

Lord of Life Lutheran Church

"Where There's Life For You!"

Volume 21 No.3

e-mail us at: lolmv@verizon.net

July-August 2012

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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LIFELINE



"Praise God from Whom ALL Blessings flow..."

Thank you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit: for Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Moreno Valley and for the solid ministry so evident here; for the Christian Love in caring for one another in this family of God; for the Spirit of holiness and the openness to God's word; for the enthusiasm in worship and music and reverence of the sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

Just when I think I've seen and done it all--- God opens another door with one more surprise and I'm sharing the good News from another pulpit.

The preceding was written for our newsletter in the year 2007, and these words and thoughts ring true five years later, just as clear and bright as when first written.

Like many congregations, Lord of Life has been downsizing over the past several years. Nevertheless, we have done well. One reason we are doing well is that we recognize that the INSTITUTION and the MISSION are not the same. The "mission" is the reason we exist. It is the worship, the sharing of the good news, the relationships, and the service to others. It is fellowship, hope, care, and compassion. It is the power of God in our lives. We share in the "means of grace" as Martin Luther named it: God's Holy Word and the Sacraments.

Our Lord of Life congregation is a shining example of the work of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit gathers us into a community that enthusiastically claims and shares our experience of God's grace.

We are not a business. And we are not a traditional non-profit organization like the United Way or Red Cross. Our work is hope, truth, love, challenge, and peace making.

When we do not do those things, we are no longer the Church of Jesus, the Christ.

The "institution" is all of the resources and practices that make the mission possible: A roof, a classroom, and kitchen; annual meetings, a pastor, a choir, a council; a hymnal, pianist, office manager; a light bulb, fire insurance policy, and so much more. Lord of Life is a large and complicated institution. It takes plenty of stewardship giving, and lots of generous, hard work to keep an institution like Lord of Life serving, functioning, and working!

Our congregation shares locally with "Relay for Life" and many others as well as the "Malaria Project" and our benevolence offerings each month. In addition, we support our institution with payments on property loans and employee salaries, which support and enable our mission.

Our mission continues to survive and grow in response to all of the new challenges. We praise God for all our blessings as we look forward to future ministry in Moreno Valley and to whomever and wherever God calls us.

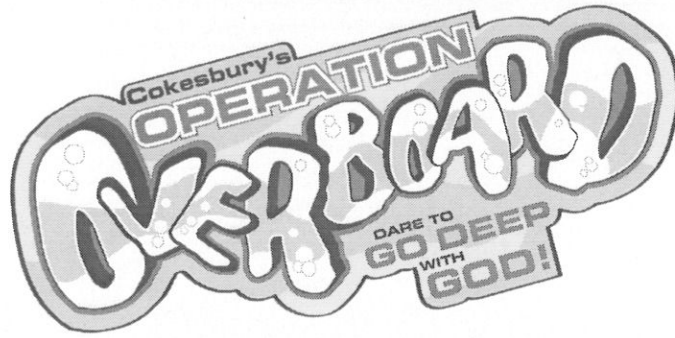
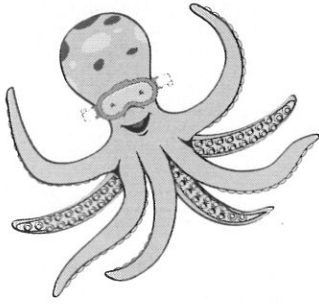
Thank you, dear congregation, for all your ministry to me, to each other, and all the world. Jesus said, "I am the light of the world." He also said "You are the light of the world." Continue to keep your light shining brightly for all the world to see.

I close with this quotation from Ralph Waldo Emerson, "All I have seen teaches me to trust the Creator for all I have not seen."

In His grip and His love,

Pastor Chuck

Lifeline is a newsletter published bi-monthly
By Lord of Life Lutheran Church
13600 Nason Street, Moreno Valley, California
Volume 21 No. 3 July-August 2012



Vacation Bible School

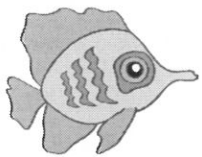
Dive in and discover God's underwater universe! Explore the depths of God's Word at Lord of Life's VBS 2012 with "Operation Overboard - Dare To Go Deep With God!" July 23rd-26th 6:00-8:00 pm

In this action-packed adventure, your kids will swim with humpback whales and seahorses, scuba through a vibrant coral reef, and take a personal submarine to the ocean floor, where eels and octopi play. Through interactive lessons that are easy for kids to apply to their lives today, they will "go deep" into God's Word, exploring Bible stories of people who revealed deep faith by knowing how to:

Depend on God; Dare to care; Claim Jesus; Choose to follow; Change the world!

Dinner and a Lord of Life VBS t-shirt are also included! A \$10 donation is requested when signing up.

To register, fill out and return the VBS Registration Form to Cathy Fulgenzi or to Becci VanHoosier in the church office. Invite your friends and neighbors! Sign up today!



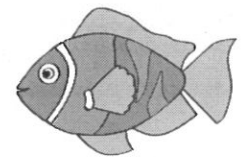
Child's Name: _____

Age: _____ Last school grade completed: _____

T-shirt size:

Child:
S M L

Adult:
S M L XL XXL



Parent/Guardian Name _____

Address: _____

Home Phone # _____ Cell Phone # _____

*Please list any allergies (including food allergies) or other issues that the VBS staff should be aware of: _____

CHURCH COUNCIL



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Wow! What a privilege to serve such an awesome congregation. Our number may be small, but our hearts are large. We truly are the "Miracle on Nason Street," and then some.

As our church activities wind down for the summer, I would just like to express my thanks to a few who keep the activities going each year. First, I want to thank Meggie for the care she gives our preschoolers. Meggie, you are the first step in our children's journey with Jesus and the church. Also, I want to say thank you to Maggie for bringing the gospel lessons to our children's level each week. Next, I want to thank Shelley for heading up the Sunday School department and making sure we have teachers each week for our children. Margo, Denise, Shelley, and John do an awesome job helping our children learn about Jesus and His love. Thank you, also, to Brianna for the assistance she gives Mrs. Hilker with our middle and high school students.

What a joy it was to see our confirmands, under the direction of Mrs. Hilker, graduate into the membership of the church. Hailey, Kristin, Kyle, and Trevor, I am so proud of your accomplishments and my thoughts and prayers are with you daily.

As I reflect on the resurrection of Russ Hagle, I just praise God for His promise that we will be together again. Thank you to all who made Russ' celebration of life so meaningful. Ira and the choir did an awesome job bringing the music from the heart. Kudos to the ladies who did such a marvelous job putting the reception together.

Finally, as we look to July, please plan to come for some good old 4th of July fellowship; to enjoy the fireworks from our own front yard. Next, we have our Vacation Bible School, which is sure to be a treat for our children (volunteers are welcome). And then, to finish out the month of July, we are going to enjoy another "Christmas in July" fundraiser the last Sunday of the month.

In closing, I would ask that we remember Sally in our thoughts and prayers as she begins a new journey in her life. We will surely miss her. Please continue to lift up the church in your prayers as God has big plans for us if we will just be patient and let Him guide us down the road. Always remember that what we receive inside our walls each week is meant to be shared outside our walls each and every day.

God's peace to you,
John Lowe, Church Council President



Dear Lord of Life family,

I want to thank each one of you for your support and prayers throughout my discernment process and now as I go through seminary. I am looking forward to learning more and letting the Lord use me in the ways He has planned for my life. Your love and support were, and are, instrumental as we go through this journey together.

As all of you know, the cost of any education is expensive. I did receive a renewable scholarship of \$2205 but currently will be taking loans to cover the remainder of the costs, approximately \$10,000. However, school loans do not include the airfare and rooms while I am in Dubuque, IA three times each year.

There is only one airline that flies into Dubuque - American Airlines-and depending on the airport I fly out of, the cost ranges from \$450-\$625. I will continue to look for specials for my first trip September 2-8 but if anyone has some extra "Frequent Flyer Miles" they would like to donate I would greatly appreciate it.

The rooms run an additional \$40 per night with meals an additional cost.

Amy Freeman is looking into the possibility of "Thrivent Matching Funds" to also help with the associated costs of seminary.

I ask for your continued support and prayers. I know the Lord has truly blessed Lord of Life Church and me through each of you,
Thank you and may God richly bless all of you,
Cindy Cassem

*With Sincere Thanks
Your thoughtfulness at this time means
more than words can say.
Thank you for your kindness,
The Family of Russ Hagle*

*Thank you, church family, for all your help
at Russ' funeral. You all mean so much to
me.*

*My love from all,
Maxine*



The family of Russ Hagle, Sally Haase, Bill Ward, the family of Jenny Davis, Alivia Gardner, Oly Vernlund, Harold Lester, Kolton Klug, the family of Aiden Mueller, Dorothy Parr, Connie Lowe, Jane Mann, Tom Jones, Mary Jones, Tussanee Noel-Smith, Clayton Diskerd, Marshall Whitney, Dale Husser, Tom Yoder, George Scott, Audra

Please Pray for:

Ciasullo, Katie Spaulding, Jessie McMillian, Katherine Ward, Jack Hoffman, Janell Stanford, Arnette Lester; and all others needing God's healing touch.

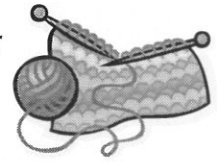


WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

WE WILL BE TAKING A HIATUS IN JULY AND LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUING "WOMEN OF THE BIBLE" IN AUGUST. WE HAVE SOME FUN AND VERY INTERESTING DISCUSSIONS ABOUT THESE WOMEN, WHO ARE JUST LIKE YOU AND ME. IF THE SPIRIT WITHIN IS GIVING YOU A NUDGE, LISTEN AND COME TO LORD OF LIFE ON TUESDAY MORNINGS AT 10:00 AM. SEE YOU THERE!!

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!



July:

- Tom Hilker
- Katie Kozma
- Deuel Ross
- Jason Ross
- Jennifer Davis (Dixon)
- Jim Cassem
- Alexis Flores
- Katherine Ward
- Ruby Sonnack

August:

- Chandler Kohr
- Carole Korshavn
- Heidi Avila
- Robin Althoff
- Kristin Freeman
- Kyle Freeman
- Matthew Shoemaker
- Dolly Kline
- Nicole Kozma
- Schuyler Ciasullo
- Jordan Campbell
- Aaron Egeland
- Victoria Kohr
- Christopher Winn
- Tammy Booth

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.



Are you ready for our **2nd Annual Youth Lock-In?** Bring your sleeping bag (just in case) and plan to enjoy a whole night of fellowship, fun, and games with your friends here at LOL. See Becci for more information.

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. Thank you to all Thrivent members who have already designated Lord of Life Lutheran Church as the recipient of these Choice Dollars.

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.



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.

Women of the ELCA 25th Annual Convention and Gathering will be held November 2-4, 2012 at Ayers Hotel and Suites at Ontario Convention Center. See Becci in the church office for registration and convention information.

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