

Lord of Life Lutheran Church

"Where There's Life For You!"

Volume 13 No.2

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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



We've all seen that grotesque ad on television – the ugly picture of an old woman looking in through a window, with a blue face, tongue sticking out, and face contorted. Why such fascination recently in films and TV

with zombies, vampires and demon possession, I wonder?

Let's look at the Gospel of Mark 1:21-28 once again: Jesus entered the synagogue at Capernaum, which is along the shore of the Sea of Galilee. He astounded the people there with His teaching; "He taught as one having authority and not as the scribes."

Then, a man with an unclean spirit cries out to Him, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." Jesus tells the man to be silent, and commands the spirit to come out of him. He convulses and screams, and the unclean spirit left him. It left Jesus' audience amazed...and His fame began to spread in the region of Galilee.

When we hear a story like this, the first thing all we think about is, "I wonder what those demons were?" Jesus performed exorcisms – even His enemies acknowledged that, and some of them even accused Him of being in collusion with the devil. People in the first century assumed that there were good and evil powers at work in the world. All sickness, including birth defects, was attributed to the devil, Beelzebub, who was the ruler of demons. Jesus was not the only exorcist or miracle worker of His era. Some scholars

argue that Jesus' uniqueness was that He did not use elaborate incantations or techniques. In His presence, His authority came from words and deeds that were consistent, a power not easily explained. He was not born into the priestly class; He was not educated like a scribe. It was God's power that filled Him with authority and people were healed. Jesus' teaching led to freedom from bondage in whatever bondage a person found himself. In words ascribed to the Apostle Peter, "God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power; He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil for God was with Him!"

In a recent survey in our country, 38% of the people were certain the Old Testament was written a few years after Jesus' death, and 10% believe that Joan of Arc was Noah's wife. We can't afford such nonsense in our country. We can do better than this!

The point here is not really for us to imagine the demons. I think most of us do not need to look very far to see the demons we struggle with in life. The point is to show that in the presence of Jesus, people held captive by their demons were set free, liberated, and come to know freedom in their lives. Life should be happy. God wants us to be happy. St Paul's words: "Rejoice in the Lord, and again, I say rejoice!"

Sadly, some believe they'll be happy "When...", "If...", or "If only..." Jesus offered wonderful thoughts about happiness as a way of life. Jesus' most famous sermon focused on the subject of happiness and the habits that lead to happiness.

Pastor's Pen Continued...

Jesus used the word "blessed" repeatedly in the Sermon on the Mount and each time he did, he tied it to a way of life. The word "blessed" means: "a serenity of the soul, the ability to appreciate and enjoy life." Jesus said that those in the habit of practicing humility, being humane and helpful (to mention a few) will experience real happiness. They will be characterized by a serenity of soul and be able to embrace and enjoy life.

I do believe that life is good. It has it's share of pain, to be sure. But when you understand and embrace the habits Jesus described, there is a blessedness about life, even when it is difficult.

God's best to you, my friend, and remember:

Happiness is a way of life!

In His love and in His Grip,

Pastor Chuck



VBS is coming to Lord of Life July 23-26, from 6-8 p.m.

Plan now to be a part of this special week! Kids will plunge into Bible stories of people with deep faith and learn to trust a God whose love is bigger than the sea through Bible lessons, music, crafts, science activities, snacks, and games. Dinner and a VBS t-shirt will be provided. A \$10 donation is requested. VBS Registration sheets will be available in the Narthex. Invite your friends and neighbors to join us. As always, we need volunteers to help the week be successful. Please contact Cathy Fulgenzi or Becci in the church office if you have any questions.

Brothers and sisters in Christ,

I would like to take the time to say Thank you for the opportunity to serve as the president of our church council and congregation. When Marv asked me to be a part of the council, I told him yes, wherever I was needed, not knowing the presidency was open. I assure you that I will do my best, with God's help.

It is a privilege for me to serve each of you. Our church does so much for our community and the world. Our Edgemont school children, the Prayer Shawl Ministry, the Quilting Ministry, and now the mission to Make Malaria History are just a few of the things our congregation does. Each of you make me proud to tell others about our church, and I always us the phrase that none of Pastor Chuck's words stay inside our church walls each Sunday, but instead, I know each of you take the message out to all you meet and encounter during the week.

This past month, I am proud to say that we were able to give another ministry, Eagle's Nest, a new home at our church. This now make about 6 different organizations that we support by providing our premises to meet at. In closing, I would just ask that you hold onto the faith God directs us to use as we continue on our journey here at the Miracle on Nason Street. God has plans for our church and, although we are not in our best times, God promises us that He will never give us more than we can handle. God will see us through, if we just lean on Him.

In God's Peace,

John Lowe, President

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Meet Our Confirmands

Four of our youth will affirm their baptismal vows in the Rite of Confirmation

on Pentecost Sunday, May 27th during our worship service. Following the service, there will be a reception in the fellowship hall.

Kristin Freeman is finishing her final year in middle school and another successful season on the school's color guard team. She is very social and in her spare time, she enjoys spending time with friends, talking on the phone and listening to music. She stays involved at church being an acolyte and singing in the kids choir. She looks forward to joining her mother in the adult choir soon.

Kyle Freeman is completing his first year in middle school. He is very active and enjoys playing all sports, especially football. He also loves to fish and play chess. Through his participation in sports and chess tournaments, he has a growing trophy collection. At church, he is an acolyte and enjoys singing in the kids choir.

Hailey Levi-Campbell is an 8th grader currently attending Lakeside Middle School in Perris. She is a straight "A" student who takes pride in being actively involved in the GATE and AVID programs. She is also a member of the schools Video Club. This May she will attend a Trip to Washington DC along with the schools AVID program. She has actively participated in the various youth activities and hopes to join the adult choir and be a part of the Assistant Ministry program real soon. -Amen!

Trevor Van Hoosier is almost a teenager and finishing up 7th grade at Vista Verde Middle School. He is a straight "A" student, actively involved in the GATE program, a volunteer tutor, and helps PTO with after school activities. He participates in the youth activities and helps his mom with her Sunday duties, too. When not in church or school, you can find him on the baseball field playing first base. He loves his family, but nothing he loves more than God and going to Confirmation after the service.

Please be sure to offer your congratulations to these fine young people, and continue to encourage and guide them in their journey.



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

NEW YEAR...NEW THEME!

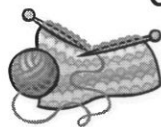
COME SEE WHAT ALL THE FUN IS ABOUT! MAGGIE IS LEADING US IN ANOTHER INFORMATIVE AND INTERESTING BIBLE STUDY ABOUT WOMEN IN THE BIBLE. WE HAVE SOME FUN AND VERY INTERESTING DISCUSSIONS ABOUT THESE WOMEN, WHO ARE JUST LIKE YOU AND ME. IF THE SPIRIT WITHIN IS GIVING YOU A NUDGE, LISTEN AND COME TO LORD OF LIFE ON TUESDAY MORNINGS AT 10:00 AM. SEE YOU THERE!!



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

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!



Dale and Michelle Gardner and family, Oly Vernlund, Harold Lester, Dorothy Parr, Connie Lowe, Fred Bueker, Beth Kane, Amber Runyan, Jeanne Garrett, Cathy Fulgenzi, Tom Jones, the family of Charles Larsen, the family of Ethel Banks, Mary Jones, the family of Corey Malloch, Tussanee Noel-Smith, the family of Jackie

Please Pray for:

Gravlin, the family of Howard Hamilton, Blanca Chiquito, Henry Groenheide, Bea Brown, Ilse Matics, Clayton Diskrud, Marshall Whitney, Dale Husser, Tom Yoder, George Scott, Audra Ciasullo, Katie Spaulding, Jessie McMillian, Katherine Ward, Jack Hoffman, Janell Stanford, Arnette Lester; and all others needing God's healing touch.



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.

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!



May:

Healthier Althoff
Amy Freeman
Willie Rasmussen
Karman Johnson
Joshua Althoff
Robert Winn
Bryan Cassem
Jorine Campbell
Cindy Cassem
Tom Daugherty
Arlene Eder
Bob Vernlund
Jennifer Parsons
Jason Shoemaker
Cathy Fulgenzi
Zachary Coleman
Craig Fulgenzi
Kim Fulgenzi
Maxine Hagle

June:

Audrey Flickinger
Pat Fulgenzi
Kenny Gardner
Wendy Eder
Jan Egeland
Marv Egeland
Robin Hiatt
Sharon Hummel
Adam Mahnken
Fred Palestis
Jabez Ross
Margo Ross
Becci Van Hoosier
Mike Weitenhagen
Johnathan Coutu
Travis Coutu
Denise Slaton
Janice Gardner
Jordan Safaipour
Paula Winn

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.



This year's theme Facing Giants is based off the story of David. David led a remarkable life of faith and we can learn so much from him. David gives all of us an example in how to follow God, how to overcome challenges in life and how God is with us in those times of trouble, how to live in community and love our neighbors as ourselves, how to lead, and how to praise God.

For information and registration, go to www.LRCChome.com When registering for camp please use the camper's grade level in the Fall of 2012 to determine grade level.

Moreno Valley Relay For Life 2012



Dear Team Members and Friends of Relay for Life:

Once again, thank you so much for your participation in the American Cancer Society's 24-hour Moreno Valley Relay For Life event held at Valley View High School April 14-15. I am proud to say that, so far, Lord of Life's team "Love of Life" has raised \$5,000 and we're still counting!

Thanks so much to the following Relay participants who have contributed to the success of our team: Arthurine Broussard, Jorine Campbell, Cindy & Jim Cassem, Diane & Larry Combes, Schuyler & Spencer Ciasullo, Charity Dunn, Wendy Eder, Marv Egeland, Audrey Flickinger, Elisa Gonzalez, Wendy & Daniel Grygar, Sally Haase, Bruce & Kristin Hagert, David Jackson, Carole Korshavn, Harold & Jeannine Lester, Connie, John, Mindy & Holly Lowe, Pastor Chuck Malloch, Fred Palestis, Willie Rasmussen, Pat Rupert, Denise Slaton & friend Karen Osmon, Heidi Sundram, Becci, Greg, Alyssa & Trevor Van Hoosier, Ira & Gene Yoder.

Kudos to our evening and early morning walkers: Denise Slaton & Karen Osmon, Wendy Eder, Charity Dunn, Wendy & Daniel Grygar, John, Connie, Mindy & Holly Lowe, Heidi Sundram, Sally Haase.

The following warriors spent the entire 24 hours on the track: Mindy & Holly Lowe and Heidi Sundram. Bringing a wardrobe of costumes, they also participated in every themed lap.

The following survivors attended and were presented with special purple shirts and gift bags: Arthurine Broussard, Jim Cassem, Diane Combes, Charity Dunn, Harold Lester, Connie Lowe, Pastor Chuck, Heidi Sundram, and Ira & Gene Yoder.

Logistic Committee (muscle and brawn) consisting of Marv Egeland, David Jackson, and Jim Cassem arrived early Saturday morning to set up the campsite and returned Sunday morning to take it down and still managed to attend church service.

Top Team Individual Donors: Willie Rasmussen, Ira Yoder

Top Team Fundraisers to date: Pat Rupert, John Lowe, Arthurine Broussard, Wendy Eder

Poster Theme Prize Winner: Cindy Cassem

Raffle Chair: Audrey Flickinger, created beautiful baskets containing spa items and prayer shawls hand-knitted by her and Penny Nay. Winners of the baskets were: Tom Gardner, Jorine Campbell, and Audra Ciasullo. Ticket sales totaled \$140. Audrey also made yarn bracelets/key chains for the event cancer survivors.

We thank you for sacrificing your weekend to help in the fight against cancer.

With Praise and heartfelt gratitude,

Pat Rupert, Team Captain

I Walked for You

I walked around a track today...
I walked to help a disease go away.

I walked because there is a need.
I walked that bodies could be freed.

I walked to give a small child hope...
I walked to help someone cope.

I walked for a husband and a wife.
I walked to give someone life.

I walked with my head held high...
I walked for that one about to die.

I walked excitedly not demure.
I walked to help find a cure.

I walked for everyone to see...
I walked for you...I walked for me.

...Author unknown



2012 Moreno Valley Relay For Life