

Lord of Life Lutheran Church

"Where There's Life For You!"

Volume 22 No.11

e-mail us at: lolmv@verizon.net

November-December 2015

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

Our Mission Statement

Inviting all to grow in Christ!



Inside this issue:

| | |
|------------------------------------|------|
| From the Pastor | P. 2 |
| Listening for God's Will | P. 3 |
| Thanksgiving | P. 3 |
| Christmas Eve | P. 4 |
| Council Committees | P. 4 |
| Confirmation | P. 5 |
| Youth | P. 5 |
| Prayers | P. 5 |
| Face Time | P. 6 |
| Prayer Shawl Ministry | P. 6 |
| Thrivent Choice/Simply Giving..... | P. 6 |

LIFELINE



Dear Friends at Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Moreno Valley,

I am writing to you to inform you that, after deep reflection and much prayer, on September 28th, 2015 I submitted my resignation to the synod as the interim pastor of Lord of Life Lutheran Church; and announced my retirement from parish ministry, effective November 22, 2015.

On November 22, I will have served as your minister for almost 3 years. These years that Nancy and I have spent with you at LOL have been rich in God's blessings and I have genuinely and thoroughly enjoyed serving this very special congregation of God's people. I cannot begin to tell you how honored I have been for this opportunity to serve you throughout these years. Nancy and I will cherish these years for the rest of our lives.

I have served as an LCA/ELCA pastor since 1979-for more that 36 years- and I believe that my call to ministry is a lifetime call to serve our Lord. Numerous recent events have made me realize, however, that the time has come to serve Him in a different capacity. In June, my daughter, Katie, gave birth to a baby boy, and this baby has become the focus of my extra time throughout each week. In addition, my son, Andrew, recently completed schooling in San Francisco in advanced computer science, and I desire to re-connect and spend more time with him. And, as you know, my mother is in a Lutheran nursing home in Japan and my trip to visit her in August made me realize that I need to be with her more frequently. My wife, Nancy, has had a continuing need for assistance in her clinical practice and she has requested that I help her. After all of her support of my ministries throughout the years, I would like to be responsive to her request.

Lord of Life Lutheran Church is an amazing congregation that is filled with special people to faithfully serve Our Lord and the community. I believe the time now is right for LOL to call a new pastor, with fresh ideas and skills to guide you in your spiritual growth and in expanded and new ministries. God has guided LOL in incredible ways over the past years, and I am confident that he will steadfastly continue in the years to come. This is a time of great hope for the future!

What happens next? I am confident that Bishop Murray Finck will be contacting the church council shortly to assist you in the transition steps to a new pastor.

In closing, Nancy and I want to publicly express our profound gratitude to God for allowing us these years with you and for showing us all the miraculous ways he works in the life and ministry of this congregation. We also want you to know how thankful we are to you for allowing us to work alongside you as friends and fellow children of God. There is sadness in our hearts about leaving a congregation we have come to embrace and love so deeply. Yet, there is also a sense of excitement about the opportunities for shared love and growth that the more focused interactions with my family will bring.

God be with you and fill you with his Holy Spirit, now and forever!

Pastor Yutaka and Nancy Kishino

Listening for God's Will by Bob Vernlund

Pastor Kishino has served this congregation with love and compassion for almost three years. His leadership and dedication will be long remembered and He and his family will be missed. The good news is they are not leaving the community so we look forward to staying in contact and wish them well in his retirement from the ministry.

This congregation is searching for a replacement pastor that is a great match for the ministries carried out from this "miracle" on Nason St. First and foremost this is a spiritual process. It is re-rooting in the good news of Jesus Christ and getting God's dream for this ministry. It is not a one-person project. It is God's project among us. It is not just about this congregation. It is about the choices and commitments we make in living out God's dream for us.

We are about four years away from having our mortgage paid off!!!! In the interim we are looking at a concept called "redevelopment", and a search for an extended part-time pastor. Your Church Council is working on an ELCA "Ministry Site Profile" to attract the right person for this mission. Our synod leadership is dedicated to making all this happen and is working closely with your Church Council. What can we as a congregation do to help this process?

- Pray regularly, study scripture and listen to God's voice and dream for this congregation.
- Grow in discipleship and in personal financial stewardship practices.
- Use God's gifts to find ways for ministry and outreach.
- Share your faith and invite people into ministry.
- Continue with a climate of hospitality.

And above all, trust in the power of God's love.

Our Pastor's **RETIREMENT**



We will be having a catered meal to celebrate Pastor Kishino on Saturday, November 21st from 4 to 6 pm in the fellowship hall. We'd like everyone to be there to take the opportunity to say thank-you and good-bye to Pastor and Nancy. LOL will be taking donations through the 21st to present to Pastor on the 22nd - his last Sunday here. Just mark your check or envelope "Pastor gift." Let's make it a memorable experience!!

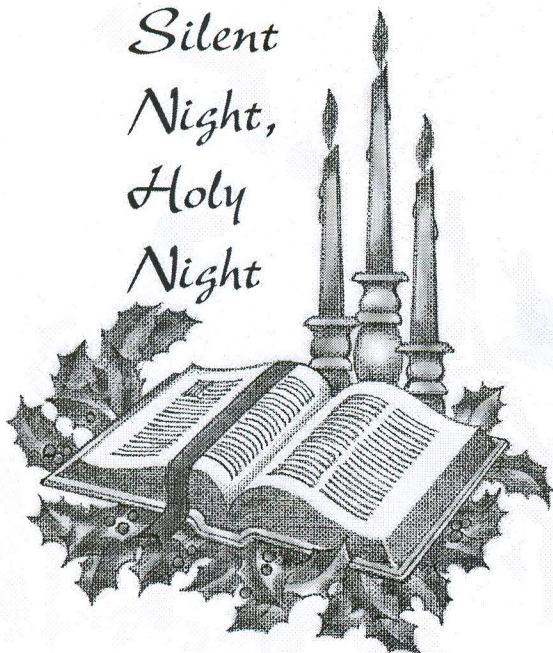
*Thank you Pastor Kishino!!
You are a blessing sent from Heaven!!*



THANKSGIVING DONATIONS

With the success and ease of the streamlined process from last year, we are asking for monetary donations, instead of goods again this year. With the donations received, we will purchase grocery store gift cards so that the recipient on the list can purchase what they want or need for their Thanksgiving dinner. We were able to help 25 families last year, and wish to do so this year, also. Please mark "Thanksgiving" on your check or envelope. Thank you for being a blessing to others.

*Silent
Night,
Holy
Night*



*Join us on Christmas Eve for our
Candlelight Worship Service.
Time to be announced.*



LRCC Winter Retreats



Come to Lutheran Retreats, Camps and Conferences Winter Retreats, where we will be given a deeper understanding of the God that has already named and claimed each one of us, with a love too abundant to comprehend.

**For information and registration,
go to www.lrcchome.com**

Committees: It's time to get involved and share your love of Christ. As mother Teresa said, "We cannot all do great things, but we can do small things with great love." The following are a list of committees with their point(s) of contact and a short definition of what they do.

1. Evangelism

- Marv Egeland
*Worship is evangelism.
Evangelism is worship.

2. Education

- John Lowe
*Lifelong learning — formal and informal

3. Fellowship

- Margo Ross
*relay, fellowship meal, small groups, mission festival, special event and personal visit

4. Finance

- Harold Lester
*General, building, designated funds and budgets

5. Property

- Jim Cassem
*Maintain and monitor all church property

6. Social Ministry

- Jo Lippire
*Igniting the fire of faith

7. Stewardship

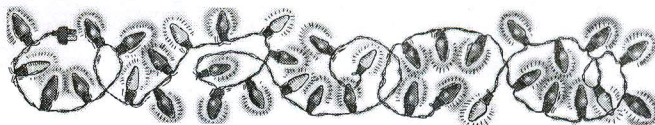
- Bob Vernlund, John Lowe, Jo Lippire
*Growing joyful stewards in your congregation

8. Worship and Music

- Larry Olson
*Worship service structure, content, and music

9. Youth

- Margo Ross
*Building our future with youth ministry.



Lifeline is a newsletter published bi-monthly
By Lord of Life Lutheran Church
13600 Nason Street, Moreno Valley, California
Volume 22 No. 11 November-December 2015

CONFIRMATION 2015



Congratulations to the Confirmation Class of 2015. Under Pastor Yutaka's guidance, Schuyler Ciasullo, Spencer Ciasullo, Shynell Stanton, and Alyssa Van Hoosier were confirmed on October 25th. May God continue to bless and guide you, protect you and keep you in His perfect way.

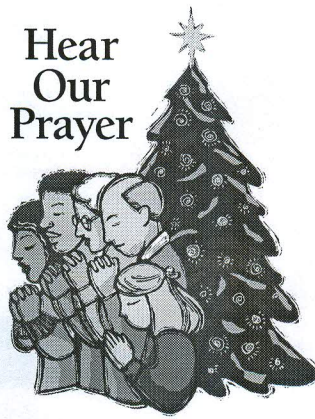


Looking for ideas that would appeal to all our youth: bowling, movie night, etc. With the Thanksgiving and Christmas Holidays approaching, it is a good time to be thankful for all the blessings God has given you and remember those who are in need. For a service project, we'd like you to join us in Operation Christmas Child and pack a shoebox for a child in need. With the break from school, it's time to have more fun and fellowship time together. Please contact Becci in the church office for more information or with your fellowship ideas.

IRA & GENE YODER

It was hard to say good-bye to such longtime family members, but they are enjoying themselves so far. Please keep in contact with them at 513-934-0947 or you can write them at 4531 Morningside Drive, Lebanon, OH 45036.

Hear Our Prayer



Oly Vernlund, David Johnson, Marissa Sheffield, Ikuko Kishino, Ericka Anderson, Tonni Broussard, Ralph Velez, Beatriz Gonzalez, John Abramson, Alice Olson, Pat Rupert, Jason Withrow, Jackie

Leany, Michael Brown, Elijah Fields, Becky Sloss, Steve Johnson, Brian Kelley, Ira & Gene Yoder, Debbie Olson, Carole Horton, Mike Johnson, Rita Nielsen, Cindy Cassem, Mark Korshavn, Jewel Willis, Brian Kelley, Jim Cooper, Larry Wilderman, Kathy Bickel, Laura Entrekin, Connie Lowe, Alan Yoder, Audra Ciasullo, Katherine Ward, Jack Hoffman, Janell Stanford; and all others needing God's healing touch.



November:

Meggie Hilker
Daniel Grygar
Alice Olson
Gillian Nunez
Louise Russell
Linda Rasmussen

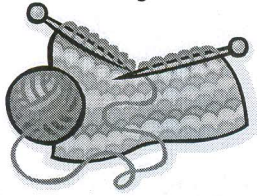
December:

Trevor Van Hoosier
Emily Brown

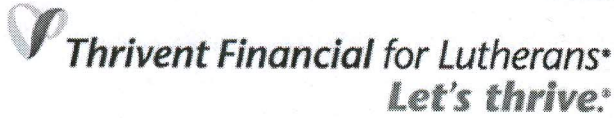
If your baptism information is not included, or included in error, please contact the church office so that we may update our system. We would like to celebrate everyone's baptism anniversary, so please be sure to contact the church office with your information.

Lord of Life Lutheran Church





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. Thanks!



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. Through this grant fund program, we have received over \$16,000.00 in additional donations that have helped Lord of Life further their ministries.*

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.

Face time: Spending electronic face time with people across the globe is possible; nothing beats seeing a faraway friend or family member face to face. Technology allows us to see the smiling mug of a loved one even when we're separated by miles. Still, it is a special treasure to be in the same room, to hug and look one another in the eye. We need each other in the body of Christ. We cannot be disciples in isolation. We walk the journey of faith together. So we gather in community as the church, not only to worship and be renewed by God, but to renew each other in actual face time, in fellowship. To be together in real space and time each week restores our ability to follow God, who is with us in Spirit until the day we at last see Christ face to face.

(Excerpt from Christ in our Home daily devotional for 11/28/2015)

****** 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! ******