

Lord of Life

JUNE 2022 | THE LIFE LINE

Inside this Issue

- From the Pastor
- Faith Formation Updates
- President's Message
- Mission & Outreach Projects
- 2022 Graduates
- New (in the past 2+ years) Members

From Pastor Paul

31 But so many people were coming and going that Jesus and the apostles did not even have a chance to eat. Then Jesus said, "Let's go to a place where we can be alone and get some rest." 32 They left in a boat for a place where they could be alone.

Mark 6:31-31

Jesus often took time apart to pray and to recharge for what came next in his ministry. He tried to teach the disciples the same. Rest, as it turns out, is a key part to ministry and serving a congregation as well.



Rev. Mark Devries has written that church leaders need "balcony time." Balcony time is an opportunity to step out of the planning and implementing of programs, and to get a view from above. To take measure of what is going on and to do some longer-range planning. Devries writes that balcony time is an opportunity to work "on" your ministry, instead of "in" your ministry.

A sabbatical is an opportunity for balcony time (even if Lord of Life doesn't have a balcony). It is also an opportunity for rest. It is a chance to change the pace and tone of day-to-day life. And after the last couple years, where it feels like we have all been running full speed, all the time, this will be a welcome change.

I will spend time thinking, praying, reading, writing, and being intentional about learning how Lord of Life can be a welcoming space for online worship guests (and at some point members?) and about how we can effectively do faith formation online for our members and for people far away. I am going to work on a grant proposal with Pastor Kurt Hansen. And I will also be doing some self-care and resting.

I am grateful to be a part of a congregation that takes care of and supports its staff and leadership. I know that God will have plenty to teach me in the eight weeks I am apart from you.

In my absence, Pastor Mark Oehlert and Pastor Troy Troftgruben will be taking turns leading worship and providing pastoral care. Should you need pastoral care, please reach out to the church office, to council president Susan Hansen, or council vice president Pat Friedman. Pastor Mark will generally cover the first half of my sabbatical and Pastor Troy the second.

AN INVITATION

I am a board member with Almost Home/Open Closet. I want to invite you to join me on Friday, June 10th for Party on Purpose II, a benefit for Almost Home. This is worthwhile and Almost Home will continue to be an important partner of ours. Please spread the word, invite others, make plans to attend now. Bring a lawn chair or blanket and let's make a difference in our community, together.

In peace and hope,
Pastor Paul

From Our Council President

The heavens are telling of the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

Psalm 19:1

The beginning of summer is upon us once again. For most of us summer is a time to do things out of the ordinary. Different schedules allow for vacations and appreciating new sights. It provides time to plant and an opportunity to watch new growth emerge and flourish. In short, summer's change offers us a chance to reflect on and be renewed by the splendor of God's creation.



Several changes will occur at Lord of Life in June. We will experience a change in our musical leadership. We say goodbye and Godspeed to Laura Bee on June 19th. Laura will be moving on to new ventures in Duluth, Minnesota. Laura has been a wonderful addition to the music team, and we thank her for sharing her talents with us. Our new keyboardist, Jill Klinebriel, will join us June 26. Jill brings a wealth of experience and is excited to work with our congregation. Welcome Jill!

During the month of June, your congregation council will finalize revisions to the by-laws, including potential changes to how we structure the congregation council. These revisions will be presented to the congregation in September. Finally, we wish Pastor Paul a restful and renewing sabbatical time. Thank you to Rev. Dr. Troy Troftgruben and Rev. Mark Oehlert who will lead services and provide coverage in Pastor's absence. What might you do this summer to refresh and renew?



** Help Us Stay in Touch **

We have been noticing a trend in our emails sent out twice weekly. About half of the emails that are sent out are being read. When we have asked for feedback from folks who are subscribed to our email list, we find out that in several cases our emails are going directly to SPAM or TRASH folders. Here's what you can do today to help avoid missing important information from Lord of Life.

Add Email addresses to your Contacts list.
pastor@lordoflifedbq.org AND pastor@lordoflife.online
office@lordoflifedbq.org AND office@lordoflife.online
president@lordoflifedbq.org
faithformation@lordoflifedbq.org
treasurer@lordoflifedbq.org

Also, please check your spam/trash folders for emails from the church. If found in the spam folder, open and mark NOT SPAM or MOVE TO INBOX. Thank you for helping us stay in touch.

Fall Confirmation Dates of Note

Each year, in the Fall, Pastor Paul and Kim meet with our rising 9th grade class to review and to work on faith statements as a part of the process for affirming baptism. Parents of rising 9th graders, please take note and mark your calendars TODAY for these important dates.

Sunday, October 2nd 6:00-7:00PM

Sunday, October 9th 6:00-7:00PM

Sunday, October 16th 6:00-7:00PM

Sunday, October 23rd 6:00PM Confirmation Celebration Dinner for confirmands, parents, and mentors.

Sunday, October 30th - Reformation Sunday, the date for Affirming Baptism (aka confirmation).



Almost Home Fundraiser Event Friday, June 10th

We're back and better than ever! The Party on Purpose event has been on hold during the pandemic, but we are ready to party on purpose once again. Mark your calendars for Friday,

June 10th on campus at Wartburg Seminary in Dubuque. Visit the website to learn more about the event and watch a video about the effort to expand emergency shelters for homeless men with their children.

You'll recognize the drummer for the band as our very own Pastor Paul, and don't stop there, Bri Ensign, Val Kennedy, and Troy Troftgruben are in the band, too! We think it will be a wonderful evening under the stars with lots of food and great friends. Did we mention that we have a special celebrity guest? See you at the party!

Faith Formation Update

Faith at Home: Faith Bucket List

A Summer Bucket List can help us to be intentional about adding some fun to the summer. Why not add a new twist and make a faith bucket list as a family this summer? Here are some things you might want to try:

- Memorize a Bible verse together
- Volunteer together
- Share God sightings each day
- Make a gratitude journal together
- Challenge everyone to do random acts of kindness
- Surprise a friend or neighbor with a small gift or treat
- Read a Bible story every night



Maria Troftgruben,
Coordinator for Faith Formation

Upcoming Events in June

- **ELCA World Hunger Tree of Healing Cross Generational VBS, Sunday mornings in June 10-11:30 am**

Making Summer plans? Make sure to schedule in Cross Generational VBS! Sundays in June from 10-11:30 am (following the morning service)



All ages are invited to learn about our health and wellness and place in God's great creation. We will share in Bible study, learning about ELCA World Hunger projects around the world, play games, make crafts, and taste new foods. As part of the VBS, we will be collecting food for the food pantry and taking donations for ELCA World Hunger. There is no cost to attend the VBS. You can attend one Sunday or all four, whatever works for your schedule.

If you'd like to help with VBS running games, or crafts or serving snack, please contact Maria Troftgruben.

Youth Events (6th grade and up):

- **Game Night, Friday June 17th 7-8:30pm**

Join us at church for some group games. If the weather is nice, hopefully we can do some outdoor games. Invite friends to join...the more the merrier!

Adult's Invited for Summer VBS!

ELCA World Hunger Tree of Healing Cross Generational VBS, Sunday mornings in June 10 am

After the past few years, we can all use a bit of healing! Join us Sunday mornings in June to learn about God's healing for his creation, our bodies, our minds, and our spirits. We will study God's word, learn about the work of ELCA World Hunger, connect with others, and have a little fun too. VBS isn't just for kids – come see what God has to teach you!

Care in Our Congregation

In our prayers...

Please keep John and Vonda Hermsen and family in your prayers as John's dad passed away unexpectedly on May 10. Pray for peace and comfort during this time. They are still mourning John's brother who they lost just nine months ago ♥

2022 Graduates

Join us in congratulating and praying for this year's grads.

High School

Kylie Felderman: Dubuque Senior; Plans to attend NICC for Early Childhood Education
Jackson Ingalsbe: Western Dubuque; Will attend UNI. Wants to become a chiropractor
Amber Wiedenman: Hempstead; Will attend UNI

Under-Grad

Max Muehring: Iowa State Univ.; degree: Marketing & Finance; Will be working in Dubuque at Cottingham & Butler
Chance Eipperle: Iowa State Univ.; Bachelors in Industrial Design

Post-Grad

(Kendra) Jo Dienst: Univ. of Pittsburgh: Masters of Library & Information Science;
Working at Duquesne University's Gumberg Library
Brian Fuchs: Georgia Tech Univ.: PHD in engineering

New Members

Now that we are returning to prepandemic practices, during the services of June 4 and 5 we are acknowledging those who've joined over the past 2½ years plus, as well as accepting new members. Please join us in welcoming these new members into our body of Christ.

Earl & Angie Alexander	Kevin & Denise Anderson
Don & Kayleen Backhaus	Susan Comer
Diane Hansen	Brandon Johnson
Peter & Stephanie Klein & Ben	Harold Knutsen
Rex & Julie Massey and family	Pam Null & Bryant
Mark & Nancy Oehlert	Ann Phillipi
Dan & Denise Phillipi	Alex & Cassie Renken
DeWayne & Kathy Teig	

Care in Our Community

Mobile Food Pantry

Lord of Life will be holding a Food Give Away on Saturday morning, June 18. Volunteers are needed to assist; please sign up in the narthex at church.

Little Food Pantry Needs

With school ending and summer vacation beginning, peanut butter, jelly and individually packaged snack items are always in high demand in our Little Food Pantry. Please consider adding one or more of these items to your shopping list. All donations may be placed in the grocery cart at church. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Road-Side Cleanup

Eleven Lord of Life members devoted a couple of hours on Saturday morning, May 7, to picking up trash along a mile of the NW Arterial on either side of the bike path. We had a beautiful sunny morning for the job. Lord of Life has been doing this stretch of road twice yearly for 20 or so years.

Pictured, left to right, are:

Nate Frambach, Dave Spaniol, Violet Spaniol, Sandy Heer, Bernita Gilbertson, Jim Gilbertson, Josh Lamey, Debbie Thomas, Dave Cordes. (not pictured: Galen Thomas, Steve Heer).



Care In Our World

“I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

John 13: 34-35

We Pray for Peace, We Pray for Justice, We Pray That All Will Be Fed

SUMMER SCHEDULE BEGINS JUNE 4&5



Worship at Lord of Life takes on a summer schedule each year. Mark your calendars now so you don't miss a service! Beginning the weekend of June 4 & 5 we move to having one service on Saturday and one service on Sunday.

June, July, and August

Saturdays at 4:00PM

Sundays at 9:00AM



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