

# Lord of Life Lutheran Church

*"Where There's Life For You!"*

Volume 21 No.6

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Lifeline is a Newsletter published by Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Moreno Valley, California.

# LIFELINE

## Our Mission Statement

*Inviting all to grow in Christ!*



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Friday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, there was a death in our congregation. A cherished and beloved member, Mr. Fred Bueker, was called home to heaven. May God continue to bless his wonderful wife and family with peace and comfort. Fred was blessed with a heart transplant 14 years ago, and we give thanks for this miracle of medicine and heart surgery. The organ donor was a twenty year old man named Wade. Wade was a generous "giver," and he had a generous heart. He was a caregiver for his invalid grandmother, who lived in San Diego. Wade was of Asian descent, was a Buddhist, a leader with the Boy Scouts of America. He rode a motorcycle and, 14 years ago, he was hit and killed by a drunk driver. Fred received Wade's heart, and lived an additional 14 years to love and enjoy his family, church, and all of life. Wade was honored at Fred's memorial service on December 27<sup>th</sup>.

As a church congregation, our nation and world have all been saddened and shocked by the death of 26 souls at an elementary school in Newtown, CT. The school district presented a community memorial service on Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, which was shown live on the major TV stations.

Clergy of all Protestant denominations offered prayers for peace, comfort, and healing. A Catholic Priest gave blessings for the service and the people. Then, a Rabbi chanted a passage from the Old Testament book of Lamentations. It was mournful, most comforting, and beautiful all at the same time. He then prayed in English.

This was followed by a Muslim boy and his father taking part. The young son beautifully chanted a comforting Muslim prayer followed by his father's prayer in English. Then, an Indian woman prayed, followed by a Greek Orthodox Priest, and then a Hindu woman from India prayed a Hindu prayer.

Next was the State Governor, who presented a wonderful and most fitting tribute. He remembered Jesus' words, "A little child shall lead them." President Obama then spoke and used the scripture passage, "Let the little children come unto me, and forbid them not, for such is the kingdom of Heaven." A Lutheran pastor gave the final benediction in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Never, in my lifetime, did I imagine there would be an ecumenical service of such great proportions, that included the major faith expressions of all the world.

Also, I want to share a special Christmas letter from Dr. Richard Cunningham, a most gifted Bible Study teacher, and his lovely wife, Mary. We are thankful for his teaching our Saturday Bible Study class. He quotes Longfellow's "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day." As Longfellow wrote verse three, he faced the reality of a world in turmoil and grief: "And in despair, I bowed by head. There is no peace on Earth, I said. For hate is strong, and mocks the song of peace on Earth, good will to men." Then Dr. Cunningham writes: "I love the hope and promise of verse four: 'Yet pealed the bells more loud and deep: God is not dead, nor doth He sleep. The wrong shall fail, the right prevail, with peace on Earth, good will to men.'

The promises God gives us at Christmas are still sure and secure. In a world that many unbelievers see falling apart, Our God is at work putting the pieces together in preparation for His Second Advent, when He will bring peace and good will to all men." Dr. Richard Cunningham, December 2012.

Praising God for you, Lord of Life Lutheran Church Family!

In God's Love and in His grip,  
Pastor Chuck





Dear Brothers and sisters in Christ,


God's peace and love to each of you. What a joyous season we've just come through; the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. With His birth, we were given Hope, and it is that hope which sustains those of us who have lost loved ones or friends this past year to get through our grief and sorrows. Thanks be to God that, one day, we will be reunited with them, because God cared enough to send His Son.

Now, as we enter a new year, what are we going to do with it? I trust that each of us will continue to proclaim the Good News of our Savior's birth each and every day as we are told to do. While their doctrines conflict with our beliefs many times, I would hope that in this new year, each of us could be like the Jehovah Witnesses, or even the Mormons when it comes to sharing the real truth. Will it be so hard for us to actually go and knock on the 10-12 homes on our blocks and talk to our neighbors? Many may have churches, but I'm sure many don't. I thank God for the Katherine Wards and the Eders in our congregation, who reach out to their neighbors and share God's peace. Even though Jack did not have the joys of our Savior throughout his life, God used Katherine and Marie to show him our Savior's love. As a result, Jack was able to die in peace. Just as Pastor Chuck has told us many times, the day we were baptized we became pastors, we don't need a certificate to share the good news, we are given the only text we need, The BIBLE.

In closing, I would ask that each of us would go out, reach out, and bring in those in our neighborhoods who have no church homes. After all, what better place

to show God's love than Lord of Life? It is my hope and prayer that each of us will continue to grow in the church, and grow the church in this new year. My heartfelt thanks goes out to each of you, every Sunday, as I see you taking Pastor's message outside our walls instead of hiding it inside our walls. God has plans for our church and He will help us get there if we let Him. Will we?

God's Peace Always,  
John Lowe, President



**Annual Meeting**

**Sunday, January 27<sup>th</sup>**

**Election of Church Council Members**

**Annual Reports**

**Church Budget**

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**2013  
Lenten Worship  
At  
Lord of Life**

February 13 – March 21

**Worship  
Schedule  
For Lent**

Simple suppers at 6:00 pm  
Worship at 7:00 pm

Ash Wednesday, February 13 - Soup Supper  
*Holy Communion and imposition of ash*

Wednesday, February 20 – Taco Supper

Wednesday, February 27 – Chili Supper

Wednesday, March 7 – Finger Food Supper

Wednesday, March 14 – Salad Bar Supper

Wednesday, March 21 – International Supper

**Holy Week Events**

Palm Sunday, March 24

Maundy Thursday, March 28 – Soup Supper

Good Friday, March 29 – Service only

Easter Sunday, March 31



**Dear Lord of Life family,**

First I would like to thank all of those angels in the congregation who have been supporting my faith journey through prayers, kind, uplifting words and financially (you know who you are!) The amount of reading, studying, and projects can be overwhelming at times, but with the help of God and each of you, I am getting through it. Thank you to those who returned the surveys for one of my final projects.

I will be back at Wartburg Theological Seminary from Jan. 6 – 16, 2013 (weather permitting) for two Intensive courses – Justification and Justice, and Spiritual Practices. Spiritual Practices will continue through the Spring semester also.

It has been interesting seeing how all of the classes are integrated and how they integrate with one's life.

Thank you again for your love and support. May God continue to bless each of you and Lord of Life Church with His abundant love and mercy in the New Year and beyond.

God's blessings,  
Cindy

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December 18, 2012

Thank you to all who purchased a raffle ticket from me! You should know that your contribution has given me a sporting assignment; Men's and Women's Tennis at RCC, in which I can apply the knowledge I received in this fall semester. In addition, I am able to attend the State Conference for Athletic Training in Palm Springs, CA, followed by the National Conference for Athletic Training in Las Vegas, NV. I praise God that I am blessed by this entire congregation, filled with people supportive of me and willing to show God's love in the hardest times. Words cannot express the love and power I feel from all of you, every time we meet! I love and thank you so much.

-Mindy Renee Lowe – Future Athletic Trainer





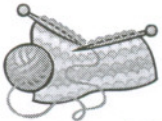
More than 20 years ago, Souper Bowl of Caring began with a simple prayer from a single youth group:

**"Lord, as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us to be mindful of those without even a bowl of soup to eat."**

Since then, ordinary young people have generated an extraordinary \$81 million for soup kitchens, food banks and other charities in communities across the country. In addition, hundreds of thousands of youth have experienced for themselves the joy and satisfaction of giving and serving, inspiring people of all ages to follow their generous example.

**A special offering will be taken on February 3<sup>rd</sup> with 100% of the donation going directly to charity.** Be part of this movement that is sharing God's love with those in need!

### Can you knit, crochet, or sew?



Audrey Flickinger has started a Prayer Shawl/Blanket Ministry for the members and friends of

Lord of Life. If you want to help wrap someone in a warm hug infused with prayer, please contact Audrey. There are patterns for all skill levels. If you or anyone you know would like to receive a prayer shawl, please contact the church office. Special thanks go out to Audrey, Penny Nay, Darlene Bueker, and Jackie Silvey for the beautiful blankets and prayer shawls!  
**\*\*Please note: This is not only for the members of Lord of Life, but for friends, relatives, neighbors, co-workers, acquaintances...anyone you know that needs prayers and hugs. Just let Audrey know and we'll get one to you. Thanks.**



### **Please Pray for:**

The family of Fred Bueker, the family of Kathryn Brown, Oly Vernlund, John Abramson, Bill Ward, John Baginski, Mary Lou Ptacek, Maxine Lowe, Bill Bennett, Sheldon Sheridan, Kathy Bickel, Jim Rome, Elaine Rey, Helen Matheason, Don Wyatt, Eduardo Barrera, Connie Lowe, the family of Nancy Demichelis, Jane Mann, Pauline Broussard, the family of Jack Millis, Cheryl, Dorothy Broussard, Tom Jones, Mary Jones, Bill Huie, Marshall Whitney, Alan Yoder, Michael and Bea Brown, George Scott, Audra Ciasullo, Katie Spaulding, Katherine Ward, Jack Hoffman, Janell Stanford, Arnette Lester; and all others needing God's healing touch.



### **January:**

Jessie McMillian  
John Stanton  
Ian Abramson  
Sally Haase  
Carole Lantz  
Blanch Ross  
Julie Ellingson  
Shelley Palestis

### **February:**

Michael Brown  
Spencer Ciasullo  
Brianna Egeland  
Robyn Nelson  
Jo Lippire

*If your baptism information is not included, or included in error, please contact the church office so that we may update our system. We would like to celebrate everyone's baptism anniversary, so please be sure to contact the church office with your information. Thank you.*



**MAY GOD CONTINUE TO BLESS YOU NOW AND THROUGHOUT THE NEW YEAR!**



Lord of Life will be hosting **Life Line Screening** on Monday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Life Line will be screening for blockages in the carotid arteries, abdominal aortic aneurysm, and peripheral arterial disease. They can also do an EKG and osteoporosis risk assessment, not to mention lipid and enzyme panels. This is a preventative program and your screening results are sent to you within 21 days, after they are reviewed by a board certified physician. You are then able to take those results to your own personal physician. Every LOL member that signs up and attends this screening will receive a \$10.00 discount, and LOL will receive a donation. You must register at the dedicated Helping Hands number at 800-324-9458.

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**Let's thrive.™**

If you have an investment or insurance with Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, you earn Choice Dollars. These Choice Dollars do not come out of your investment but are from Thrivent - like the Thrivent matching funds. Choice Dollars can be contributed to Lord of Life Lutheran Church. If you have questions, you can call your Thrivent representative or visit [Thrivent.com](http://Thrivent.com). Thank you to all Thrivent members who have already designated Lord of Life Lutheran Church as the recipient of these Choice Dollars.

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### **The Simply Giving® Program**

The **Simply Giving** Program endorsed by Thrivent Financial Bank is a simple, reliable way to make your regular contributions to our congregation through automated giving.

#### **An easy, generous choice**

The program is designed to help you conveniently, consistently and joyfully give financial gifts to our congregation's ministry. You can use electronic funds transfer to give your weekly, semi-monthly or monthly offering. To learn how, contact Becci in the church office.

#### **You can make a difference**

Let the **Simply Giving®** Program endorsed by Thrivent Financial Bank help you build better stewardship by turning a simple choice into a generous response.

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### Cleaning for a Reason

If you know any woman currently undergoing Chemo, please pass the word to her that there is a cleaning service that provides FREE housecleaning - 1 time per month for 4 months while she is in treatment. All she has to do is sign up and have her doctor fax a note confirming the treatment. Cleaning for a Reason will have a participating maid service in her zip code area arrange for the service.



<http://www.cleaningforareason.org> Please pass this information on to

bless a woman going through cancer treatment. This organization serves the entire USA and currently has 547 partners to help these women. It's our job to pass the word and let them know that there are people out there that care. Be a blessing to someone and pass this information along.

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Check it Out! We have vendors on our back page. Show them your gratitude and appreciation by looking there first, and use their services whenever possible. Thank you!