

Lord of Life

NOVEMBER 2022 | THE LIFE LINE



Inside this Issue

- From the Pastor
- From the President
- Faith Formation Updates
- Mission & Outreach Projects
- Lord of Life happenings and more

From Pastor Paul

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. - 1Thessalonians 5:16-18

It's November (already) and during this month we celebrate a national Day of Thanksgiving. It's not a church festival or considered a holy day, but it is a wonderful opportunity to give thanks to God for the many blessings we have received. During October I offered a sermon series on prayer and giving thanks. Giving thanks needs to be our default position, as the Apostle Paul suggests. I'm not saying it's easy, but with practice it is possible.



What am I thankful for? I'm glad you asked! I am thankful for the ways that you, yes dear reader, you are engaged in your faith in this place. I'd like to focus on the ways that I have caught you in the act of caring for our congregation, our community, and our world.

Almost Home and the Open Closet is one of our ministry partners in Dubuque. Did you know that we have volunteers who go to help sort all the donations of clothing that are gathered across the community each week? Yup. I'm aware of half a dozen Lord of Life members who give of their time most weeks to do this work. On a recent Thursday in October 307 people came to receive winter coats and warm clothing for their children. More than 1,000 people accessed the Open Closet in October. That doesn't even count all the ways that the work of our members extends into our community schools and shelters.

Almost Home now has its first tenants in the new emergency shelter. Dads with their children are now off the street and working through a program to gain stability and find a permanent home. I am aware of two of our members who've already volunteered to help cover support shifts for the shelter once a month. The shelter needs volunteers all day and every day to work 3 hour shifts to be point of contact for the kids and dads. I know that others among you will feel called to this ministry.

Lord of Life members recently cared in our community by providing treats and hospitality for the City of Asbury's Halloween Parade. "You" modeled Christ's love for children and adults alike by answering questions, passing out cookies, cocoa, and affirming all of those gathered to participate in the parade.

October was also one of our four focus on hunger months. Lord of Life members, you came through again in support of our goal to feed our neighbors around the world through our partnership with ELCA World Hunger. And as a bonus, you supported a local effort by our very own Josie Boyle to the tune of more than \$500 to feed hungry people in our communities.

Oh yes. I am indeed grateful for you, friends. It is our mission to care and you have continually amazed me with your generosity. Thanks be to God!

From Our Council President

Susan Hansen



Dear Friends and Members of Lord of Life:

Thanks to all who participated in our "Dots" exercise as your congregation council sought input re: establishing congregational priorities moving forward. So, what did the dots tell us?

1. Things important for us to do: (green dots)
 - a. Top votes in order across all 3 categories (our 3 cares)
 - i. Inviting all to experience God's grace and love (care for the world)
 - ii. Developing children & youth (care of congregation)
 - iii. Addressing debt/controlling costs/addressing budget (care for the congregation)
 - iv. Addressing food insecurities (care for the community)
 - v. Fulfilling LOL service needs (worship servants, basically) (care for the congregation)
 - vi. Being responsive to needs of members (care for the congregation)

2. Things we have a passion for: (red dots)
 - a. Top votes in order across all 3 categories (our 3 cares)
 - i. Addressing food insecurities (care for the community)
 - ii. Addressing debt, controlling costs/addressing budget (care for the congregation)
 - iii. Inviting all to experience God's grace and love (care for the world)
 - iv. Being responsive to needs of members (care for the congregation)
 - v. Raising funds for world projects (care for the world)

As the church council does its work, rest assured that we will be guided by the priorities you have presented. Thank you!

Also, a resounding thanks for our recent vote to ratify the constitution and adopt revised bylaws.

Susan Hansen



Faith Formation News



Maria
Troftgruben,
Coordinator for
Faith Formation

Faith at Home: Paper Pumpkin

Make a pumpkin out of paper strips, adding a note of thanks to each strip.

1. Cut 8-- 1-inch strips of orange paper, 2 small leaves and 1 thin strips of green paper.
 2. Write things you are thankful for on each orange strip—leaving an inch space on both ends.
 3. Use a stapler to attach orange strips at the top and then the bottom.
 4. Curl green strip for a vine and attach vine and leaves to top of pumpkin.
- Idea from: moffattgirls.blogspot.com



Sunday School

No Sunday School:

- **November 6th**—families are invited to join the Breakfast with the Saints
- **November 27th** –Happy Thanksgiving!



Advent Worship: Children and youth will participate in the 10:30 worship on December 18th.

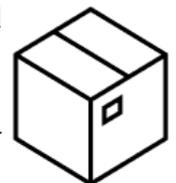
Cross Generational Sunday School— November 13th, 9:15 in the Sanctuary

Everyone is invited to join us for a morning of worship, learning and fun. All ages are welcome. This is a great opportunity to get to know others in the congregation as we grow in faith together.

Adopt a College Student

Let's let our college students know that we care! Choose a student to adopt and send them a package. Some things to include in the package are a note, snacks, small give card, and any other small items they might enjoy. Each student card has their name and address, a few things they like and enjoy. Please try to send packages in November or early December.

Any questions can be directed to Maria Troftgruben



Confirmation

7th/8th grade Mentor/Mentee Service

Students are to find a time to serve in worship with their mentor during November.

7th/8th grade: Service Reflection Forms

After completing service hours with their mentor (other than serving in worship), remember to fill out the reflection form and turn it in to Pastor Paul.

7/8th grade: No Confirmation November 23rd

7, 8 & 9th Grade: Remember to sign up to serve in worship. 9th graders should serve at least 3 times during the school year. 7/8th graders at least 5 times.

Mentors



7th /8th grade Mentors

Please sign up for a time to serve in worship with your mentee during the month of November.

Service Opportunities:

Advent Decorating November 20th, 11:30-12:30pm

Help decorate the church for Advent.

Christmas Caroling December 18th 1pm- 2:30

Join your mentee for Christmas caroling. Meet at Luther Manor Grand Meadows. Followed by cookies at church!

Youth Events

(6th grade and up)

November 13th 2-3:30pm

Game Day with St. Peter's

Meet at church to enjoy games with friends

December 18th 1pm-2:30pm

Caroling and Cookies

Meet at Luther Manor Grand Meadows in Asbury. After caroling, we'll head to church for Christmas cookies!



Care in Our Congregation

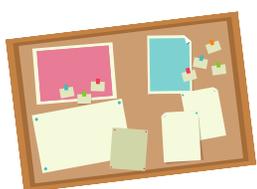


Author in our Midst

Lord of Life member Kurt Hansen has written a new novel, entitled Daughters of Teutobod. The book launch party is Sunday, November 13th, beginning at 4:30pm in the Palisades Room at Timmerman's Supper Club in East Dubuque, IL. Look for more information to come regarding an adult education book discussion with Kurt in December.



Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, the **Senior Lunch Group** will be meeting at 11:30 a.m. on the third Thursday, November 17th. Please join us for food and fellowship at The Barrel House, located at 299 Main St. If you have any questions or would like to make reservations, contact Peggy Granovsky. Let's celebrate and be thankful for the opportunity to be together again. Also, make a note on your calendars that we will be meeting on the third Thursday in December, 12/15. Additional information will be available in the December newsletter



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

Breakfast with the Saints

Join us as we remember those who've gone before...

Sunday November 6

Between services

9:15-10:15



Men's Breakfast Group will meet at 8:30 am on Saturday November 12, in the lower level of the church. Together they 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!

The Prayer Shawl Group

will meet on Thursday, November 3rd, 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.



2023 Altar Flower Calendar

The flower calendar for next year is up and located in the office on the wall by the door. If you wish to donate flowers for service(s) next year, you may sign up on your chosen date(s). The cost is \$16.



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.





Sam and I would like to thank Pastor Paul for all he has done for us. The Fessler family has lost a number of our members and through the goodness of Pastor we were able to have beautiful memorial services for them.

Thank you Pastor Paul. Sam and Sue Deaver

Dear Lord of Life,

Thank you all so much for your expressions of sympathy during the recent weeks following the loss of Dave. Whether you sent a card, brought food, included us in prayer, or attended the memorial service or Celebration of Life, your kindness and generosity mean so much. Also, many thanks to Pastor Paul, Pastor John, Rita Dienst, Kris Erikson-Eipperle, Diane Frambach, Jim and Bernita Gilbertson, Sam and Sue Deaver, those that provided baked goods, and to many others that helped before, during, or after the memorial service.

Peace, The Felderman Family

I would like to thank the Lord of Life Lutheran Church congregation for generously donating to my community service project. On October 5th, I was able to provide 660 gallons of milk, 12 chickens weighing a total of 78 lbs, 38 lbs of beef and pork, 20 dozen eggs, and 17 packages of cheese sticks (over 200 sticks) to four food distribution sites in Dubuque. The donations from Lord of Life totaled \$536.10, just over 25% of my total donations of \$2,038.14. I am so thankful for the congregation's generosity and support!

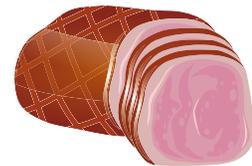
With immense gratitude, Josie Boyle

Thank you to Steve and Sandy Heer for taking our 30 Lutheran World Relief quilts to Cedar Rapids in October. From there, they will be transported to the LWR warehouse in Minneapolis and then distributed world-wide to those in need. Thanks also to all who donated fabric, helped sew and tie the quilts. Over the years, more than 1069 quilts have been contributed to LWR from Lord of Life. Thank you!

Care in Our Community

CHRISTMAS FOOD BASKETS - A HOLIDAY TRADITION

The holiday season is fast approaching. During November, we begin to think about getting ready for this special time of the year. In years past, Lord of Life members have supported the Dubuque Food Pantry's annual food give-away program. Again this year, the Dubuque Food Pantry will be distributing Christmas Baskets to those in need in our local community. We at Lord of Life can help by donating 3-5 lb hams. If you wish to donate a ham, there will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Hams should be delivered to Lord of Life by Sunday, December 11. They can be left in the refrigerator in the lower level. Let's make this Christmas Season special for our less fortunate neighbors.



Care In Our World

CROP Walk - 2022

AGAIN, another big "thank you" to all who supported the Dubuque County CROP (Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty) Walk 2022. Five members of Lord of Life enjoyed the beautiful fall weather by walking for hunger. The total amount donated by Lord of Life is \$1,170.00. This amount will be added to the Dubuque County CROP Walk total and forwarded to Church World Service (CWS). 25% will remain in Dubuque County and distributed to PIN (People in Need), the Dubuque Rescue Mission and the Dubuque Food Pantry. Thank you all for your continued support!!



Lutheran World Relief Quilts



Often, when natural disasters strike or war drives families from their homes, our hearts ache with compassion but we don't know how to help. If you've wondered how to volunteer to quilt for charity, look no further. Making Lutheran World Relief Mission Quilts is a tangible way to express love to our neighbors in need. Quilts can be used as warm bedding, simple tents or floor coverings. Each one reflects God's loving presence in a world rife with suffering.



A very special thank you to our lead quilters Marilyn Koehler and Barb Lindecker, who have led this team for years and have together crafted and donated over 1069 quilts.



Fall Worship Schedule

Sunday Services 8:00 am and 10:30 am
Sunday School/Adult Faith Formation at 9:15 am

NOW Contemporary Worship
10:30 service on the 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month beginning October 2

WORSHIP WITH US

In Person or Online



Lord of Life
Lutheran Church
2899 Hales Mill Road
Asbury, IA 52002
(563) 582-7371



Scan code to give now

www.lordoflife.online