

LIFE LINES

of

LORD OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Phone: (972) 867-5588

Fax: (972) 985-5588

Internet Home Page: <http://www.lol-plano.org>

Vol. 26, No. 2

Plano, Texas

February 2012

Restore the Roar

Amos 1:2



Several weeks ago, I asked my Adult Bible Class on Sunday morning what they would like to study next. Yes, we are almost finished with St. John's Revelation.

One individual in the class suggested a look at some of the Minor Prophets in the Old Testament. There are a number of Minor Prophets: Nahum, Jonah, Obadiah, and Amos to name a few.

Then, there happened to be a Metro-Conference of Lutheran pastors in mid-January. Professor Reed Lessing from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis was our guest speaker for the day. His topic was the Minor Prophet Amos and how we might adapt some of his material for a Lenten study.

It does seem hard to believe that the season of Lent is soon upon us. Ash Wednesday is set for February 22nd, and a new season will begin. So, this year our Lenten series will be taken from the Prophet Amos. At first read, the book of Amos is filled with doom and gloom and law. But, there are words of hope included in the final chapter.

Professor Lessing made the observation that Amos reminded him of the Detroit Lions, a largely hapless NFL franchise. One of their cheers is "Restore the Roar!" And the book of Amos has this as its singular goal: to restore the rightful roar from the Lion, Yahweh, the God of Israel.

Already the opening words of this prophet declare: "The Lord roars from Zion and utters His voice from Jerusalem..." *Amos 1:2*

As we anticipate this Lenten season together, please join me and fellow brothers and sisters in Christ this Ash Wednesday. Let us grow together in our faith through God's Word to Amos.

Schedule of Mid-Week Lenten Services

Ash Wednesday – February 22nd at 7:00 PM
"Rescued from the Rubble" – Amos 1:1-2

Mid Week Lenten Service II – February 29th at 7:00 PM
"Upside Down" – Amos 3:1-8

Mid Week Lenten Service III – March 7th at 7:00 PM
"This is the Night the Lord has Made!" – Amos 5:18-20

Mid Week Lenten Service IV – March 14th at 7:00 PM
"Grieving for Joseph" – Amos 6:1-7

Mid Week Lenten Service V – March 21st at 7:00 PM
"Locusts Here, Locusts There, Locusts Seem to be Everywhere!" – Amos 7:1-6

Mid Week Lenten Service VI – March 28th at 7:00 PM
"Lion Alert!" – Amos 7:10-17

Maundy Thursday – April 5th at 7:00 PM
"The Taste Test" – Amos 8:11-14

--Pastor Lindner

prepare for worship in february

5 February: Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Texts: Isaiah 40: 21-31; I Cor. 9: 16-27; Mark 1: 29-39

Sermon Hymn: "In Holy Conversation," 772

Sermon: "Prayer for Hectic Times"

As our liturgy focuses upon prayer, the youth choir teaches us the hymn "In Holy Conversation" as well as the psalmody "Have You Not Known?" by K Lee Scott.

12 February: Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

Texts: II Kings 5: 1-14; I Cor. 10: 34-11: 1; Mark 1: 40-45

Sermon Hymn: "God Whose Almighty Word," 979

Sermon: "Say Nothing to Anyone!"

The choir sings a setting of the hymn "Immortal, Invisible" as we continue an Epiphany focus on the revelation of God to the Gentiles.

19 February: Transfiguration Sunday

Texts: II Kings 2: 1-12a; II Cor. 3: 12-18; Mark 9: 2-9

Sermon Hymn: "God Has Spoken By His Prophets," 583

Sermon: "Farewell is Not Forever"

We bid farewell to alleluia this morning with our alleluia banner processional and choral music emphasizing our Epiphany alleluias which we now forsake until Easter Sunday.

22 February: Ash Wednesday, 7pm with Holy Communion

26 February: First Sunday in Lent

Texts: Genesis 22: 1-18; James 1: 12-18; Mark 1: 9-15

Sermon Hymn: "O Lord, Throughout These Forty Days," 418

The children's choir sings the anthem "Jesus in the Wilderness" as we prepare our own hearts for the Lenten season.



The Fine Arts/Concert Series of Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Plano, presents the Verlaine Trio in concert on Sunday, 26 February, 2012, at 7pm. Their programme will consist of trios by the great masters Mozart, Beethoven and Mendelssohn.

Russian pianist Liudmila Georgievskaya, a faculty member at SMU, has won numerous international competitions and has performed throughout Russia, Europe, and the United States. Jolyon Pegis is currently Associate Principal Cellist of the Dallas Symphony and the Assistant Principal Cellist with the Chautaugua Symphony, having appeared as soloist with orchestras throughout the country. Maria Schleuning, a member of the Dallas Symphony since 1994 and violinist for Dallas-based contemporary music ensemble Voices of Change since 1996, has premiered many new works in festivals throughout the United States and Europe. Formerly known as the Tesoro Trio, the Verlaine Trio is acclaimed locally for their performances of the classic masterworks.

Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Plano is located at 3601 W. 15th Street (near the Medical Center, one block east of Coit Road). The concert is free. Information about the concert series is available on the church website (www.lol-plano.org) or may be obtained by request from the church office at 972-867-5588.

Elders

My father-in-law thinks that facebook is the spawn of the devil. I like my account, but some recent surveys indicate that he might be partially right. According to Mark Keenan, managing director of Divorce-Online, one in five divorces can be attributed to facebook. If that statistic is to be believed, that is 20 percent of all divorces!

facebook, among other things, helps users find old friends, acquaintances, and significant others. It is not a large stretch to see how people can then use facebook to innocently talk to these people and catch up with their lives. The danger lies in when this sharing becomes too personal or when the person online becomes a sounding board for marital issues.

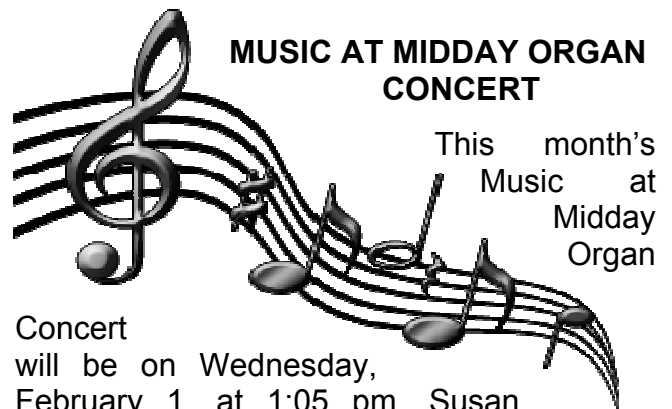
But before you delete your account or start looking at your spouse's account a little closer, know that social media, including facebook, is not the root of all evil and can serve good. It has been a healthy way for our family to communicate our joys and sorrows with friends and family. The root of the problem is sin. We live in a fallen world and facebook is not unaffected by this. Robert Anderson once said, "In every marriage more than a week old, there are grounds for divorce. The trick is to find, and continue to find, grounds for marriage." I am no marriage expert, but I do find this to be sound advice. Money, jobs, kids, social media and the like can add to the joys of marriage but can also readily add to the stress of it.

Ecclesiastes 4:12 says, "...A cord of three strands is not quickly broken." As much as sin is the problem, Jesus is the solution. This might sound trite, simplistic or even naïve. Life together with another can be brutal even on the best of days. God desires us not to be alone (Gen 2:18) and to be one with Him as He is one in the Trinity (John 17:20-23). I believe that marriage is one institution that brings this oneness here on earth. The power of His reconciliation on

the cross is greater than the power of this world.

We pray that during this month of love, God brings a measure of His oneness to you and yours. Do be tempted to celebrate the things He has blessed you with. If it is marriage, let God and your spouse know. You may even want to do this through facebook. God checks His and yours regularly.

In Christ,
Nathan Schütz, Elder



MUSIC AT MIDDAY ORGAN CONCERT

This month's
Music at
Midday
Organ

Concert will be on Wednesday, February 1, at 1:05 pm. Susan DeKam, Artist-in-Residence at St Luke's Episcopal Church, Dallas, and a prizewinner of several national competitions, will perform a 35-40 minute program. You are invited to come out in the middle of the day to hear some lovely music and to participate in our musical fellowship. For more information, visit www.lol-plano.org/music.midday.htm.

ANNUAL MUSICAL TALENT NIGHT IS COMING!

We will have our annual musical talent evening on Sunday, 29 April, at 6pm. For over 10 years this has been a fun evening where both youth and adults are able to showcase their abilities. You don't have to be virtuosically proficient at any instrument, but this is a good opportunity to get performance experience in front of a supportive audience. If you or anyone in your family is interested in participating, please contact Benjamin Kolodziej (bkolodzi@smu.edu).



BOP Work Day

The Lord of Life Board of Properties has a scheduled work day on March 24, 2012 to complete several maintenance projects. The work day will start at 9:00 am with prayer and breakfast in the fellowship hall before beginning work. We expect projects to complete before lunch. Projects include: landscaping, sealing picnic benches, light installation, and cry room arrangement and cleaning. Please mark your calendar for the event.



CALL COMMITTEE SET

As directed by the congregation at the December 2011 Voters' meeting, a call committee has been established for the search for an associate pastor. The following members were asked and accepted the challenge of being on the committee: Pat Greer, Ruth Kun, Katie Howe, Nathan Schutz, Doug Hite, Ben Lutek, and Jim Roberts. In this group, I believe we have a good mix of ages, backgrounds, ministry involvement and men/women. The call committee names were presented to and ratified by the Administrative Council at the January 19th meeting. The committee will meet with Paul Krentz on January 29th to gain some insight into the actual process.

As the committee begins its' work, please remember it is not the purpose of the call committee to "call" an associate pastor. That is the sole responsibility of you-the congregation. The committees' job is to sort through the process and present the congregation with a list of viable candidates. As we progress through the process, your input will be invaluable. Please keep the call committee in your prayers as we begin this process.

In His Service,
Jim Roberts
Chairman-Board of Elders

Call Committee Formed

The Elders of Lord of Life have now formed a Call Committee for an Associate Pastor. The members are: Ben Lutek, Doug Hite, Jim Roberts, Katie Howe, Nathan Schutz, Pastor Lindner, Pat Greer, and Ruth Kun. The newly formed committee met on the evening of January 29th in order to review the Call Committee Charter, the Case Statement for Calling an Associate Pastor, an initial job description that the Elders have developed, and Pastor Lindner's Expectations of an Associate Pastor at Lord of Life. The committee will also develop a web page to be available on our church's website so that members of the congregation can keep up with the stages of our call process.

The committee also met with Paul Krentz of the Texas District to learn more about church cultures and to understand where our church fits into the different types of cultures. He also discussed our Case Statement and Job Description. His advice is to be very specific and clear about what we expect from our Associate Pastor. Additionally, he gave the committee a realistic timeline of events.

The congregation will have an opportunity to give their input as to what they expect from an Associate Pastor, in the form of a survey, as well as the opportunity to recommend candidates for the position of Associate Pastor. This will also be a form that one must complete. Both will be made available online as well as a hard copy that will most likely be available for pick up in the church narthex.

As meeting dates are established for the Call Committee, a notice will be posted in the bulletin. The majority of these meeting will be open to the congregation.

Ruth Kun
Call Committee Recording Secretary



TEEN TIMES

February; it is the month of the year most notable for red roses and candy hearts. Valentine's Day, aside from Christmas, is the holiday in which the most greeting cards are sent. There are several versions of the story of how Valentine's Day began. According to one legend, the patron saint Valentine actually sent the first "valentine" greeting himself. While in prison, it is believed that Valentine fell in love with a young girl — who may have been his jailor's daughter — who visited him during his confinement. Before his death, it is alleged that he wrote her a letter, which he signed "From your Valentine," an expression that is still in use today. (History.com) When someone sends or gives you a valentine, what are you getting? As the recipient, you are the person to whom somebody sends a card or gift on Valentine's Day as a token of love. Hmm. If you think about it, God gave us a valentine when Jesus was born **and** when He died. God gave his Son to us as a gift and when Jesus died for us on the cross, it was out of love. So the day that Christ was born and the day that he died could be considered the first Valentine's Day; food for thought.

Speaking of food, our annual Sr. IMPACT Sweetheart Dinner is Saturday, February 11 at 5:30. Come and enjoy good food, fun, and fellowship with some entertainment from the Sr. IMPACT youth. This is one of the fundraisers in 2012 to help support the expenses of our mission trip to Somerville, Tennessee from July 8-14. The loose-change fundraiser is still in progress so pick up those pennies in the parking lot and grab the nickels and dimes in your desk drawer to put in the large glass jar located in the narthex. There are also small collection boxes and available for you to take home.

May God's grace and mercy bless you and your valentine this February.

Scott Peters

February IMPACT events

Feb. 1 @ 6:30 – Jr. Confirmation

Feb. 5 – Sr. IMPACT Super Bowl Party at Chappelle's house

Feb. 8 @ 6:00 – Jr. IMPACT at Amazing Jakes in Plano with Concordia LC Jr. high

Feb. 11 @ 5:30 – Sr. IMPACT Sweetheart Dinner

Feb. 15 @ 6:30 – Jr. Confirmation

Feb. 19 – Sr. IMPACT with Concordia LC

Feb 25 – Sr. IMPACT servant event

March IMPACT events

March 4 – Sr. IMPACT broomball with Concordia LC

March 18 – Jr. IMPACT night

March 24 – Sr. IMPACT servant event (work day at LOL with lunch out)



Sr. IMPACT Sweetheart dinner

Saturday, February 11, 2012

***Spend the evening with good friends, good food,
and great entertainment!***

Menu:

Appetizer: Antipasti

***Main Course: Seasoned roasted pork loin, green
beans, roasted potatoes, rolls***

Dessert: Cinnamon roll bread pudding

***This is annual fundraiser for youth ministry will
help support our 2012 summer mission trip to
Somerville, Tennessee July 8-14***

***Make reservations on the sign-up sheet in the
narthex by Feb. 5 or email Scott at***

speters@lol-plano.org

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Bette Martin
- 3 John Clark
- 3 Julz Cruz
- 4 Cheryl Scaglione
- 6 Sal Cruz
- 6 Dee Peters
- 6 Mark Prestemon
- 6 Tom Womack
- 7 Dorothy Meyer
- 8 Marty Buckmeier
- 9 John Chappelle
- 11 Wayne Massie
- 11 Paula Prestemon
- 11 April Schutz
- 12 Cleo Burlingame
- 12 Al & Linda McVicker [30]
- 13 Stephen Belcher
- 14 Tom & Karen Ashburn [47]
- 19 Charles Hacker
- 19 Michael Moudy
- 19 Rebecca Short
- 19 Jonathan Stevens
- 20 Reuben Martin
- 23 Sarah Loewecke
- 25 Alicia Abel
- 26 Michael Hawkins
- 27 Kelsey Crabtree
- 27 Bailey Lund
- 28 Julie Baker
- 28 Kris Crabtree
- 28 Kate Lutek
- 28 Susan Pittson

LOL CARE GROUPS

CAREERS IN CHRIST

- † For info contact Heidi Pittson at (214) 227-2532 or Carrie Sanford (972) 447-9358

EMPTY NESTERS' CARE GROUP

- † For info contact Tony and Nevelle Vess at (972) 931-5748
- † Will meet Sat. 2/18 at 7:00 PM

GOOD NEWS CARE GROUP

- † For info contact Chris Oltmann at (972) 727-6330
- † Usually meet the 2nd Sat. of each month at 6:30 PM for Bible study

MIXED BLESSINGS

- † For info contact Fred and Ruth Bernhardt at (972) 398-0771
- † Will meet Sat. 2/18 at 6:30 PM

MOMS' GROUP

- † For info contact Kris Crabtree at (214) 705-0710 or crabtreefive@sbcglobal.net



Abigail Beaudreau - 2-20-11

Lauren Howe - 2-12-06



STEPHEN MINISTRY

Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for your brothers, love one another deeply, from the heart.

1 Peter 1:22

Serving in Worship in February

| | February 5 | | February 12 | | February 19 | | February 26 | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| | 8:00 AM | 10:45 AM | 8:00 AM | 10:45 AM | 8:00 AM | 10:45 AM | 8:00 AM | 10:45 AM |
| Elder | Schutz | | Lutek | | Roberts | | Carper | |
| Common Cup | | | | | Peters | Carper | | |
| Altar | June Edelmann and Nelda Schrank | | | | | | | |
| Acolyte | Hacker | A Moudy | | Raj | | Aagesen | Hacker | Helms |
| Crucifer | | C Moudy | | | | Crabtree | | |
| Greeter | Sparks | Scaglione | Schrank | Gottberg/Lanning | Martin | Womack | Vess | Manning |
| Reader | Senter | Womack | P Ehrett | Dolginoff | B Nance | P Greer | C Nance | Thiel |
| Sound | Wolf | R Pittson | Wolf | Hite | Wilkerson | Botello | Botello | R Pittson |
| Children's Message | | | Schutz | Peters | | | Peters | Peters |
| Usher | Parrent Martin | Cruz Gottberg Lowecke | Frisko Paradise | Kuebler Dolginoff | Klausing Nance | Berger Oltmann McCicker | Hacker Schrank | Crabtree M. Buckmeier |

Midweek Services

| | February 22 | February 29 |
|-----------------|----------------------|-------------|
| | 7:00 PM | 7:00 PM |
| Elder | Womack | Womack |
| Acolyte | C Moudy | |
| Crucifer | A Moudy | |
| Sound | Wolf | |
| Usher | Paradise Gottberg | |

FINANCIAL REPORT

January- November, 2011

| | | ACTUAL | BUDGET | VARIANCE |
|------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| RECEIPTS: | Regular Offerings | \$656,310 | \$637,101 | \$19,209 |
| | Other | 4,401 | 3,800 | 601 |
| | TOTAL RECEIPTS | <u>\$660,711</u> | <u>\$640,901</u> | <u>\$19,810</u> |
| | TOTAL EXPENSES | \$628,639 | \$640,652 | (\$12,013) |
| | RECEIPTS OVER EXPENSES | \$32,072 | \$249 | \$31,823 |

OTHER INFORMATION



| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. General Operating Fund Balance | \$80,323 |
| 2. Dedicated Funds Balance | \$141,274 |
| 3. Building Note Balance | \$1,111,076 |



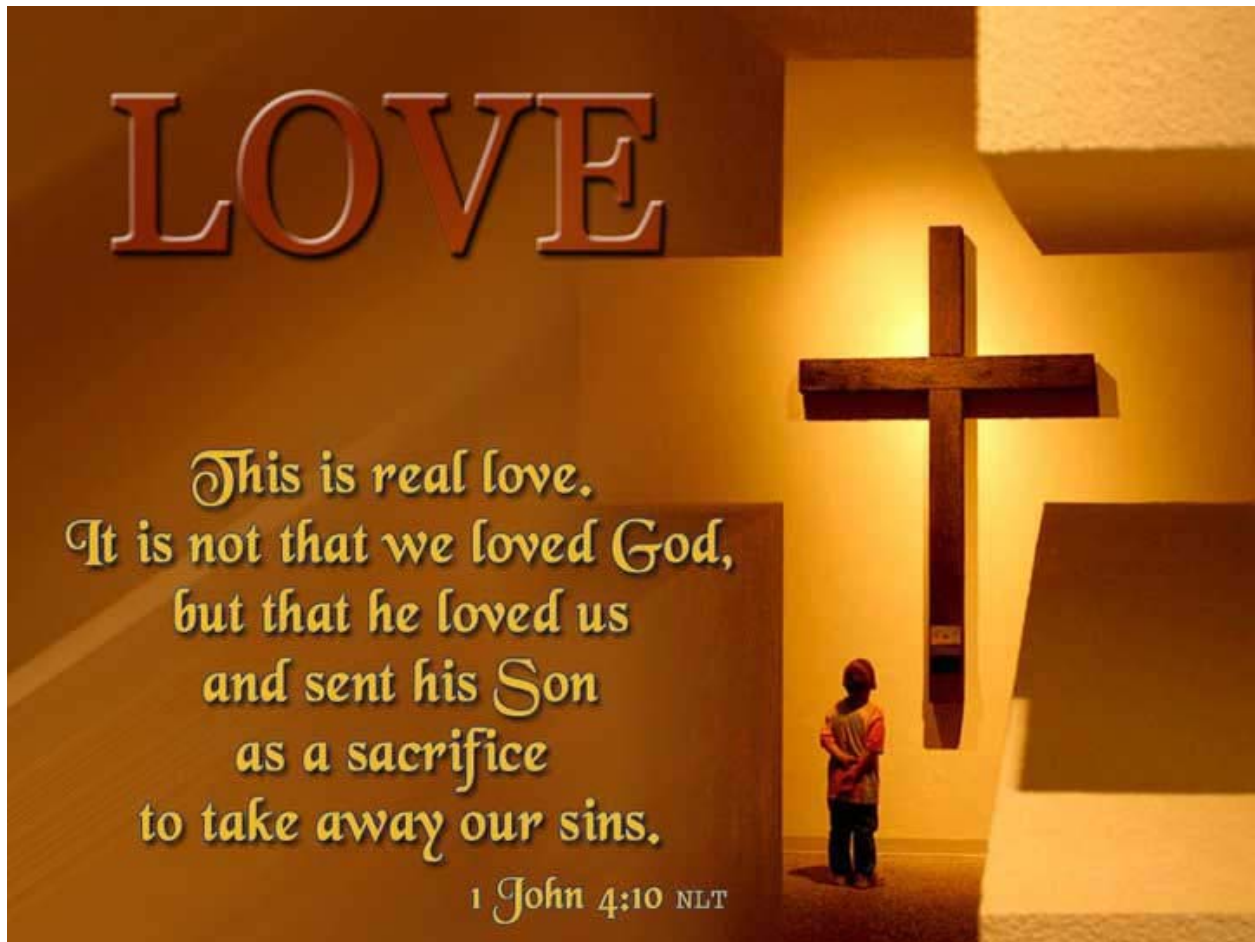
FEBRUARY 2012



LORD OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---------------------------|--|---|--|------------------------------|---|
| 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 10:00 AM Ladies' Bible Study 1:00 PM Music at Midday 4:30 PM Recorders 6:30 PM Jr. Confirm. 7:00 PM Adult Choir | 2 7:00 PM Board of Properties Groundhog Day | 3 9:00 AM Comfort Makers | 4 7:00 AM Men's Min Breakfast & Bible Study |
| 5 Sr. IMPACT Super bowl party  | 6 7:00 PM ESL Classes | 7 | 8 10:00 AM Ladies' Bible Study 4:30 PM Recorder 6:00 PM Jr. IMPACT 6:00 PM Girl Scouts 6:30 PM Jr. Confirm. 7:00 PM Adult Choir | 9 7:00 PM Stephen Min. | 10 | 11 10:00 AM Zone Board Mtg 5:30 PM Sweetheart Dinner |
| 12 LWR Coffee and Tea Sale 4:30 PM Child Choir | 13 7:00 PM ESL Classes | 14 7:00 PM Elders Valentine's Day | 15 4:30 PM Recorder 6:30 PM Jr. Confirm. w/ Dinner 7:00 PM Adult Choir | 16 7:00 PM Admin Cncl. | 17 9:00 AM Comfort Makers | 18 9:00 AM Comfort Makers 6:30 PM Mixed Blessings Care Group 7:00 PM Empty Nesters |
| 19 4:30 PM Child Choir 6:00 PM IMPACT night  | 20 7:00 PM ESL Classes | 21 Mardi Gras | 22 4:30 PM Recorder 6:00 PM Girl Scouts 7:00 PM Worship Service 7:30 PM Adult Choir Ash Wednesday | 23 7:00 PM Evening Braille Ministry | 24 | 25 2:00 PM IMPACT servant event/dinner out |
| 26 4:30 PM Childen Choir 7:00 PM Fine Arts/Concert | 27 7:00 PM ESL Classes | 28 9:30 AM Morning Braille Ministry | 29 4:30 PM Recorder 7:00 PM Worship Service 7:30 PM Adult Choir | 1 | 2 | 3 |

DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER ARTICLES IS THE 15TH



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PLANO, TEXAS

3601 W. 15th Street, Plano, Texas 75075

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Change Service Requested