

Lord of Life Lutheran Church

"Where There's Life For You!"

Volume 23 No.7

e-mail us at: lolmv@verizon.net

March-April 2017

LIFELINE

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

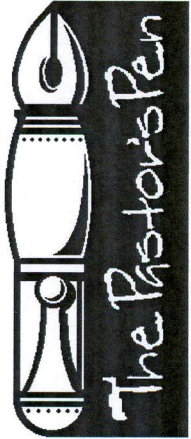
Our Mission Statement

Inviting all to grow in Christ!



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Welcome to our new leaner, less expensive newsletter! As you know we are penny pinching and the distribution of the newsletter is one area that needed some trimming. If someone you know needs or wants a printed copy, they can ask Becci for one and then pick it up at church. We can no longer afford to use a bulk mailing permit. It's cost and minimum numbers no longer are cost effective for us.

It is a new year in many ways. A year ago I came to help you redevelop your congregation back into a thriving, growing witness of Christ's love to the community. Life has a way of complicating things and it is easy to forget the purpose for draining the pond when alligators are distracting you! Remembering that distraction is one of Satan's most favorite tactics.

Having been sick the last week and being made to stay in and down to get well has given me time to reflect in my purpose in your presence. I went over my notes from my Redevelopment Training and renewed my personal commitment to aid you as was our common purpose a year ago.

We have a firmer grip on our finances and will be greatly challenged this year. But God loves a challenge and especially loves the beloved who step up to the challenging, even if haltingly so.

The next step is to convene a group of passionate people willing to research, learn, advocate, lead, and dare to suggest changes. Changes are not necessarily permanent, but they do require an honest effort for a reasonable amount of time. I do not know who those passionate people are yet. We will find out together. Our first meeting will be on March 21 at 1 PM in the library. If you cannot make daytime meetings but want to be part of this, let's talk and we'll negotiate a better time.

At this first meeting I will present the overall redevelopment process to you. Then volunteers will step forward for the first step of information gathering and we'll be off!

Having a process to follow is nice but it will be totally ineffective if we do not also commit to partner with God on this. That means a special Bible study. We will schedule that for Sunday mornings after the service and all can participate. This does not replace either the Tuesday morning or Saturday morning Bible study. This is special in that it focuses on God's call to us as a congregation. We will begin this special Bible study the first Sunday AFTER Easter.

It is difficult, time consuming work to redevelop a congregation when you have a full-time trained pastor. It is exponentially more difficult when you have a part time trained pastor. But we will work with what God has provided and God will provide the results as well. Now is the time, a well-worn, often overworked cliché, but true none the less.

The Pastor's Pen

(continued from page 2)

Since there is a period of time before our first meeting, I invite you to read some books to help you understand what we are about. They include:

Holy Currencies: 6 Blessings for Sustainable Missional Ministries by Eric H. F. Law \$10 on Kindle
The Grasshopper Myth: Big Churches, Small Churches, and the Small Thinking that Divides Us by Karl Vaters NewSmallChurch.com \$10 on Kindle
Small, Strong Congregations: Creating Strengths and Health for You Congregation by Kennon L. Callahan \$4.50 used hardcover
The Art of Possibility: Transforming Professional and Personal Life by Benjamin Zander and Rosamund Stone Zander \$2.50 used

Shalom,
Pastor Carol

Don't forget that Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, March 12th.

Remember to set your clocks forward one hour before you go to bed Saturday night



Time to Spring Ahead

Lifeline is a newsletter published bi-monthly
By Lord of Life Lutheran Church
13600 Nason Street, Moreno Valley, California
Volume 23 No. 7 March-April 2017

Holy Week Events

Palm Sunday, April 9th at 9:00 am

Celebrate Gabe's confirmation; special guest of the congregation that Sunday - Bishop Andy Taylor

Maundy Thursday, April 13th -

Soup supper at 6:15; Service at 7:00 pm

Good Friday, April 14th at 7:00 pm

Easter Sunday, April 16th at 9:00 am

Please join us for Easter Breakfast from 8:00-8:45 am



HEY KIDS...

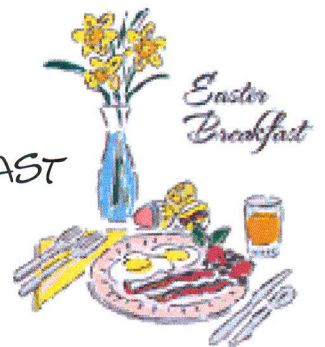


Join us Palm Sunday, April 9th, at 10:15 am for our annual children's Easter egg hunt. Children of all ages are welcome to join in the fun. Bring your Easter basket and meet in the fellowship hall at the end of the service.

If anyone would like to donate candy and/or filled eggs, please bring them to the church office before April 9th. Thank you for your help.



EVERYONE IS INVITED FOR AN EASTER SUNDAY POTLUCK BREAKFAST ON APRIL 16TH FROM 8:00-8:45 AM. PLEASE SIGN UP IN THE NARTHEX.





There are many areas where we are in need of volunteer help. We have a congregation of wonderful, talented people, and I'm praying that you can hear and answer God's call. Here are some areas of need:

I. Pastor Carol will be holding monthly meetings for people with a passion for making Lord of Life a vibrant congregation again. Come, share your ideas and remember...you are not in this alone!

II. Enjoy spending time doing fun research on your computer? Why not use some of that time researching additional revenue streams for Lord of Life? Pastor Carol has prepared a list of possible things, and we need to know if Lord of Life can implement them.

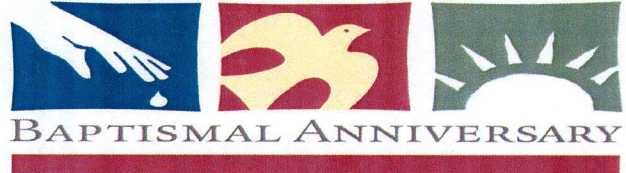
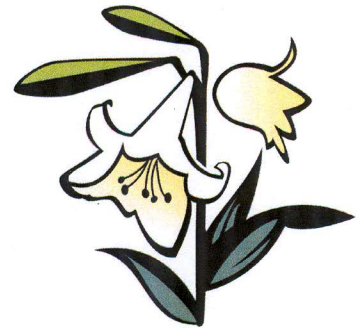
III. Consider yourself tech savvy? Would you like to be? We would like a volunteer with an every-Sunday commitment to run the sound board and projection system. You will have training on how and what to do.

IV. Do you have a passion for youth fellowship and would like to see that area grow? Come, see Pastor Carol and help mentor the children.

V. We are still looking for representatives for the Synod Assembly in May. There will be minimal expense on your part as the church received donations to cover the cost of the hotel. If we are unable to find male/female representatives, we can send two of the same gender.

All of these things require someone with a little time and a wish to step forward. Certainly not the same person for all of the above, and not someone who is also deeply involved in other church activities. Who among you will step up and learn more about what is required and then prayerfully consider that God is calling YOU to the task?

If you'd like, you may bring an Easter lily to decorate the Sanctuary for Easter Sunday. Your lily will be placed around the altar in honor or memory of a loved one or for Christ's resurrection. Please have them to the church office by Friday, April 14th and be sure to take them home with you following the Easter worship service.



March

John Abramson
Tom Gardner
Maggie August
Fernando Garcia (Ross)
Alivia Gardner

April

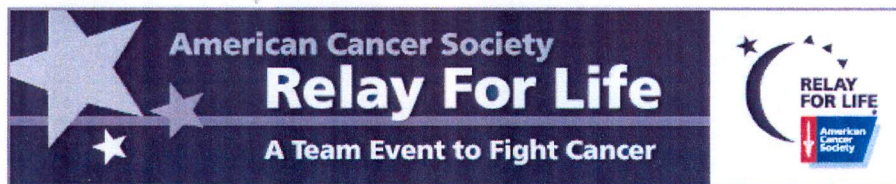
Zoe Ross
Derrick McMillian
Joseph McMillian
Pat Rupert
Larry Olson
Darlene Bueker
Shy Stanton

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.



Please Pray for:

Harold Lester, Oly Vernlund, Connie Lowe, Ira and Gene Yoder, Katherine Ward, the family of Gail Egenes, Jeff Merritt, Bill Shulin, Diane Kroh, Carole Horton, Carla Engle, Laura Entrekin, Jill Rasmussen, Gail Paddock, Megan Kelley, the family of Martin Rodriguez, Bruce Gaynor, John Abramson, John Simpson, Margaret, Steve Johnson, Brian Kelley, Sara Ulate, Mike Johnson, Rita Nielsen, Mark Korshavn, Larry Wilderman, Kathy Bickel, Jeff Sims, Alan Yoder, Audra Ciasullo, Jack Hoffman, Janell Stanford; and all others needing God's healing touch.



TEAMING UP FOR THE RELAY FIGHT!

What: Relay for Life of Moreno Valley

Where: Valley View High School Track

When: April 29-30, 2017 from 9:00 am - 9:00 am

Theme: Once upon a Cure

Join us at Lord of Life and be part of an award-winning team that can and has made a difference. Come walk, cheer us on, help set up our campsite, donate, be a sponsor. Help raise awareness of cancer prevention, early detection, treatment, and patient support.

Cancer survivors and patients are invited to come as honorary guests and walk in the Survivors Lap. Your strength and courage help the community see that cancer survivorship is real and that we are making progress in the battle against cancer. There will be a Survivors Tent set up for your convenience and comfort. Be there for the evening Luminaria Ceremony where hundreds of candles light the way to remember those lost to cancer, those fighting cancer, and those who have fought cancer and won. This ceremony of light symbolizes the hope and perseverance with which we all continue to fight.

If possible, please try to register online at www.relayforlife.org/morenovalley. If you haven't joined prior, sign up as a new participant and join team Lord of Life Lutheran Church. You can create your own fundraising web page to send information to your friends, relatives, co-workers and neighbors. Each team member that raises \$100.00 will get a free commemorative Relay for Life t-shirt.

Cancer never sleeps, so each team is asked to have a representative on the track at all times during the event. Please sign up in the Narthex for a time to walk.

Schuyler Ciasullo and Alyssa Van Hoosier, Team Captains



If you purchase from Amazon, you can now get donations supporting our youth programs from the purchases you make. Shop AmazonSmile by going to smile.amazon.com and select Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Moreno Valley for the charitable organization to support, then shop. In order to earn donations, be sure to log into smile.amazon.com whenever you shop Amazon. Thanks for your support!