

LIFE LINES

of

LORD OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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November 2011

The Pastoral Gift

“God's people in a specific place, after sincere consideration and prayer, call a pastor from the larger Christian family to inspire and equip them for their ministry. The pastor's focus of service is the faithful proclamation of the Gospel and administration of the Sacraments, loving acts of pastoral care, an exemplary Christian life and concentrated efforts for the growth of the church”.

– Calling a Pastor Manual (CAPM), Section II, Texas District LCMS Website

Early this year the Board of Elders began a study of the pastoral call and a consideration of the Holy Spirit's direction for our congregation. The elders felt this was a good time to begin planning and looking ahead, given the ministry workload at Lord of Life and given Pastor Lindner's suggestion that within a few years he will be thinking about retirement.

Several months of prayer and study led the board to the following observations:

- Our congregation is blessed with quite a number of unique core spiritual values and demonstrated strengths, which would be beneficial to continue without interruption
- There is a growing list of ministry opportunities ripe for action
- The financial picture is strong and membership is increasing in all age groups
- This is an opportunity to call an Associate Pastor and evaluate the potential of maintaining a two-pastor staff in the future

An Associate Pastor can assist and work alongside the Senior Pastor of a congregation to provide a balanced ministry of preaching, teaching, pastoral care and organizational leadership enabling the church to grow to its full

potential in membership and spiritual vitality. Is this what the Holy Spirit has in mind for Lord of Life?

Do we begin the call process to add an Associate Pastor? The elders and the Administrative Council will be bringing this question to a vote at the December Voters Assembly.

Members are invited to attend one or both of the informational meetings scheduled for mid-November. We encourage you to talk and share with fellow members, at board meetings, in Care groups, and in your personal prayer time. How can we best use the Pastoral Gift to do His will at Lord of Life?

“His gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors

and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ...”

(Ephesians 4:11-12).

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The Board of Elders





Prepare for Worship in November

6 November: (HC) All Saints Day

Texts: Revelation 7:9-17; 1 John 3:1-3;
Matthew 5:1-12
Sermon Hymn: "Jerusalem the Golden," 672
Sermon: "Saints & Sinners"
Brass, organ and choir lead this festival service of All Saints.

13 November:

Texts: Zephaniah 1: 7-16; I Thess. 5: 1-11;
Matthew 25: 14-30
Sermon Hymn: "The Day is Surely Drawing Near,"
508
Sermon: "Living in Our Master's Joy"
The Jubilate Children's Choir sings this morning.

20 November: Last Sunday of the of Church Year

Texts: Ezekiel 34: 11-16; I Cor. 15: 20-28;
Matthew 25: 31-46
Sermon Hymn: "The King Shall Come When Morning
Dawns," 348
Sermon: "A Vision of Life"
*The handbell ensemble and youth choir lead the
liturgy which celebrates Christ as King.*

Wednesday, 23 November: **Thanksgiving Eve, 7pm**

Texts: Deut. 8: 1-10; Philippians 4: 10-20;
Luke 17: 11-19

27 November: **First Sunday of Advent**

Texts: Isaiah 64:1-9; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9;
Mark 11:1-10
Sermon Hymn: "Savior of the Nations, Come," 332
Sermon: "Always? . . . Really?"
*The choir sings the anthem "My Eternal King" by Jane
Marshall, anticipating Christ's birth as the King of
Creation.*

Fine Arts/Concert Series Presents: The Meridian Chamber Players

The Fine Arts/Concert Series of Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Plano, presents the Meridian Chamber Players in concert on Saturday, 12 November at 7pm. The Meridian Chamber Players consist of eighteen professional musicians playing flute, oboe, clarinet, saxophone, bassoon, horn, violin, cello and bass, all conducted by Abdiel Almodovar. Founded in 2006 and comprised of local music teachers and professional performers, the Meridian Chamber Players is a professional musical ensemble committed to providing high quality performances of chamber repertoire. The programme will include Mozart's Serenade #10 in B-flat, K. 361, "Gran Partita," for winds and string bass, selections from Bizet's Carmen, a double wind quartet by Alberto Piazzolla, and the US premiere of "Piesa de Concert" by Moldavian composer and Dallas resident Gheorge Neaga. The concert is free. Contact Benjamin Kolodziej for more information (bkolodziej@lol-plano.org).



Music At Midday Organ Concert

You are invited to this month's Music at Midday Concert on Wednesday, 2 November, at 1.05pm. Although normally these concerts focus on organ music, this month's will feature music performed by vocalist Rebecca Winston, accompanied on organ and piano by Chris Winston. Rebecca is Director of Choral Activities at Lamb of God Lutheran Church in Lewisville, where Chris is Organist and Director of Music. Rebecca will sing a few ever-popular Puccini arias, accompanied by organ and piano. Chris will conclude the programme with a concerto by Johann Sebastian Bach, performed on the piano. Rebecca has sung with the Fort Worth Opera and has taught at UTA while Chris owns a musical production company which specializes in composition for film and television. You are invited to this 35-minute informal concert which promises to inspire and entertain.

LOL Saints Remembered

One of the traditions of our Lutheran worship on All Saints' Day is to read the names of the ones from our congregation who have gone on before us. This affirms our faith and belief knowing that these dear brothers and sisters of ours are with their Lord in heaven. And so we remember:



Daniel Carter – December 4, 2010
 Francis Buckmeier – January 1, 2011
 Bureeda Bruner – February 10, 2011
 Vivian Tobaben – February 18, 2011
 August Helmbright – March 9, 2011
 Suzy Tauer – March 24, 2011
 Tom Tauer – July 10, 2011

To God alone be the glory. Amen.



and Worship Service November 23

Make plans to attend this special service at 7:00 pm which includes Holy Communion. Envelope offerings received that evening will go to Lutheran World Relief. Please bring a bag of non-perishable groceries which will be donated to the Plano Food Pantry at Holy Nativity Episcopal Church. Family members will place an item from their bag on the altar during the service.

How is ESL Doing?

The English as a Second Language (ESL) program at Lord of Life is alive, well and vibrant. We have 9 dedicated staff members and 2 substitutes who provide tutoring, child care and administrative services for our 38 students while looking after their children. The program meets once a week on Monday evenings from 7pm to 8:30pm from early September thru May. We tutor all the ESL grade levels 1-6. We have students from China, Mexico, Peru, Albania, Armenia, Argentina, Ghana, Kurdistan, Iran, the Ukraine, Russia and Ethiopia. They all have varied backgrounds. We have even had 5 PhD's from the medical and science fields in one of the classes at the same time. Our students have certain things in common. They all want to learn English, work and improve their lives. They have goals and they are so very thankful and appreciative to us and Lord of Life. The program is already at its maximum capacity. The ideal class size is 4 students. We have classes that have 9 and 10 students. The thing that makes those classes work is the skills of the teachers and students willingness to help each other.

The ESL program needs tutors and substitute tutors. All that is required is fluency in English and a willingness to teach. You do not need to speak any other language. We have the class rooms, teaching material and will provide teaching assistance as needed.

The ESL program is serious, fun and busy. Feel free to join us on any Monday night to see what we are doing.

So how is ESL doing? The answer is very well and in my opinion it is doing impressively well.

FrankE (*Frank Edelmann*)



LOL Care Groups



CAREERS IN CHRIST CARE GROUP

† For info contact Heidi Pittson at (214) 315-0302, or Carrie Sanford (903) 388-3081

EMPTY NESTERS' CARE GROUP

† For info contact Tony and Nevelle Vess at (972) 931-5748

GOOD NEWS CARE GROUP

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

MIXED BLESSINGS CARE GROUP

† For info contact Fred and Ruth Bernhardt at (972) 398-0771
 † Meet November 12 for dinner and then attend the Fine Arts Concert Series Performance

MOMS' GROUP

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

Heads Up to All Our Coffee, Tea and CHOCOLATE Buyers!

Yes, we are back in the chocolate business!

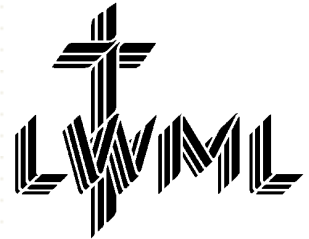
We will have our regular coffee and tea sales but we will also have our \$5 a bar chocolates. In addition we will have some seasonal items for sale each Sunday until we are sold out: Advent calendars for \$7 and Dark chocolate holiday balls for \$6. Come to our table starting November 13 and pick up some extras for the coming holidays!



Women in Mission

Members of the Dal-North Zone of LWML met at Lord of Life on Saturday, October 15 for the semi-annual Bible Study and meeting of societies in the North Dallas area. 56 ladies from Bonham, Denton, Lewisville, Denison, McKinney, Carrollton, Richardson, and Plano joined in fellowship and study titled "CELEBRATE! You are a promise" led by Cheri Lindner.

A special highlight of the event was the ingathering of supplies for the Samaritan Inn in McKinney, Collin County's shelter for the homeless. Donations included washcloths (57), bath towels (4), bars of soap (36), toothpaste (3 large and numerous travel size), deoderant (29), shampoo (15 large and several personal size), razors (5 packages), bath tissue (55), facial tissue (14), personal care products (7), baby items (7 small blankets and assorted shampoos and powders), zip-lock storage bags (10 boxes), trash bags (2 packages), cleaning supplies (10), paper plates (150), several clothing items and food items, stamps, and cash donations of \$18.00. What a joy to be able to "Serve our Lord with Gladness" by reaching out to those in need in our community!



All ladies of the congregation are invited to join us on November 8, when President Charis Bennett and Evelyn Buckmeier will present a video and report of the National LWML Convention they attended this past summer in Peoria, Ill.

Mark you calendars now for Saturday, Dec. 10 for our annual Christmas Brunch. Everyone is encouraged to join us for a morning of Christmas preparation, fellowship, and good food!

Watch your newsletter and bulletin for more opportunities to serve and reach out to others as we pause this month to give special thanks for all of our blessings and then begin preparations for the celebration of our Savior's birth.

Daniel Abel: 11-9
 Jacob Abel: 11-19
 Mary Abel: 11-22
 Jonah Carter: 11-21
 Hayden Crabtree: 11-7
 Jacquelyn Culp: 11-22
 Erin Farlow: 11-3
 Justin Hollmer: 11-24
 Blair Stoneham: 11-21
 Emma Ziegelbein: 11-21
 Noah Ziegelbein: 11-21



Children's Ministry Corner

Save the Date!



The annual
Children's Christmas Program
will be held on
Saturday, December 3!
More details and registration
information to come soon!

If you would like to help out, we welcome all volunteers! If you would like to volunteer, please contact Kris Crabtree at 214-705-0710!

Sunday School News

Please note that Sunday School will not be held on December 25 or January 1.

There will be a Movie Day during the Sunday School hour on December 18.

TEEN TIMES

How often do we wish for something and don't get it or ask for something else and are told no? There are times we get what we want but have to work hard to acquire it. My dad, my younger brother Joel, and I went on a 3 day fishing trip last month to Port O'Conner, Texas where we spent time casting bait and wading in the waters of Matagorda Bay. As with most fishermen, we too were hoping to land "the big one" within the first hour of fishing; God had a different plan.

The first afternoon was spent catching small fish that were not keepers and some were no larger than the bait that was being cast. Evening came and we geared up for a night of flounder fishing by wading into the bay waters of the Texas coast with lights and gigs looking for those "saddle blankets" (that's what they call big flounder). After three hours, we each had a few to speak of but walking two to three miles in water up to our knees can take its toll. Needless to say we slept well that night. The next afternoon of fishing brought more of the same as the first day and the big fish just weren't biting; or more likely we were in the wrong place. Night fell and wading for flounder produced a few more good sized fish. We were happy with what we got, but again we had to work pretty hard for it. Early the next morning, we were being escorted by a guide for a day of fishing for Redfish and trout. By three o'clock there was one fish in the boat to speak of and we thought that this day would be like the previous two. A lot of baiting hooks, casting, baiting again, moving from one spot to the next, and catching small stuff were wearing us out. However, our persistence paid off.

Late in the day, we anchored on a small channel between and island and a shell reef in four feet of water, baited up and casted out. WHAM! The first big strike of the day turned out to be a 20 inch Redfish and boy was it fun to reel in! It got better from there as we landed fish from 22-25 inches for the next hour! After a long 2 ½ days of catching almost nothing, our hard work paid off.

Being a Christian can be hard work sometimes too. Salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ is a free gift from God. But, as we walk through life and are confronted with issues within our families, schools, jobs, or friendships, sometimes it is a struggle to maintain a Christian attitude in the face of adversity. But just like the three of us had a guide to help us find the fish, Jesus is our guide in teaching us how to find our strength in our faith. God also gives you pastors, teachers, and parents to help you get through the tough times when it seems there is no hope. Just like fishing, persistence will pay off.

In God we Trust,
Scott Peters

IMPACT events in November:

Nov. 2 – Jr. Confirmation w/ dinner at Crabtree's house

Nov. 9 – Jr. Confirmation at Concordia LC

Nov. 16 – Jr. Confirmation (last class until Jan. 4, 2012)

Nov. 13, 27 – Sr. IMPACT night

Faith Lutheran School Conducts Open Houses

Faith Lutheran School will conduct two open houses: 1) Sunday, November 6 at 2 p.m and 2) Monday, November 7 at 9 a.m. Faith Lutheran School is located at 1701 E. Park Boulevard in Plano. Anyone interested in learning more about Faith Lutheran School is invited to attend. Prospective families will meet the school's headmaster, principal and staff, will tour the facilities and enjoy light refreshments. For more information about Faith Lutheran School or about the event please call 972.423.7448 or email school@faithplanoschool.org. Faith Lutheran School is fully accredited and currently provides classes from pre-school three-year-olds through grade 12. School curriculum is based on the classical model of education. The school's educational program also includes both sport sand the fine arts. To learn more about Faith Lutheran School, please visit the school's web site at www.faithplanoschool.org



Cry Room Updates

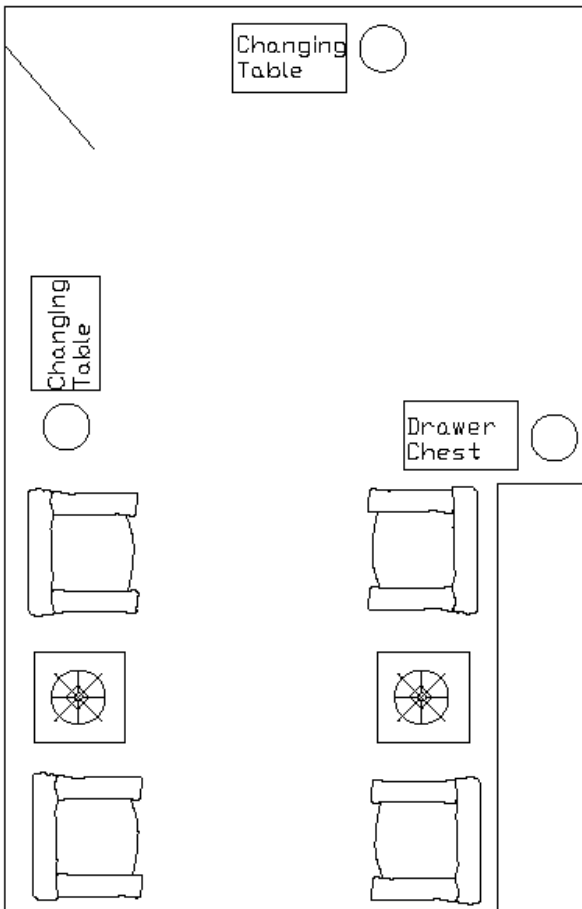
The LOL Board of Properties will be updating the cry room to better serve our congregation. As part of the update, the table, coffee table, chairs, and office items will be removed from the room. A new layout of the room is presented below. We

are asking for donations for a few gently used items for the cry room. Please contact Cale Boriack to make a contribution.

Gently used items:

- 2 glider rockers
- 2 changing tables
- Bottle warmer
- End table
- 3 small lidded trash cans

Cale Boriack (caleandanna@gmail.com)
979-716-8796



- 1 *Peter & Ruth Kun [33]
- 2 Cheri Lindner
- 3 Jeff Loewecke
- 4 Caitlyn Moudy
- 4 Peggy Stagliano
- 6 Rachel Williams
- 7 Stephen Adcox
- 7 *Leo & Nora Parrent [42]
- 9 Jacob Hacker
- 9 Brooke Wilkerson
- 11 Dolores Stormont
- 13 Robert Graham
- 13 Ken Tabor
- 16 Laura Lutek
- 18 *Michael & Susie Hawkins [11]
- 21 Stephanie Belcher
- 21 Al Martin
- 22 Joe Isbell
- 23 Sean Forrester
- 24 Dick Hemingway
- 24 *Dave & Kathy Wilde [27]
- 24 Tom Ashburn
- 25 Rick Hollmer
- 26 Arlyne Bailey
- 26 Evelyn Buckmeier
- 27 Shane Forrester
- 27 *John & Cheri Lindner [40]
- 28 Russ Wilkerson
- 28 *Al & Norma Martin [54]
- 29 Christina Wilde
- 30 Barbara Johnston
- 30 John Hawkins



Serving in Worship in November

	Nov. 6		Nov. 13		Nov. 20		Nov. 27	
	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	Peters		Schutz		Lutek		Womack	
					Carper	Womack		
Acolyte	Hacker	Crabtree		Helms		Raj		Pittson
Crucifer								
Greeters	Martin	Womack	Ehrett	McVicker/ Lanning	Sparks	Gottberg/ Mutinta	Schrank	Manning
Ushers	Al Martin Parrent	Cruz Gottberg Loewecke	Frinkso Paradise	Dolginoff Kuebler	Klausing Nance	Berger McVicker Oltmann	Hacker Schrank	Buckmeier Crabtree
Readers	B Nance	Thiel	C Nance	McVicker	S Paradise	Dolginoff	C Paradise	Greer
Children's Message			Schutz	Schutz			Bailey Lund	Peters
Sound Tech	Wolf	Hite	Wilkerson	Gene Pittson	Botello	Rick Pittson	Wolf	Hite
Altar Service	Kay Oltmann and Sandra Paradise							

Thanksgiving Eve – November 23, 2011 – 7:00 PM

Elder - Roberts

Ushers – Paradise and Womack

Sound Tech - Botello

Midweek Advent I – November 30, 2011 – 7:00 PM

Elder - Roberts



FINANCIAL REPORT - January - September, 2011

		ACTUAL	BUDGET	VARIANCE
RECEIPTS	Regular Offerings	\$478,694	458,120	\$20,574
	Other	3,221	2,870	351
	TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$481,916	\$460,990	\$20,926
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$472,263	\$480,086	(\$7,823)
	RECEIPTS OVER EXPENSES	\$9,652	(\$19,096)	\$28,748
	OTHER INFORMATION			
	1. General Operating Fund Balance	\$53,597		
	2. Dedicated Funds Balance	\$132,728		
	3. Building Note Balance	\$1,122,217		