pastor Erika Nilsen

During Lent, our sermon series focused on the message of unity: "That all may be one" (John 17:21). This theme extended to a discussion on communion and our current practice of welcoming everyone to the table, except children under the 5th grade.

The tradition of 5th-grade communion stems from a historical practice of delaying communion until confirmation. This practice was influenced by a verse in 1 Corinthians that warns against failing to recognize the "body of Christ" (1 Corinthians 11:29).

However, another passage

in 1 Corinthians describes the "body of Christ" as the entirety of the congregation, each member playing a vital role (1 Corinthians 12:27). This perspective suggests that the passage may not be referring to the physical elements of bread and wine.

In light of this, we're proposing a possible change: offering communion to any child who reaches out an open hand, signifying their desire to receive this gift, regardless of their age or understanding.

Important next steps:

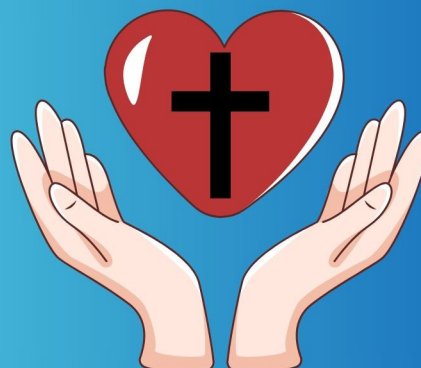
This proposal will be presented to the Church Council for discussion and prayerful consideration.

We will also re-evaluate our Christian education program to ensure children continue to receive important teachings previously offered in the 5th-grade communion classes.

We want to keep you informed throughout this process. If you have any questions or concerns, we encourage you to reach out and engage in dialogue. This potential change reflects our ongoing commitment to creating a truly inclusive community, where all, including our youngest members, feel welcome at the table of Christ.

Let's continue to journey together in faith and unity.

All Are Welcome In This Place



**Lord of Life
Church Council Meeting
March 27th, 2024 @ 6:00pm**

Present (11)

Pastor Steven Rye
Pastor Erika Nilsen
Greg Bennett
Kurt Porter

Brian Orlovski
Jessamyn Foley
Andy Isackson
Jolene Parks
Josh Freelove

Erica Dolven-Kolle
Karla Skwira

Guests:(1)
Anne Laechel

Meeting called to order at 6:00pm

Devotion offered by Pastor Steven; Matthew 5:1-10

Consent Agenda

- February financial reports
- February meeting minutes

Motion to approve made by Andy Isackson, second by Greg Bennett, All ayes
(CC.2024.03.27.01)

Outward-Erica Dolven-Kolle

- \$5,400 in the Beyond Our Doors Fund
 - \$500 to Bethany International
 - \$1,500 to Habitat for Humanity
 - \$1,000 to Bridges of Hope
 - \$1,000 to God's Work our Hands
 - \$1,000 to Brainerd Lakes Outreach Program

Motion to distribute the funds as outlined by Erica Dolven-Kolle made by Andy Isackson, second by Jolene Parks, All ayes (CC.2024.03.27.02)

Budget discussion

Closing prayer led by Pastor Erika Nelisen



**LORD OF LIFE
RUMMAGE SALE
FRIDAY, MAY 10
SATURDAY, MAY 11**



Youth Ministry Update

Summer Youth Programming

As one set of programs wrap up, we get ready to launch another!

Check out our exciting summer ministry programs! There is something for all ages from monthly youth group events, VBS, Day Camp, Summer Stretch and ServeCAMP!

To learn more about these programs visit our website or contact the church directly. We would love to get you connected in our summer ministry's!

Registrations are open so don't delay and register today!

School Year Programs Wrap up

The annual youth spring rummage sale is quickly approaching! Have you been busy doing some spring cleaning around the house?

Do you have some gently used treasures you could possibly donate to the upcoming sale?

If you do, donation drop-

off begins Sunday, May 5th! Here is some more details regarding dates & times of the sale!

Senior Recognition Services

We invite you to join us on Wednesday, May 1st and Sunday, May 5th for Lord of Life's Senior Recognition.

Where we get to celebrate the accomplishments of this year's graduating class and learn more about their future endeavors! Seniors will be gifted a handmade quilt created by the Lord of Life Quilters. A blessing to wrap them in love and support from their congregation as they continue on in this next stage of life.

A special thank you to the Lord of Life Quilters for their hard work and dedication in making these one-of-a-kind quilts for our seniors!

Please note that Senior Recognition on Sunday will be during the 10:30 am worship service.

Following both the Wednesday night and Sunday morning service refreshments will be served!



**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.

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

**Lord of Life
Rummage Sale
May 10 - 11**

**Visit lolbaxter.org
to register for
summer programs**

May Calendar

Wednesday, May 1

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

Thursday, May 2

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

Friday, May 3

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

Saturday, May 4

Lots of Love AA, 7 pm

Sunday, May 5

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

Monday, May 6

Micah Group Presentation, 7 pm

Wednesday, May 8

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

Thursday, May 9

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

Friday, May 10

Men's Breakfast, 7 am
Rummage Sale, 8 am
Al-Anon, 7 pm

Saturday, May 11

Lots of Love AA, 7 pm
Rummage Sale, 8 am

Sunday, May 12

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

Tuesday, May 14

Bible Study, 9 am
Sarah Circle, 1 pm
Property Team Meeting, 5:30 pm

Wednesday, May 15

Women's Bible Study, 10:30 am
Wednesday Worship, 6:30 pm
Master Class, 7:30 pm

Thursday, May 16

Quilters, 9 am
Men's Fellowship, 9:30 am
Tech Help Ministry, 11:15 am
Church Council, 6 pm

Friday, May 17

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

Saturday, May 18

Spring Property Work Day, 8 am
Lots of Love AA, 7 pm

Sunday, May 19

Choir Practice, 7:45 am
Traditional Worship, 8:30 am
Affirmation of Baptism, 10:30 am

Monday, May 20

MG Book Discussion, 6:30 pm

Wednesday, May 22

Women's Bible Study, 10:30 am
Wednesday Worship, 6:30 pm
Master Class, 7:30 pm

Thursday, May 23

Quilters, 9 am
Men's Fellowship, 9:30 am

Friday, May 24

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

Saturday, May 25

Lots of Love AA, 7 pm

Sunday, May 26

Traditional Worship, 8:30 am
Contemporary Worship, 10:30 am

Tuesday, May 28

Bible Study, 9 am

Wednesday, May 29

Women's Bible Study, 10:30 am
Wednesday Worship, 6:30 pm
Master Class, 7:30 pm

Thursday, May 30

Quilters, 9 am
Men's Fellowship, 9:30 am

Friday, May 31

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

Our Team

Pr. Steven Rye,
Senior Pastor
steven@lolbaxter.org

Pr. Erika Nilsen,
Associate Pastor
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Anne Laechel,
Business Administrator
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lolbaxter.org

Tim Slinger,
Youth Director
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Tyler Jensen,
Communications
Coordinator
tyler@lolbaxter.org

**Paul and Karen
Erickson,**
Custodians

Kennedy Niska,
Music Coordinator
kennedy@lolbaxter.
org

Koreann Martin,
Contemporary
Worship Leader

Micah Group

Japanese Americans: A History of Racism & Prejudice

*May 6 from 7 – 8:30 pm
In the Lord of Life
Sanctuary*

“My first day of kindergarten I was greeted with, “Hey Jap, where’s your bayonet?”

I really don’t know that it has gotten much better since then. Let’s talk about some uncomfortable US history.

WWII and the atrocities of war, Japanese American citizens in concentration camps, COVID and anti-Asian rhetoric and violence.

What countries do Asian Americans citizens actually come from? Do you know what a microaggression is and do you use them? You will hear all of this through the personal lens of a person of color who has faced prejudice and racism directly. Have you ever not felt wel-

come in the country you live in?”

This event is free with no registration required. The public is invited.

I was born in Tokyo, Japan. Adopted by Caucasian parents. Arrived in Brainerd at age 10 for 4 th grade, which was my 10 th elementary school.

I have experienced racism and prejudice directly

throughout my life and talked with many others about their experiences.

I worked over 40 years in public and Native American Reservation Schools and have witnessed the negative effects of racism, sexism, and all the other isms. I like to think of myself as an ally for the underdog.