

# LIFE LINES

of

## LORD OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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### Happy New Year

“I pray that out of His glorious riches He may strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith.” *Ephesians 3:16-17*



There are numerous thoughts and questions I have about this coming New Year, as I'm sure you too have some opinions. “How will the economy fare this year? What will the State of the Union be as our new president takes office? Where can I place my faith and hope with all these uncertainties on the horizon?”

These may well be some of our thoughts in this New Year. And yet, I'm pulled back to a stanza we sang this Christmas season from “O Little Town of Bethlehem.” In verse 1 we sang, “The hopes and fears of all the years are met in Thee tonight.” I'd like to share my thoughts on this verse combined with our Ephesians text.

It seems to me the Christian virtues of “faith” and “hope” are often used interchangeably as we seek to answer the difficult questions of life in this New Year. We may hear ourselves saying, “I hope everything gets better this year.” Or “I have faith everything will turn out OK.”

Martin Luther made these observations about “faith” and “hope” in his commentary on Galatians:

“Faith and hope are different affections, (qualities) for faith is not hope nor hope faith; and yet, because of the great affinity that exists between them, it is impossible to separate them. By faith we begin our spiritual life, by hope we continue it, and by revelation (in the Word) we shall obtain the whole.

St. Paul said the same thing in our Ephesians text. I believe God still has wonderful opportunities for us at LOL in His New Year. I also fully believe that many of those ministry opportunities will come to fruition as we take the time to study His Word together.

Let me encourage each member at LOL to make one of your New Year's resolutions a commitment to study His Word with fellow brothers and sisters, “so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith.”

Blessings to you this New Year,  
--Pastor Lindner

**prepare for worship  
in January**

**4 January: Christmas II**

Texts: I Kings 3:4-15; Ephesians 1:3-14; Luke 2:40-52  
Sermon Hymn: "Children of the Heavenly Father,"  
LSB 725

Sermon: "The Father's Child," Pastor Lindner

**11 January: The Baptism of Our Lord**

Texts: Genesis 1:1-5; Romans 6:1-11; Mark 1: 4-11  
Sermon Hymn: "Thy Strong Word," LSB 578

Sermon: "Created and Remade," Pastor Lindner

**18 January: Epiphany II**

Texts: I Samuel 3:1-10; I Cor. 6:12-20; John 1:43-51  
Sermon Hymn: "I Want to Walk as a Child of the  
Light," LSB 411

Sermon: "A Christian View of the Body," Pastor  
Lindner

*The instrumental ensemble plays this morning.*

**25 January: Epiphany III**

Texts: Jonah 3: 1-5; I Cor. 7: 29-35; Mark 1: 14-20  
Sermon Hymn: "O Christ, Our True and Only  
Light," LSB 839

Sermon: "Time for What?" Pastor Lindner

*The adult choir sings "Laudamus Te" by Natalie  
Sleeth as well as Mendelssohn's "Dona Nobis Pacem."*

## LUTHERAN WORSHIP COURSE

Starting Sunday, January 25 during the Sunday school hour, Benjamin Kolodziej will once again offer the Historical Foundations of Lutheran Worship class. This class analyzes the biblical basis of worship, theology, and music from the early Church until now. Sometimes we wonder why most Lutherans worship the way they do—why do we keep the church year? What is the meaning behind our order of service? Why do we sing some hymns but not others? As we attempt to address such questions, our opinions are informed not only by our own interpretation of scripture, but by the great theologians and church leaders of the past who sought the same answers from scripture. This is a multimedia class that will attempt to demonstrate through sight and sound the consistent testimony of all orthodox Christian art, music, and even architecture through the centuries. The course is approximately 10 weeks long. Please note the change of date and time from the last newsletter.

## HOUSING NEEDED

We are once again in need of housing for about 60 students of the Concordia University, Seward, Concert Wind Ensemble who will be performing on the Fine Arts/Concert Series on Saturday, 8 March. If you would be willing to house some students (in groups/multiples of two), please contact Benjamin Kolodziej ([bkolodzi@smu.edu](mailto:bkolodzi@smu.edu)).

## MUSIC AT MIDDAY ORGAN CONCERT

This month's concert will be on Wednesday, January 7 at 1:05pm with Benjamin Kolodziej performing a brief program with commentary and time for requests at the end.

## INVITATION TO JOIN OUR MUSICIANS:

January is a good time to join one of our choirs, as we begin all new music in preparation for Lent and Eastertide. The complete ensemble list and current rehearsal schedules are found on [www.lol-plano.org/music.htm](http://www.lol-plano.org/music.htm). All of our musicians will gladly welcome those who wish to join us for the following choirs:

- Adult Choir resumes rehearsal on Wednesday, January 7, from 7-8:30pm. No musical experience or note-reading is needed, but a commitment to regular rehearsal is required.
- Jubilate Children's Choir for ages up to 5<sup>th</sup> grade resumes rehearsal on Sunday, January 11 at 4:30pm. Children learn the fundamentals of music and worship, and engage in weekly activities and craft. We sing both fun, action songs as well as the great hymns of the Church.
- Youth Choir for ages 6<sup>th</sup> grade and up resumes on Sunday, January 11 at 5:30pm.
- Handbell Ensemble for everyone resumes on Monday, January 12 at 6pm. We are in need of some more ringers—please contact Vicki Frinsko if you are willing to serve in this way ([vfrinsko@tx.rr.com](mailto:vfrinsko@tx.rr.com)).

## C. S. Lewis Workshop Comes to Lord of Life



Many know C.S. Lewis from his children's books and the recent movies, The Chronicles of Narnia. Lewis was a prolific author who, as a former atheist, created controversy as well as inspiration. Lewis was a slow convert, moving from atheism to a belief in God to finally a definite Christian. Convinced of the truth of Christianity, Lewis began writing from this perspective. His works include The Chronicles of Narnia, The Screwtape Letters, and Mere Christianity.

On Saturday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, Lord of Life Lutheran Church will hold a workshop on the works of C.S. Lewis led by the Rev. Dr. Joel Heck from Concordia University . The workshop will have four sessions focused on different aspects of Lewis' writings. Members of Lord of Life and any interested adults are invited to attend. The workshop will include lunch. Registration forms are available on Lord of Life's web site and a brochure on the workshop is also available.

The workshop leader, the Rev. Dr . Joel D. Heck is a fan and scholar of Lewis. Since 1998, Dr. Heck has served Concordia University at Austin as Professor of Theology. He teaches courses in Old Testament, New Testament, Reformation history, and the life and writings of C. S. Lewis. He has also served as a pastor, high school teacher, conference speaker, and as Vice President of Academic Services for Concordia. He holds the Doctor of Theology from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis . He is the author or editor of nine books, most of them in the areas of evangelism and assimilation. His most recent book, released on Aug. 7, 2008 , is a reprint of Lewis's little known collaboration with Cambridge professor E. M. W. Tillyard, *The Personal Heresy*. Heck has written a full-length book on C. S. Lewis's educational views, released in 2006 by Concordia Publishing House under the title *Irrigating Deserts: C. S. Lewis on Education*. Dr. Heck spent the fall of 2004 on sabbatical in Oxford , working with Walter Hooper, former private secretary to C. S. Lewis, on Vol. III of Lewis's *Collected Letters*. He and his wife Cheryl have three grown children and live in north Austin .

# Children's Ministry Corner



to everyone who helped make the



Children's  
Christmas  
Program

on December 13 a success!



## Look

for the book bags which will be coming soon for all children. Each bag will have a Bible story with activities to go along with that particular story.

### Sunday School Offerings

The Sunday School offerings for the next quarter will be sent to help the ministry at New Hope Lutheran Church in east Dallas. Thank you for the offerings in the last quarter for LINC of Dallas.

## LOL CARE GROUPS

### BRANCHES AND SPROUTS CARE GROUP

- † For info contact Earl and Karen Lund at (972) 608-0602
- † Usually meet on a Sat. evening for Bible study and potluck meal
- † Parents are welcome to bring their children with them

### CAREERS IN CHRIST

- † For info contact Heidi Pittson at (214) 227-2532, Bethany Konz at (214) 783-3035 or Carrie Sanford (972) 447-9358
- † Usually meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month for a potluck dinner and Bible study.

### EMPTY NESTERS' CARE GROUP

- † For info contact Tony and Nevelle Vess at (972) 931-5748
- † Usually meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of each month for Bible study and fellowship

### GOOD NEWS CARE GROUP

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

### MIXED BLESSINGS

- † For info contact Fred and Ruth Bernhardt at (972) 398-0771
- † Meet a Sat. of each month for Bible study.



Stephen Adcox -1-25-04  
Hannah Stevens - 1-30-05



&  
Anniversary  
to...

- 1 Bob Nance
- 1 Margaret Bush
- 2 Stu and Sandy Ehrett (22)
- 5 Linda Patzer
- 7 Justin Mutinta
- 7 John and Stephani Belcher (15)
- 8 Jim and Donna Roberts (26)
- 8 Kumba Tumbay
- 8 Linda Tischler
- 8 Lauren Howe
- 9 Effie Moore
- 10 Roy Cross
- 10 Linda Kratzert
- 10 Sandra Paradise
- 14 August Helmbright
- 19 Paul Flynn
- 19 Mark Foster
- 21 Caden Evans
- 22 Lora Frinsko
- 22 Ted Pospisil
- 23 Audrey Evans
- 24 Mirela Hysenaj
- 24 Kymberly Thomas
- 25 Joey Sevin
- 26 Eleana Hysenaj
- 28 Paige Hite
- 30 Karl Olsen
- 31 Anna Witt

"See what love the Father has given us,



that we should be called children of God."

1 John 3:1

## Serving in Worship in December

	January 4		January 11		January 18		January 25	
	8:00 AM	10:45 AM	8:00 AM	10:45 AM	8:00 AM	10:45 AM	8:00 AM	10:45 AM
<b>Elder</b>	B. Lutek		T. Womack		J. Roberts		T. Kowalke	
<b>Common Cup</b>					B. Lutek	D. Hite		
<b>Altar</b>	Nelda Schrank and June Edelmann							
<b>Acolyte</b>	D. Kuebler	S. Sanderford	S. Bowen	J. Beckmeier	K. Tabor	G. Abel	C. Peters	G. Kostrzewa
<b>Crucifer</b>	E. Wilde	M Sanderford			B. Lund	M. Prestemon		
<b>Greeter</b>	Vess	Manning	Martin	McVicker	Ehrett	Scaglione	Weber	Pittson/Dale
<b>Reader</b>	A. Theil	C. Moudy	B. Nance	A. McVicker	C. Nance	D. Hall	S. Paradise	T. Womack
<b>Sound</b>	Brian W.	Rick P.	Daniel F.	Doug H.	Brian W.	Brandon W.	Daniel F.	Rick P.
<b>Children's Message</b>			K. Lund	S. Peters			J. Lindner	J. Lindner
<b>Usher</b>	Kuebler Brown	Cruz Abel	Paradise Frinsko	Kowalke Carper McVicker	Nance Parrent	Oltmann Berger	Hacker Schrank	Lowecke M.Buckmeier Crabtree

# FINANCIAL REPORT

## *January - November 2008*

		ACTUAL	BUDGET	VARIANCE
<b>RECEIPTS:</b>	<b>Regular Offerings</b>	\$489,570	\$569,167	(\$79,597)
	<b>Other</b>	\$6,334	\$1,040	\$5,294
	<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	\$495,904	\$570,207	(\$74,303)
	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	\$576,285	\$618,823	(\$42,538)
	<b>RECEIPTS OVER EXPENSES</b>	(\$80,381)	(\$48,616)	(\$31,765)

### OTHER INFORMATION

1. General Operating Fund Balance	(\$15,305)
2. Dedicated Funds Balance	\$89,161
3. Building Note Balance	\$1,595,936

### Notes





- 1) The negative General Fund balance is covered by the Contingency Fund.



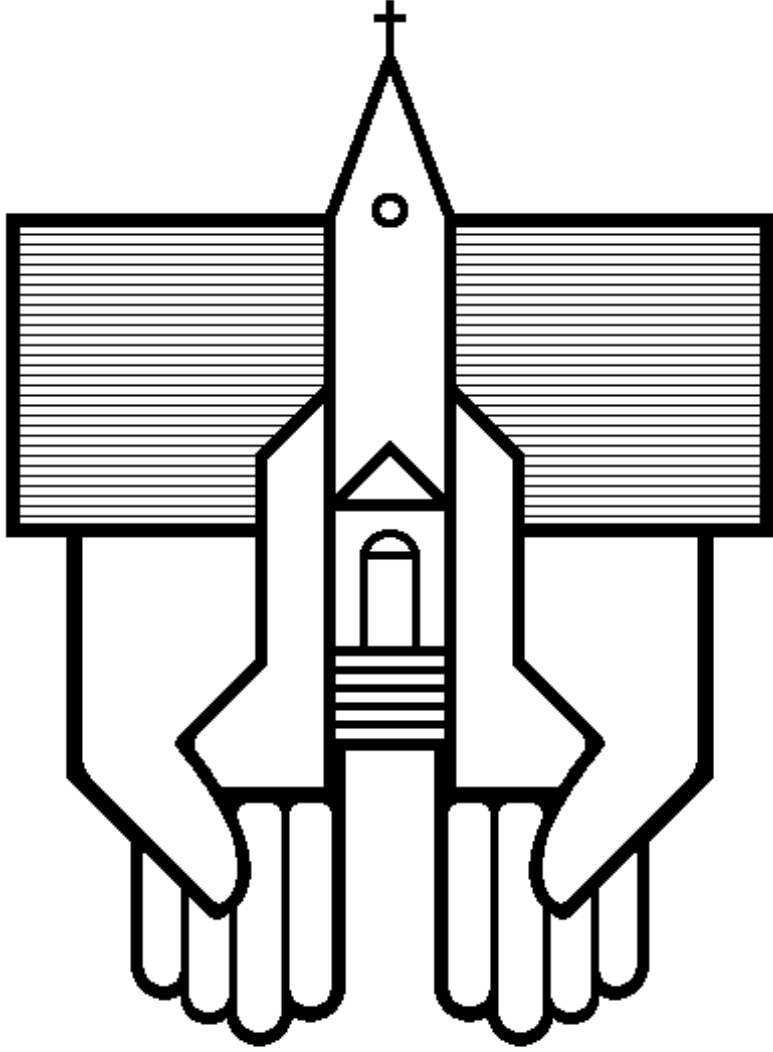
# JANUARY 2008

## LORD OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29 	30	31	1 Office Closed  <b>New Year's Day</b>	2 Office Closed	3 7:00 AM Men's Min Breakfast & Bible Study - St. Paul
4 	5	6 7:00 PM Family Min.  <b>Epiphany</b>	7 1:00 PM Music at Mid- day Organ Concert 6:30 PM Jr. Conf. 7:00 PM Adult Choir 7:00 PM Children Min.	8 7:00 PM Bd. of Prop.	9 9:00 AM Comfort Mak- ers	10 9:00 AM Comfort Mak- ers 4:00 PM Stormont/Ol- son Memorial Serv.
11 4:30 PM Children Choir 5:30 PM Youth Choir	12 6:00 PM Handbells 7:00 PM ESL Classes	13 7:00 PM Elders 7:00 PM LWML 7:00 PM Lutheran Wor- ship Class	14 6:30 PM Jr. Conf. 7:00 PM Adult Choir	15 7:00 PM Admin Coun- cil	16	17 9:00 AM LWML Zone BoD at LoL 6:00 PM Empty Nesters
18 4:30 PM Children Choir 5:30 PM Youth Choir 6:30 PM Sr. High Youth Night 	19 6:00 PM Handbells 7:00 PM ESL Classes  <b>Martin Luther King Day</b>	20 7:00 PM Lutheran Wor- ship Class	21 6:30 PM Jr. Conf. 7:00 PM Adult Choir	22 7:00 PM Evening Braille Ministry @ Messiah	23 9:00 AM Comfort Mak- ers 7:00 PM Movie Night	24
25 4:30 PM Children Choir 5:30 PM Youth Choir 7:00 PM American Guild of Organists Cert. Instruction	26 6:00 PM Handbells 7:00 PM ESL Classes	27 9:30 AM Morning Braille Ministry @ Messiah 7:00 PM Endowment Fund Committee 7:00 PM Lutheran Wor- ship Class	28 6:30 PM Jr. Conf. 7:00 PM Adult Choir	29	30 	31 <b>"I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD."</b> <small>WHOEVER FOLLOWS ME WILL NEVER WALK IN DARKNESS, BUT WILL HAVE THE LIGHT OF LIFE." JOHN 8:12</small>

**DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER ARTICLES IS THE 15TH**



*Lord, you have been  
our dwelling place  
in all generations.*

*Psalm 90:1*

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PLANO, TEXAS

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Change Service Requested

