

Lord of Life

MAY 2023 | THE LIFE LINE



Inside this Issue

- From the Pastor
- From the President
- Faith Formation Updates
- The Three Cares

From Pastor Paul

3 What we have seen and heard, we also announce it to you so that you can have fellowship with us. Our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. 4 We are writing these things so that our joy can be complete. - 1 John 1:3-4



What do you think of when you read the word, "fellowship?" I want to think about fellowship in a couple of ways in this article. The first, God as the model of perfect fellowship, can seem hard to grasp. God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, are in eternal relationship and acts of self-giving love. As Cheree Hayes writes, "This fellowship is the essence of Heaven—full of joy, generosity, and peace."

Fellowship is modeled for us and it is what God desires for us. In its purest form for the church, it is about the sharing of resources for the betterment of our community. I think that fellowship is also how we share ourselves with each other in friendship and in caring for each other. Fellowship, in this latter sense, is something that we will need to work hard to recover as a congregation.

At just over two years of being back together in our sanctuary for worship, we are still learning what it means to be a community again. I want to encourage you to consider being a part of fellowship with others from church. At church. Instead of rushing out the door, linger for a while. Enter into conversation with others. Share your story and listen to their story. Enjoy some coffee and a snack, or just sit together in the gathering space. This space was designed, intended to be a center for fellowship at Lord of Life.

Fellowship can be outside of the building, too! We have groups of people who gather formally and informally. We also have activities that are intended to provide a space for you to be together. A recent example, a middle school play. Another? Attending a hockey game. This summer? A church picnic! Maybe you will form a group to go out for dinner after Saturday services this summer?

God's desire for us, it seems, is to be in fellowship with each other. When we spend time with each other outside of worship, we gain new friends or rekindle friendships. These relationships make our worship even more meaningful when we pray, sing, and share Holy Communion together.

May the peace of Christ be with you all.

Pastor Paul

From Our Council President

Susan Hansen

As I write this Dubuque is under a freeze warning. Let's hope that by the time you read this article, we're well past those worries!

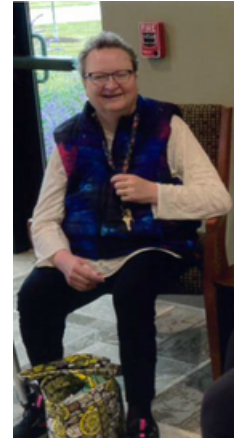
In April we welcomed several new families and individuals as members. I'd like to introduce two new members. In the coming months I'll continue the introductions.

Linda Hanson. Linda grew up on a family farm in Bryan, Iowa. She is the 9th of 14 children and the only girl! She assured me that she held her own among all those brothers but when it came down to it, they looked out for her and were willing to participate in her tea parties. She eventually gained sisters; she has 12 sisters-in-law! Life has taken her to several different places including Cedar Rapids, Kansas City and eventually Dubuque. In Kansas City she found her passion for preschool age children and pursued further education at Kirkwood Community College. Linda was married for 28 years and has two children one of whom lives in Cuba City WI and one who lives in Dubuque. She likes to do crafts, read, and enjoys movies. She also loves to cook. Welcome Linda!!!

Bill Thill. Bill was born and raised in Dubuque. His family owned the land that has become Asbury Square. Longevity is a family trait. His grandfather died young so his grandmother raised the children and ran the farm. Several family members boast ages of more than 100 years! Bill graduated from Senior High School and went on to serve in the Army and Army Reserves. Bill's wife passed away about 10 years ago. He raised her boys plus 4 children. He worked for AY McDonald manufacturing for over 46 years as the Director of Quality Assurance. Using skills learned on the job and with a degree from UW-Platteville, he developed McDonald's quality assurance program. Throughout his life, Bill has been a faithful blood donor and has supported donation programs with his time and organizational skills. Welcome Bill!!!

Margret Deason. Margret grew up in Minnesota on a farm. She has lived in many places but noted that Appleton, Wisconsin (18 years) and Fort Meyers, Florida (23 years) were the longest. She has four daughters, one of whom is Lord of Life member Kris Stache. The other three live in Minnesota, Florida and Colorado. She is proud of her 11 grandchildren and 4 great-grandbabies! Margret likes to read, quilt, and walk. She is anxious to participate in Lord of Life activities. Margret feels especially blessed as the recent hurricane and tornado in the Fort Meyers area missed her house. Welcome Margret!!!

I was pleased to find a common thread with Linda (lived in Kansas City), Bill (graduate of UW-Platteville), and Margret (like to quilt). Please take a moment to introduce yourself to Linda, Bill and Margret (and to all our new members). You never know what connections you may find!



Faith Formation News



Maria
Troftgruben,
Coordinator for
Faith Formation

Faith at Home: Celebrating Pentecost

Pentecost is considered the birthday of the church. This year Pentecost is May 28th. Here are a few ideas to celebrate this day at home.

- Make a cake and sing happy birthday to the church. Try a Red Velvet cake!
- Read Acts 2:1-4 and make fire sticks. (Attach red, orange, & yellow ribbons to a stick)
- Learn how to say 'I love you' in other languages.
- Discussion questions: How do you think your life would be changed if you had been present during the first Pentecost? Is there a time you have sensed the Holy Spirit with you?



Sunday School

Cross Generational Sunday School

- Cross Generational Sunday School will be May 14th. The theme is the Holy Spirit.

Sunday School

- Large Group opening is May 7th
- The **last day of Sunday School is May 21st.** This will also be our **Pancake Party!** Children will begin in their classrooms for the first 20 minutes. Then we will gather downstairs for pancakes! If you would like to donate supplies, there will be a sign-up sheet in the gathering space in early May.

Confirmation

Last day of confirmation is May 10th.

This will be an end of the year party. Mentors and parents are invited. Let Pastor Paul or Maria know if you'd like to bring a snack or drink.

Service hours:

If you have not completed service hours with your mentor, make sure to do so this summer and complete the service form.

9th grade confirmation dates for Fall

Sunday, October 8th & 15th 6-7 pm

Preparing Faith Statements

Sunday, October 22nd 6-7:30pm

Dinner for students, parents, and mentors

Sunday, October 29th

Service of Confirmation



Mentors

End of the Year Party May 10th, 6-7pm.

Join youth and parents to celebrate the end of the year.

Mentors of 8th graders (9th graders in the fall) Check out the fall dates above for confirmation dinner and confirmation service.

Youth Events

(6th grade and up)



May Youth Event: Bonfire and s'mores

Sunday, May 21st from 7-8:30pm

Meet at Pastor Paul's backyard for some yummy treats and good conversation!

Youth Leadership Training Event Offered

Youth who are currently in grades 8 – 12 are invited to participate in this summer's Wholly Iowa Youth Leadership Discipling Event (WIYLDE), set for June 19 – 22, 2023, at Camp EWALU near Strawberry Point. The event will feature Peer Ministry Leadership Training from Lyle Griner, National Peer Ministry Director. Peer Ministry Leadership Training is based on the Good Samaritan story to train youth in relational leadership skills. To learn more, visit <https://neiasynod.org/2023/02/wiylde/> or speak to Pastor Paul.



BOOKS & MORE SALE

THE FRIENDS OF CARNEGIE- STOUT PUBLIC LIBRARY

Wednesday, May 17

2 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Members Only Presale

Memberships available at the door.

Public Sale Open:

Thursday, May 18

Noon to 6:30 p.m.

Friday, May 19

10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 20

10 a.m. to Noon

Huge sale with
great prices.
Includes newer
fiction, history &
biography,
games, media.
Large selection
of children's
books. Many
specialty items
and collectables.

**WHERE: Library Auditorium
11th & Bluff Streets, Dubuque**

For more information please contact the Library at (563) 589-4313.

Care in Our Congregation

Senior Lunch Group

It 's time for a road trip! Seniors, on Thursday, May 25th, we will be traveling to Manchester for an 11:30 a.m. lunch at The Bread Basket. The restaurant is located at 101 S. Franklin St., the oldest building in Manchester built in 1855. We are planning to carpool from the church. Please contact Peggy Granovsky with any questions or to RSVP. Also, let us know if you would like a ride or to provide transportation so we can make sure we have enough drivers. Looking forward to a fun day. Hope you can join us!

Prayer Shawl Group

We will meet on Thursday, May 4th, at 1:00 p.m. in the Gathering Space at church. If you enjoy knitting or crocheting, please join us in this caring ministry. The pattern we use for prayer shawls consists of basic stitches that are easy to do. If you are new to knitting, we will be happy to help you. For more information please contact Peggy Granovsky.



Remember to check the Narthex bulletin board for birthdays, prayer list, council minutes & financials.

Do you like treats?

The coffee hour between our worship services on Sunday mornings offers us a great opportunity to informally connect with our friends. Most of us would agree that a few treats tend to enhance this time of fellowship. Please consider signing up to bring a treat or snack to share during our Sunday morning fellowship hour. You are welcome to bake something yourself or pick up a treat at the grocery store. Donuts, rolls, brownies, cookies, bars, bagels, etc. are all possibilities.



Men's Breakfast Group

We will meet at 8:30 am on Saturday May 13th, in the lower level of the church. Together we make breakfast and share some great fellowship. If you'd like to share in the food and fun you can contact Jon Dienst at 599-4524 or just show up!

2023 Altar Flower Calendar

Just two spots remain open on the Altar Flower calendar: July 29/30 and Sept. 17. The cost remains \$16 if you wish to have them delivered by our supplier. You may also provide your own arrangement in which case it needs to be at the church prior to the first service (before 4:00 on Saturday for summer services). If you sponsor flowers and have them delivered, you may include that cost in an offering envelope (found on the table in the gathering space). Please note 'Altar flowers' and the date of sponsorship. Thank you for beautifying our sanctuary!

Worship Servants

We are always in need of servants to help with varying responsibilities, particularly at the 10:30 service. Tech & Assistant ministers are very much in need. Please reach out to Pastor Paul or the office to inquire or volunteer.

Together we make worship happen!

Care in Our Community and World



Open Closet Donations

Due to limited space, only spring and summer items will be accepted at the Open Closet. Please be sure that all donations are CLEAN AND IN GOOD REPAIR!

Roadside Cleanup

We will again be doing the spring (of a twice-annual) hiway cleanup of "our" one-mile stretch of the NW Arterial on Saturday morning, May 20. We will meet at LOL at 9:00 AM and should be done by 11:00. Lord of Life has "adopted" this section of the arterial for the past 21 years. We will need between 8 and 16 volunteers to do the clean-up efficiently. Call or e-mail Steve Heer with any questions that aren't answered on the bulletin board/sign-up in the fellowship area: ssheer@mchsi.com, or 563-451-8063.and pray for nice weather on May 20.

Thank You!!!!



Summer Schedule begins Memorial Weekend

Saturday service 4:00 pm

Sunday service 9:00 am

All services available in person or online



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Scan code to give now

www.lordoflife.online