

# Lord of Life Lutheran Church

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

Volume 19 No. 9

e-mail us at: lolmv@verizon.net

July-August 2009

# LIFELINE

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

**Our Mission Statement**  
*Inviting all to grow in Christ!*



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PASTOR

### Season of Pentecost...

Acts 2:1-4 says, 'When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they

were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.' We have embarked on what ends up being the longest period of time in the church year. I embrace what lies ahead during this Pentecost journey.

### ***Our 1 year anniversary together in ministry takes place August 1<sup>st</sup>!***

What a fruitful beginning it has been. One of the key reasons that I attribute to this is just how much the Holy Spirit is upon all of you my brothers and sisters. When we all lit candles on Pentecost Sunday as my sermon for that day drew to a close, I was reminded once again of how the fire of our Lord burns brightly, and so strongly in and through all of you. Some of you as you travel this summer may have an opportunity to read the Lifeline on the Lord of Life web-site. Perhaps this means too, that there are people around you who you do not usually have an opportunity to spend much time with. The fire that burns inside of you and the passion that you have for God needs to be continually brought out for those folks to see and experience as well. Whether on vacation or in the routine of our everyday lives, proclaiming the Good News of our Lord can not stop. What you do and what you say, speaks volumes to the relationship that you have with God. I was reminded of that very fact on a trip I took upon graduating from High school and waiting to leave for Boot Camp. I went on a summer trip with a friend of mine up to Northern California to stay at his aunt's beach home. Each morning I would get up and go for a jog on the beach. The second

morning I was there I met a homeless person. My first thought was to just go on with my routine and say nothing to him. But instead, since I like to talk with people, I went over and introduced myself to him. He mentioned that for the past year that he had lived on this beach, not one person had approached him. He felt as though no one cared for him. He was a person of strong faith. He was glad there was an opportunity to express that to someone. I lift this up to remind all of us that in our travels we will encounter many children of God. If you find an opportunity that presents itself to you, take advantage of it, have conversation and be open to how God is working. I can not wait to hear about how your Pentecost journey is going, and about the exciting travels you have undertaken this summer!

This summer will still be pretty busy at church too. After worship each Sunday, a Post-worship prayer time will take place in the sanctuary. We will lift up the folks on the Prayer Concerns sheet as we light a candle for each of them. Have some refreshments, and then come and join us for this time of lifting up our brothers and sisters.

Vacation Bible School will be taking place July 27- 31. I invite you to extend this opportunity to all of the young people that you know. Cathy Fulgenzi and Heidi Avila once again will lead this. The cost is only \$5 for the entire week, which will end on Friday evening with a special program.

House blessings continue to be scheduled as well. 15 families thus far have taken advantage of this special opportunity. As scripture is read, and prayers are spoken, and a candle is lit in the home; we have again been reminded of God's presence in our homes. Thanks be to God for this opportunity to gather in community one more time in this spirit filled way!

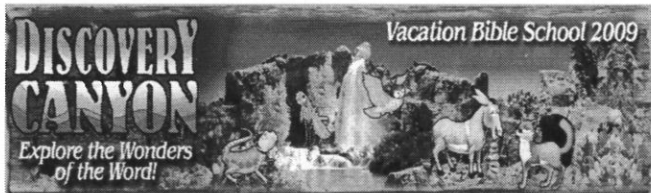
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## Season of Pentecost...

continued

Please continue to be discerning how God is speaking to you on your walk with Him. I thank you all for the many ways in which you continue to lead a daily life of Stewardship; using all of the gifts and resources you have been given for service, and to the glory of God! It is a blessing to be in community with you, serving alongside of you in ways that are pleasing to our Lord and Savior. I look forward to seeing you all soon, and continue to hold you all in prayer this day forward.

Peace,  
Pastor Shane



The canyon walls will be echoing with the sounds of **Discovery Canyon VBS** at Lord of Life during the week of July 27-31 from 6-8 pm! Preschool - 5th grade are welcome! Cost is \$5 which includes a VBS t-shirt, dinner, snack, games, science and crafts that will teach about God's word. From 7:30-8:00 on the last night, parents and the congregation are invited to join us for a VBS Celebration Service in the sanctuary. Volunteers are also needed for painting t-shirts, donating food, teaching, helping at centers, and with serving meals and snacks. Registration sheets are available in the Narthex. Please see Heidi Avila or Cathy Fulgenzi if you have questions.



## Lord of Life's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

The countdown to the Lord of Life's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary has begun. On Sunday, April 19, 2009 Fred Palestis and Jim Cassem announced the beginning of the Narthex Tile Project Fundraiser in which the end result will be a beautiful new tile floor in the Narthex to welcome members and guests into the church and the elimination of any budget shortfall for 2010.

Each tile will be sold for \$100. The center tiles of the floor will have the church emblem in mosaic tiles. This section has already graciously been donated. There are also needs for other donations to help cover the costs of needed supplies such as grout and mortar. Once the tile sales are completed the tiles will be installed. We encourage all members of the congregation to participate in this once in a lifetime opportunity to give back to the church and beautify the Narthex for many years to come.



# Breakfast at Sally's

By Jack Pavelich (06/2009)

I just finished reading a great book all about one man's journey through homelessness. The man was Richard LeMieux. He had been a highly successful publisher, buying his wife expensive jewelry, living in an upscale home, taking \$40,000 vacations, driving high-end cars. But Richard's life changed.

He lost his clients to Internet-based publishers; couldn't pay his bills; his wife left him; his friends eventually closed their doors to him; he was evicted from his beautiful home – leaving him with a van, a small dog, and barely enough money to fill the gas tank. Richard joined the ranks of the homeless ... and things went downhill from there.

Today, this story isn't so rare. Our robust economy, which many thought would last a lifetime, has crumbled around many of our neighbors. I'm not here to argue which of them got a bad deal and which of them made irresponsible life decisions – they're still homeless.

I want to talk to you about "Sally's" (the Salvation Army), or more precisely, the role we play in the survival of the poor and homeless.

Richard's story, a true one, centers on the church. For over a year, that church was the Salvation Army, a place where Richard could get three meals a day for free. Again the church played a major role when one adopted Richard, gave him a place to sleep (out of the cold) and eventually co-signed a lease on an apartment for him. It is pretty clear that without the church, Richard would not have survived.

Here are some things I learned from Richard's book:

- The homeless have been rejected by just about everyone (spouses, family, and friends – there is no place left to go.)
- Homeless are viewed as dangerous, crazy, sick, dirty and untrustworthy (but most don't fit that description at all.)

- It is nearly impossible for someone who is homeless to gain decent employment (chaining them to a lifetime of homelessness and poverty.)
- Eventually, the homeless lose their ability to secure identification documents – these are nearly impossible to get without a valid home phone number and physical address.
- Only a few organizations do enough to make a difference in the lives of the homeless.

So, what do we do Jack?

We've already taken the first steps, and have been for a number of years:

... Thanksgiving and Christmas meals for those in need feed some folks for a few days at least; but, what of the other 360 days of the year? Could we do better?

... Our pantry offerings have gotten pretty sparse in the last 6 months or so. Our pantry is small – a few families with need can empty it in minutes. What if each family brought one non-perishable item each week for worship?

... Pastor needs the use of a Discretionary Fund. These are monies at his disposal to help people who approach him for assistance (a meal, gas for the car, a room for the night, medicine...) Mark your check "Pastor's Fund."

... Do we have the resources to do a weekly meal? These meals are the kinds of things that spell survival for those on the street. Are we ready to get our hands dirty?

Richard LeMieux' book, called *Breakfast at Sally's*, is a true eye-opener. It'll make you cry, and it'll make you laugh. It is a book about faith by a man who lost his belief in God, but found it in his heart to pray for those worse off than himself. I highly recommend it! Pick it up at the Moreno Valley Library.

Now is not the time to reduce our benevolence. The Good Steward, in these times, will find blessing in increased charity.

Amen?



Our Float in the Parade!

Lord of Life is taking part in the *Moreno Valley 4<sup>th</sup> of July* parade again this year. The theme is "Spirit and Unity in our Community." We would everyone to be involved,

so please ride, walk, or sing with us. We are also accepting donations of hard candy through July 3<sup>rd</sup> in the church office. Let's show our spirit and unity by being the "Miracle on Nason Street." Please contact Sally Haase if you have any questions.

*(Followed by...)*

Join us for an afternoon of fun beginning with the *Family Fellowship Meal BBQ* on Saturday, July 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. Fred will be supplying the meat, so please bring a dish to share. Have some good food, fellowship, and fun with the family. The regular Saturday evening worship service will begin at 7:00 pm.



*(But that's not all!)*

We will be gathering after the service for *dessert fellowship and fireworks show*. We have the best seats in the house to watch the



fireworks display from Morrison Park. Bring your chair and/or a blanket and enjoy.

*(What a great day. Thanks be to God!)*

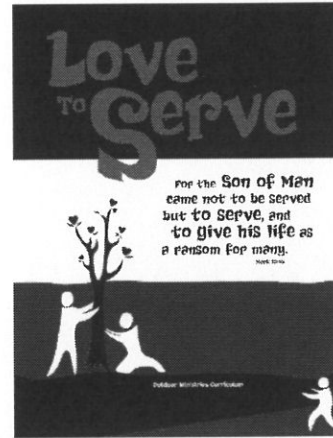


Cathy Davis & family, Pastor Dave and Ann Miller, Gene Yoder, Bill Ward, Jim York, Philip Delaney, Shelly Cuneo, Ramona Graham, Alan Yoder, Karen Ptacek, Harold & Jeannine Lester, Bev Erck, Julie Johnson, The Sinclair family, Kristin Freeman, Sharon Vance,

**Please Pray for:** Betty Burns, The Defeo family, Katie and Suzy Spalding, Shirley Bryant, Linda Baginski, Ona Ellington, Maxine DeMerritt, Karissa Matheason, Lois White, Frank Rasmussen.

## SUMMER CAMP AT YOLIJWA

Log on to [LRCCHOME.COM](http://LRCCHOME.COM) for further details



Our theme this summer will be "Love to Serve." As counselors and camp leaders, our service is to focus the attention of our campers, in games and in study, on the example of Jesus, the One who so completely modeled love, in both word and in action. Jesus said, "I am among you as one who serves" (Luke 22:27). As his disciples, we follow our Savior's lead. As we engage in loving service to our neighbor, our faith comes alive in new ways. When learning and serving are done within a Christian context, where mutual love and openness to the Spirit's movements prevail, then the words of 1 John 3:18 take on new dimensions of meaning: "Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action." We love to serve when we remember that Jesus served us in love!

## Sizzlin' Summer Gala

Place: *Eagle Glen Golf Course,*

*1800 Eagle Glen Pkwy, Corona*

Date: *08/15/2009*

Time: *6:00 PM*

Join Sizzlin' Summer Gala Honoree, Jamil Dada, Event Chair, Judy Carpenter, and other Inland Empire leaders as they turn up the heat to fight cancer at this inaugural American Cancer Society event benefiting cancer research, education, advocacy and patient programs. With your help we will reach our goal of prevention and a cure in our lifetime. For more information, contact Alyson Henson at 951-300-1217 or [alyson.henson@cancer.org](mailto:alyson.henson@cancer.org)



## Calling all Lutherans and Thrivent Financial Members!

Submitted by Amy Freeman

If you have ever had a desire to work on a project with Habitat for Humanity, a wonderful opportunity awaits you. Thrivent Builds and Habitat for Humanity, along with the Western Riverside County Chapter of Thrivent, have teamed up to build a home for a young, local family in Rubidoux and they are looking for volunteers. The actual groundbreaking occurred on March 28, 2009 but due to delays with the final permits, the construction is just beginning. The work crews had a very successful day on June 20 and were able to raise the first wall in the new house, but much more work lies ahead. The group is in need of volunteers, with or without skills. The majority of the work days occur on Saturdays and anyone 16 years of age and older is encouraged to participate in this project. If you are not able to participate, donations are also welcome to help offset some of the cost of supplies. Thrivent Builds is responsible for raising a percentage of the total funds needed to complete the home and their goal has not yet been met. Any inquiries regarding volunteer opportunities or to make a donation should be directed to Rita Wuelfing at (951) 787-6754 ext. 112 or [rwuelfing@habitatriverside.org](mailto:rwuelfing@habitatriverside.org). It would be wonderful if she could hear from some of our Lord of Life members as we have many talents that can be offered to help a local family in need.

As a congregation, I have signed us up to provide a simple lunch consisting of a sandwich, fruit & chips to the work crew on Saturday, August 8. The Saturday work crews typically consist of 30 volunteers. Please keep this day in mind as we will need a few volunteers of our own to help provide and prepare the food as well as transport and serve it to the work crews. Thank you for your consideration to assist with this project. God Bless.



Take action to help prevent cancer. Free awareness and screening event. Cancer is the second leading cause of mortality in the United States. This event, part of Arrowhead Regional Medical Center's 2009 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration is designed to raise awareness about cancer and help to prevent it. Regular screenings can result in the possible detection and removal of precancerous growths, as well as diagnose cancers when they are most treatable.

**What:** Free screenings for oral, skin, breast, prostate, colorectal, and cervical cancers. Due to time constraints, only the first 200 attendees will be screened.

**When:** Saturday, July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009

Registration begins at 9:00 am

Screenings begin at 10:00 am

**Where:** Arrowhead Regional Medical Center  
Outpatient Care Center, First Floor  
400 North Pepper Avenue, Colton



LOL is continuing with much-needed Quilts and Health Kits and we are asking for your support. We are currently in need of hand towels, wash cloths, toothbrushes, combs, nail clippers, soap, and band-aids for the health kits. For quilts, we are in need of gently used clean sheets. We also need assistance with pinning and/or sewing. For quilt requirements, please contact the church office or Audrey Flickinger. We appreciate your continued support to these important missions.

*Please be sure to check out the new sponsors on the back page of the newsletter. We thank you for your support.*