

# Lord of Life Lutheran Church

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

Volume 19 No. 1

e-mail us at: lolmv@verizon.net

March-April 2008

# 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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FROM THE



PASTOR

### **A NEW SOUND!**

As the fingers of dawn began to streak across the Easter Dawn sky, here was a new sound! The horrible crunch of the mighty stone that sealed the rock-hewn tomb (separating heaven

and earth) was being rolled away!

**IT'S EASTER!** Let Christ roll away the stone for **YOU!** Rise! Run! Reach! Risk! Let the righteousness of Jesus rule & reign in your life. "We have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ." *1 Ptr 1:3* Death could not hold Him; darkness is dispelled, defeat is turned into glorious victory—**RESURRECTION VICTORY!**

### **CHRIST IS RISEN-- HE IS ALIVE!**

We are the Easter People! This truth is so dynamic in its power to renew us and our world that we want to share this good news with everyone. Invite your friends and family to share the wonder of this experience by inviting them to attend church with you.

#### **Opportunities for Eternal Investments:**

**Palm Sunday:** March 16, 9:00 A.M. Gateway to Holy Week. Palm Crosses distributed, Reading of Passion according to St. Matthew, and the Children's Easter Egg Hunt.

**Maundy Thursday:** March 20, 7:00 P.M. Anniversary of our Holy Communion and remembered by all Christians at a memorial of Christ's Death and a Miracle of Christ's Life.

**Good Friday:** March 21, 7:00 P.M. "The Way of the Cross," a dramatic service of candles and darkness!

**Earth's Greatest Day, Easter Sunday:** March 23, **Festival of the Resurrection** 9:00 AM  
Easter Breakfast, 7:30-9:00 AM

In joy and thanksgiving we look forward to sharing all of eternity with Jesus. We'll see you in heaven and in church!

Pastor Chuck Malloch, Interim Pastor

### **KEEP ON KEEPING ON**

With your Church Council

Submitted by Beverly Erck

Recently, I was told by a long-time member of Lord of Life that our congregation is a very friendly one made up of people that genuinely love one another. I hope that you feel this love every time you enter Lord of Life. Members of your church council certainly do as we carry out our duties in this spirit and we thank you for it! It is my belief that the council needs to share its "business" with you to ensure that you know what is going on and can participate in it. We have a new slate of officers who are prayerfully anticipating a full and prosperous year as we continue the missions and ministries begun by previous councils and perhaps initiate a few "new" items. And so, we are prepared to "keep on keeping on."

We are not slowing down any of the on-going missions. Indeed, we hope to increase each of them. In addition to our regular Prayer Chain, a new group of prayer warriors from the Women's Bible Study will be serving with the Call Committee as they pursue their task of finding the pastor that God has chosen for Lord of Life. We are currently researching the needs/requirements of Edgemont School in order to refine our response to their needs. We are increasing our response to CCLM with food contributions to this very worthy cause. Our "Noisy Offering" continues every Sunday to remind us of world-wide hunger. Another area that has our attention is the Youth Ministry. We are researching ways to implement youth worship for all ages from 5 through 20. These young people deserve more than one Sunday school hour per week at Lord of Life. The Children's Choir is feeling its way into the worship service and the Sunday school is flourishing. We are hopeful that the nursery will blossom with 0-4 year olds. Our family night dinners prior to Advent and Lenten worship have been successful and we anticipate bible studies/dinner in the future. Our Evangelism Ministry is progressing and the interested members will begin their training soon.

Lifeline is a newsletter published bi-monthly

By Lord of Life Lutheran Church

13600 Nason Street, Moreno Valley, California

Volume 19 No.1

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## Keep on Keeping on cont.

New items that have been initiated include the projection system which has increased our praise singing level some 75%. We are training youth volunteers to work the system and trying to find new and creative ways to impact our worship.

Our 23<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary is coming up in March and we want to celebrate this event with a Building Fund supplement. You will hear more about this in the near future. And, just for fun, save the second Friday evening of each month for Bunco! Finally, another Lutheran Lay Renewal is being planned for later this year. We are hopeful that each of you will want to participate in this Friday evening through Sunday morning spiritual renewal. How many of us feel we don't need a spiritual spark in our faith journey?

You are each an important part of this council. Please contact any council members if you have ideas or items that you feel deserve consideration. Remember, this is your council! May God continue to bless each of us as we carry on His work at Lord of Life.

## The Projection System

By Bob Vernlund

By now, most of us have gotten over the shock of a change on how we conduct our service as we watch the printed words of our bulletin displayed on a screen. You have seen the quality and content improve each week. Our youth are doing all the work and preparation, (Bryan Slaton, Jon Larsen, Kimberly Fulgenzi & Josh Flores) what a blessing they have been. They prepare the slides, and run the projection and audio system. Like most things that get done around this church, this wouldn't happen without Fred Palestis doing the training. Their efforts are a direct enhancement to our worship service. It is user friendly to visitors and the sound of our songs has improved with most singing at the screen and not down into their bulletin.

Is this the end of our projection system story? No, we hope and pray that more is on the way. Two projection systems and screens would enable everyone to see without straining. A digital camera system could record our service and we could post it on our web site ([www.lolmv.org](http://www.lolmv.org)). If you would like to know what this looks like, take

a peek at [www.trinityhemet.org](http://www.trinityhemet.org). All this is within a reasonable upgrade to what we now have.

This is a worthwhile goal to keep enhancing our worship service and spreading the faith in our community and beyond. None of this will happen without your support. If you feel like you want to be part of this effort, please volunteer to help. If you have any suggestions, please let any member of our church council know what they are. As we "invite all to grow in Christ." this projection system can play an instrumental part. Your support is greatly appreciated.

## You took my Parking Space at Church

submitted by Cindy Cassem

One day, a man went to visit a church; He got there early, parked his car and got out. Another car pulled up near. The driver got out and said, "I always park there! You took my place!"

The visitor went inside for Sunday school, found an empty seat and sat down. A young lady from the church approached him and stated, "That's my seat! You took my place!"

The visitor was somewhat distressed by this rude welcome, but said nothing. After Sunday school, the visitor went into the sanctuary and sat down. Another member walked up to him and said, "That's where I always sit! You took my place!"

The visitor was even more troubled by this treatment, but still he said nothing. Later, as the congregation was praying for Christ to dwell among them, the visitor stood up, and his appearance began to change. Horrible scars became visible on his hands and on his sandaled feet.

Someone from the congregation noticed him and called out, "What happened to you?" The visitor replied, as his hat became a crown of thorns, and a tear fell from his eye,  
***"I took your place."***

## Nothing to do with money ...

by Jack Pavelich 2/2008)

I have this fear that some of you will set this page down without going further than the first few paragraphs – much because you will quickly realize this to be an Old Testament lesson and therefore no longer applicable to God’s people because Jesus ushered in a New Covenant. Yes, He did. But might I be so bold to lift up His very words regarding these things: *“Do not think that I have come to do away with the Law of Moses and the teachings of the prophets. I have not come to do away with them, but to make their teachings come true.”* Matt 5:17 GNB

Jesus words point us to the great book of Deuteronomy; a book written mostly by Moses to remind the people what God has done for them so that they might rededicate their lives to Him. And in this book, the 14<sup>th</sup> Chapter, and beginning with the 22<sup>nd</sup> verse, Moses describes why the tithe is so important in the lives of people who claim to be God’s people. ... and it has nothing to do with the money!

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### Where’s the new Pastor?

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Located in a part of the book which Moses uses to describe the laws necessary for proper Worship, the tithe has been put into place in order that we might revere God always. This means that we put Him first. It makes sense. If I put God first in my life wouldn’t I give to Him first? And wouldn’t what I give to Him be a significant part of me? And if God is first then I can’t be ...

When Mary Jean and I were making our Stewardship journey many years ago, my desire was to meet a goal – to achieve a challenge – to do something that I knew was right. Little did I realize during those years how much more important God was becoming in my life. Little did I know or realize at the time that my God was becoming a bigger part of me. During that time, God snuck up and grabbed my heart!

Our scripture points out to us that wherever our treasure is, there our heart will be

also. How right they are. As each moves toward the tithe, we find God becomes more valuable in our lives. He becomes essential to everything that we do. It is the point where we start turning to God as a first resort – rather than as a last resort.

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### We’re still working on it! Sometimes God needs us to wait...

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So, when Jesus promises to “make their teachings come true,” He promises to be our ours when we do these things – not because we have done it, but because we have faith that He has chosen us to be His! It has nothing to do with the money – and everything to do with loving God with all our hearts, and all our souls, and all our strength (which also requires us to put Him first.)

God has no need for our money. So money and goods and stuff are not what the tithe is about. Rather, God and Moses reveal our giving to be an expression of where God is in our lives.

Money is so important in the society we live in! It is difficult to swim upstream when the culture around us flows downstream with such a love of money, and possessions, and status which is purchased by the same things. God wants us to be free of that kind of entrapment.

The tithe is something that can set you free; and yes, it really has nothing to do with money.

Amen?

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### Meanwhile, how’s your personal ministry going?

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*The Gospel is so important to the world that sometimes we’re forced to use words to express it.*



## Easter Egg Hunt

Join us Palm Sunday, March 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:15 A.M. for our annual children's easter egg hunt. Children ages 1-10 are welcome to join in the fun. Bring your basket and meet in the fellowship hall at the end of the service. If anyone would like to donate candy and/or filled eggs, please bring them to the church office. Thank-you!

**Everyone is invited!** Lord of Life will be having Easter Sunday breakfast from 7:30-9:00 AM on Sunday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please sign up in the Narthex.



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

## Lord of Life Lutheran Church will offer Vascular Screenings

Lord of Life Lutheran Church will again host **Life Line Screening** on Monday, April 14, 2008. Life Line will be screening for blockage in the carotid arteries in the neck (75% of all strokes are linked to carotid artery blockage.) They will also be checking the arteries in the legs for Peripheral Arterial Disease, or PAD, which is linked to heart disease. They offer a third screening that tests for aneurysms in the

aortic vessel in the abdomen and a fourth screening for early detection of osteoporosis.

This is a preventative program for anyone over the age of 40 and it is worth participating in. Your screening results are sent to you within 21 days after they are reviewed by a board certified physician and you are then able to take those results to your own personal physician. These low cost, non-invasive, completely painless screenings take about 10 minutes each. You must pre-register by calling **800-324-1851** for an appointment.

Information flyers are available and you can also visit the website at [www.lifelinescreening.com](http://www.lifelinescreening.com)



Cathy Davis, Joe Broussard, Harold Lester, Fred Palestis, Marie Hyta, Fred Bueker, Ira Yoder, the family of Richard Weber, Maxine DeMerritt, Mona McCall, Denise McClure, Judy Askol, Warren Vance, Mickey Rowe, Shirley DeCarlo and Jo Stewart.

# Moreno Valley Relay For Life

April 26-27, 2008

SAVE-THE-DATE

**JOIN**

**Lord of Life's Team**

**"Daisy's Chain"**

*A fun family event*

VALLEY VIEW  
HIGH SCHOOL  
13135 NASON  
MORENO VALLEY

**PARTICIPATE IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CANCER.** Join Lord of Life's renowned award-winning team, Daisy's Chain. Put on your tennis shoes and sign up for a time to walk whether its for a family member, friend, neighbor, co-worker or yourself. The power of Relay is that it allows a community to grieve for those lost to cancer and to celebrate the lives of those who have survived. For the newly diagnosed, the event offers an opportunity to meet someone who has survived the same type of cancer and provides an opportunity to share with others. For the long term survivor, it brings a community's recognition of the struggle and closure to a trying time in life. Caregivers also find hope at Relay. There is a peace of mind knowing that together we can face the challenges ahead.

- An individual who raises \$100 or more gets a Relay T-shirt. Incentive prizes available
- Sign-up for a time to walk, jog, dance, or wheelchair around the track
- All Cancer Survivors present will receive medals and recognized at the Opening Ceremony with a lap around the track.
- Attend the inspirational evening Luminary Ceremony – Write a message in honor of a cancer survivor or in memory of someone. Candles will light the way for our evening walkers.
- If you want to pitch a tent and stay overnight, its okay
- Relay For Life is a family friendly tobacco-free, alcohol-free community event. Fun and entertainment for all ages.

**"Relay For Life represents the hope that those lost to cancer will never be forgotten, that those who face cancer will be supported, and that one day cancer will be eliminated."**

Contact: Pat Rupert,

Days 951/300-1223, eves 951/243-1045.

E-mail: [patricia.rupert@cancer.org](mailto:patricia.rupert@cancer.org)

**Share HOPE. Save Lives**



***We are the church community that takes up the challenge!***