

# Lord of Life Lutheran Church

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

Volume 23 No.5

e-mail us at: lolmv@verizon.net

November-December 2016

# LIFELINE

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

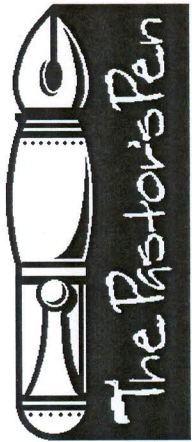
## Our Mission Statement

*Inviting all to grow in Christ!*



## Inside this issue:

From the Pastor .....	P. 2
Thanksgiving .....	P. 3
Advent .....	P. 4
Christmas Eve .....	P. 4
Committees.....	P. 4
Prayer Shawls .....	P. 5
Baptism Anniversaries .....	P. 5
Prayers .....	P. 5
Thrivent/Simply Giving .....	P. 5
Christmas Word Search .....	P. 6



How is it that it is already the end of 2016? What a year!  
As is usual, one reflects on the year past and then speculates about the upcoming year.

For reflection, I came here in the middle of March of this year, just in time for Holy Week! What an experience to begin new ministry at the height of the church year! Much has happened in this short time and much of it has been good. Of course, there have been a few ripples in the water as we get to know one another and discover what God's plan is for us in ministry together. But from my point of view, things have been very good and the future looks fruitful and exciting. I am very excited to be here and very happy God placed me with you for the present. I sense that many of you are also happy with the situation.

Looking forward then offers even more excitement. The good news is that with a little effort we will finish the year in the black financially. That is especially good news as you have shown yourselves to be faithful and generous people and dedicated to remaining God's people here in Moreno Valley. We now stand on the edge of moving from a surviving congregation to one ready for ministry to each other and the world! It takes little imagination for me to see a smile on God's face.

Some new things to look forward to in 2017: a plan to retire our mortgage with the existing mortgage holder and reducing the rate of money owed to less than half of the current rate. Working under the mentorship of Hope Lutheran Church in Palm Desert, we plan to embark on a sale of notes to our members to pay off our mortgage and at the same time provide a place to save your money at twice or better the existing savings or money market rates. Stay tuned for more details.

We are also working on a plan to engage the youth in a video ministry to tell the old Biblical stories in their own language of the day, video the results, and share with others via all digital means, including to other churches to help them with their youth and Sunday School ministries. We have begun with tuning into a webinar on a resource to help us with the storyboarding, videoing, and editing our results. We have also applied for a grant to help fund the equipment we will need. In addition, contact for support has been made at the churchwide office in Chicago and at our Synod office. Those contacts have been encouraging and exciting. However, in fact, we already have much of what need. The youth are already talking about which of their friends might be interested in getting involved with this. How exciting is that!?!

It is also budget time. We are looking hard and critically at our budget for the upcoming year. The plan is to restructure some expenses, sometimes by simply not spending money in certain areas any longer, and to establish new line items to intentionally fund ministry. We also need to plan to meet compensation

# The Pastor's Pen

(continued from page 2)

guidelines and to plan for a full time pastor in three to five years. That also means we will need a call fund and we need to begin funding that now.

We are looking into leasing our excess real estate, or as we call it, the back 40. Other congregations around the country have done this. So we are on an information gathering hunt. Anyone having information or expertise in this area is encouraged to talk with me or any council member.

With the new church year beginning the Sunday after Thanksgiving, we will put regular Advent, and later, Lent, services in place. Someone said we are going to 'be a real church' again. So be it! How fun.

Finally, get ready for the annual Congregational Meeting in January. Important stuff will be before you. By-law changes regarding the number of council members, a new budget, and bringing our constitution up to date with the church at large are on the agenda. Plan to be there, learn the pros and cons of the issues and then be prepared to vote guided by God's plan for us.

So we say adieu to an old year, and greet the new year full of opportunities and promise.

Shalom,

Pastor Carol



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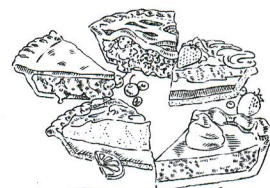
## Thanksgiving Outreach

With the success and ease of the streamlined process we've used for the last two years, we are asking for monetary donations for Thanksgiving, instead of canned goods. 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 more than 20 families last year, and wish to assist 20 this year. Please mark "Thanksgiving outreach" on your check or envelope. Thank you for being a blessing to others.



*Come worship and give thanks  
with Lord of Life Lutheran Church  
Wednesday, November 23rd  
at 7:00 pm*

## Thanksgiving Eve Worship



*Pie Social*

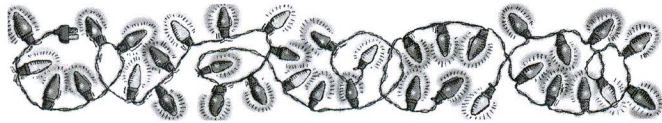
*Pie and coffee will be served in the  
Fellowship Hall following the service.*



Don't forget that Daylight Saving Time ends early on November 6th. Be sure to turn your clocks back one hour before going to bed Saturday night.



Please join Lord of Life on Tuesday, November 29th, December 6th, December 13th, and December 20th at 7:00 pm for our midweek Advent Services. Come and worship with us as we prepare for the birth of our Savior.



*Join us on Christmas Eve for our Candlelight Worship Service at 7:00 p.m.*

**\*\*Have a favorite Christmas song you'd like to sing? ...that evokes special memories? Please inform the church office before Thanksgiving for consideration in the Christmas Eve service.\*\***

**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

- Brianna Egeland  
\*Lifelong learning — formal and informal

### 3. Fellowship

- Audrey Flickinger  
\*relay, fellowship meal, small groups, mission festival, special events and personal visits

### 4. Finance

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

### 5. Property

- Council  
\*Maintain and monitor all church property

### 6. Social Ministry

- Jo Lippire  
\*Igniting the fire of faith

### 7. Stewardship

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

### 8. Worship and Music

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

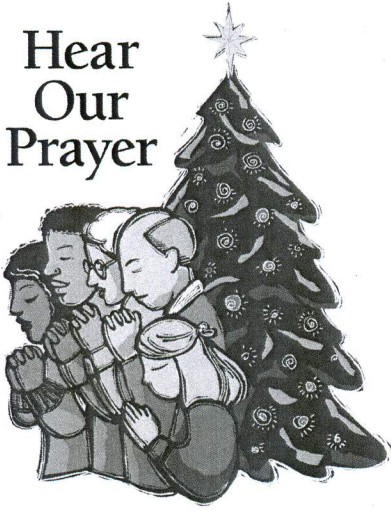
### 9. Youth

- Audrey Flickinger  
\*Building our future with youth ministry.

Lord of Life Lutheran Church



## Hear Our Prayer



Harold Lester,  
Christina Torres,  
Jan Egeland,  
Cindy Cassem,  
Oly Vernlund,  
Maggie August,  
Harold Lester,  
Lola Booth, Ira  
and Gene Yoder,  
Odell Ross,  
Katherine Ward,  
Tonni Broussard,  
David Johnson,  
Corey Lester,

Alice Bradley, Carole Horton, Clara Delgado,  
Jordan Matheason, Eli Broussard, Kathy  
Youngblood, Laura Entrekin, Jill Rasmussen,  
Diane Kroh, Gail Paddock, Christy Fisher  
Perry, Megan Kelley, John Abramson, Carole  
Horton, Craig May, John Simpson, Donna  
Messer, Margaret, Steve Johnson, Brian  
Kelley, Mike Johnson, Rita Nielsen, Mark  
Korshavn, Jewel Willis, Brian Kelley, Larry  
Wilderman, Kathy Bickel, Jeff Sims, Alan  
Yoder, Audra Ciasullo, Jack Hoffman, Janell  
Stanford; and all others needing God's  
healing touch.



### November:

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.*

Can you knit, crochet, or sew? Audrey Flickinger has 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](http://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.

# Christmas is Holy

F T T L F R A N K I N C E N S E B C M L T G Q  
 V E L L L X W C A D Z L Z K J N C F K G L Y T  
 P L E B A B R I M M T P E G P P K T H L W N G  
 R C K G G E U J N T J E R U S A L E M K C A G  
 I A G W C L G O J Y J C M M N I G A M Q X H L  
 N R R H E A R S C E L E E K C A D E L G J P O  
 C I E L L N F E F Z S O L R P L M Y A V K I R  
 E M L C F N M P N V F U H B E G G M Y N M P I  
 O A L H M O Y H B L N X S K A M H I E B T E A  
 F N N R A U N R O H T A A S G T O K F L A M K  
 P L O I N N C R F V C L T N R F S N R T R B R  
 E P I S A C D Q J R W R Y I G V Y V I H S A T  
 A R T T G E X C E W O S B R H E Z N R E T Q X  
 C O A C E M P D X L K D T P A J L R J S S N K  
 E C N H R E R K O C M R T R T M Y S B J W D V  
 H L R I T N C G O N E E Q O N M R R O I V A S  
 F A A L W T E L N V H H R P E L L I W D O O G  
 T M C D R R F I L T E P B H V N A T I V I T Y  
 R A N V S F G R R M L E R E D T V M V K T Z G  
 V T I L K T L G H T H H K C A H B H G X T G M  
 T I B Y E K N O D X T S N Y K N L F Y G O G C  
 N O W I S E M E N J E V R C A M E L Q L N W K  
 T N A N G E L I C P B T T V H G K F D D B Y Z

Advent	camel	Gloria	Magi	sanct
alleluia	ceremonies	gold	manager	Savior
angelic	Christ Child	goodwill	Mary	shepherds
angels	creche	holy	miracle	stable
announcement	donkey	incarnation	myrrh	star
astrologers	Immanuel	inn	nativity	wise men
babe	Epiphany	Jerusalem	pageant	
baby	flocks	Jesus	Prince of Peace	
Bethlehem	frankincense	Joseph	proclamation	
birth	gifts	Lord	prophecy	