

Lord of Life Lutheran Church

"Where There's Life For You!"

Volume 20 No.10

e-mail us at: lolmv@verizon.net

September-October 2011

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



On August 15-19, our ELCA Church wide Assembly met in Orlando, Florida. This year's theme was "Freed in Christ to Serve." Here's a review of how we

function together.

There are 4.5 million members in the ELCA. We are called "evangelical" because that literally means "Good news." Martin Luther wanted his reformed Churches to call themselves "evangelical," not "Lutheran." In Europe, the Lutherans call themselves "Evangelicals," so we stand with them in our use of the e-word. But we use the e-word differently than most of the American culture, and that sometimes causes misunderstandings.

We are the 7th largest Christian body in the USA: 1) Roman Catholic 68 million; 2) Southern Baptist 16.2 million; 3) United Methodist 6.8 million; 4) LDS Mormon 5.9 million; 5) Church of God 5.5 million; 6) National Baptist 5 million. The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod has 2.3 million members, and is the 14th largest denomination. The Wisconsin Synod has been in the news lately because Michele Bachmann has been a member of it for more than a decade. They claim 390,000 members. We (ELCA) consider ourselves to be one church in three "expressions": 1) Local Congregation; 2) the regional area known as a Synod; 3) Church wide expression (ELCA). The word "synod" is

a Greek word which means "a journey together." It is applied in different ways by different Christians.

For us, the synod is a geographical area. Roman Catholics and Episcopalians talk about a diocese, Methodists and Missouri Synod Lutherans call it a district. The Pacifica Synod includes Hawaii along with Southern California. There are 65 Synods in the ELCA encompassing the Bahamas and the Caribbean. One of our synods is called the Zion Slovak Synod, united by heritage, not geography. Like most synods, we meet annually as an "assembly." Our bishops are elected for six year terms. Murray Finck is our bishop in his third term. Our presiding Bishop is Mark Hanson, serving his second term.

The ELCA has been in the forefront of all American Churches in its innovative use of the internet. If you have a computer with access to the internet, you can watch the assembly through streaming video. A special town hall forum was held on Tuesday, August 18th and included a social statement on genetics. You can also follow it on Facebook and Twitter.

I encourage you to consider a renewal time of "Journey with Jesus" each day. Choose a Bible verse, a hymn, or a prayer for a day or a week and remember it during the day.

Open your heart and mind to God's presence and receive God's companionship in silence and in Word. God will bless you!

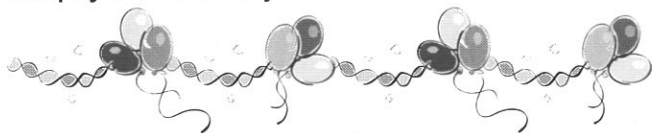
In His love and in His Grip,

Pastor Chuck



Don't just sit there, here is your invitation! Join us on Sunday, September 11th for "Rally Sunday!" Check

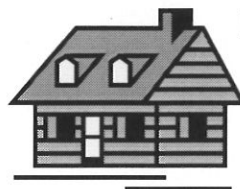
out the different ministries that are available at Lord of Life, talk to the ministry leaders and get invested in your church! Whether it's stewardship, outreach, altar care, usher, bible studies, worship, youth, or choir...there is no reason not to be involved. Have an idea for a new and exciting ministry? Present your idea to the church council and see how God can help you share your time and talents!



OUR CHURCH COOKBOOK



Got any secret family recipes?...Great dinner recipes that bring back special childhood memories?...Yummy dessert recipes that are always a hit? Well, dig them out because the fundraising committee is putting together the first ever "Lord of Life Cook Book" and we need your input! In order to make this a successful endeavor, we need you to bring in these recipes, and any others you'd like to share, before the end of September. You can write them down or e-mail them to Fred Palestis or Cindy Cassem. Thanks for your help!



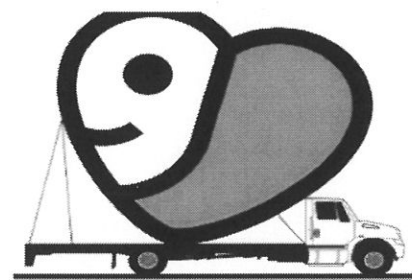
Please help **Thrivent Builds and Habitat for Humanity** build a home for a military hero. Purchase your Frontier Logs for \$5.00

and see how you can help make a difference. If you would like to volunteer your time for this or any other build day, please contact call Christine Morgando at 951-787-6754 x 112.

FUNDRAISING DONATION DRIVE

The Truck is Coming!

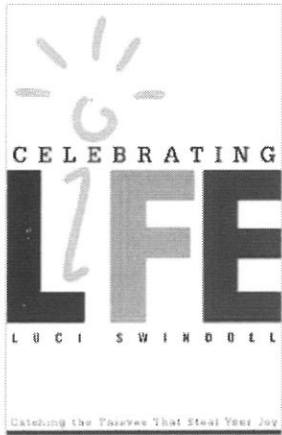
The Truck is Coming!



Another wonderful opportunity for extra income will be the arrival of a Goodwill Donation Truck on Saturday, October 29th. If we can fill a 20 foot Goodwill truck with donated items, we will be blessed with \$1,500.00 from Goodwill. This is a great opportunity to clean out our garages, attics, closets, and spare bedrooms. If you need pick-up of large items, please contact Fred Palestis at 951-924-0717. He will arrange to have your items picked up. Advanced collection of donated items will start the first week in October.

Goodwill's mission is to transform lives through the power of work. They serve persons with disabilities or other vocational disadvantages by providing education, skills training, work experience and job placement. So, your donation not only helps Lord of Life, you are helping to fulfill the mission of Goodwill, Southern California.

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WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

WE WILL BE STARTING AN EXCITING NEW BIBLE STUDY ON "CELEBRATING LIFE! CATCHING THE THIEVES THAT STEAL YOUR JOY" BY LUCI SWINDOLL. IN HER PREFACE, SHE STATES "WE ALL LEAD SUCH BUSY, STRESSFUL LIVES AND FEEL OVERWHELMED. WE EXPERIENCE PRESSURE AND NAGGING DEADLINES THAT DRIVE US CRAZY. TO CELEBRATE ANYTHING FOR ANY REASON SWEETENS THE BITTER TASTES OF LIFE." OUR GROUP IS OPEN TO QUESTIONS AND REFLECTION WHILE SHARING. WE HAVE FUN AND WOULD LIKE TO SHARE OUR TIME WITH YOU. 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!!

Women of the ELCA Annual Convention

November 4-6, 2011

Hampton Inn, San Diego, CA

Theme: God's Promise, Purpose, Prayer, and Praise

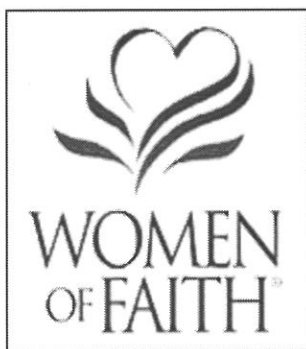
Bible Verse: Psalm 138:8

"God made each of us for a purpose"

Bring your laughter, prepare to have fun and dust off your best Hawaiian dress!



Women
of the
EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH
IN AMERICA



Women of Faith is almost here! Can you feel the excitement? Save the date: Friday and Saturday SEPT 9 and 10, 2011. "Over the Top" is the theme. We will have many fabulous speakers and lots of good music. Only 5 tickets remain and will be sold on a first come, first serve basis. The ladies that attended this past year had a fabulous time. Talk to them and find out how much they enjoyed the conference. Tickets are \$89.00 for the two days. Conference times are 10:00am to 3:00pm and 7:00pm to 10:00pm on Friday and 9:00am to 5:00pm on Saturday. Box lunches are included for both days. Please contact the church office for further details.

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 when possible. Thank you.



Sweet Monday on Wednesday is Back!

Please meet at 7:00 pm on September 14 at the Cassem's, 24815 Moonshadow Drive, Moreno Valley. We will continue the study of The Greatest Story regarding the study of the Bible. I gained new insights from my weekend at PLTS and I look forward to sharing them with you. Cindy



Please Pray for:

Oly Vernlund, Harold Lester, Pastor Chuck, Catherine Fields, the family of Julie Johnson, Audra Ciasullo, Mike Slaton, George Scott, Jessie McMillian, Katherine Ward, John Abramson, Wanda Kohr, Clark Christensen, Larry Schmid, Boyd and Bonnie Nielsen, Abdi Sami, Joan Spaulding, Tom and Cheryl Jones, Jack Hoffman, Janell Stanford, Connie Lowe, Bill Huie, Josh Althoff, Maya, Arnette Lester; and all others needing God's healing touch.



LOL is continuing with much needed quilts and health kits, and we are asking for your support. We are in need of hand towels, wash cloths, soap, toothbrushes and nail clippers to reach our goal of 500. We are also in need of gently used, clean sheets. Our wonderful organizer, Audrey Flickinger, needs help so please ask her how you can lend a hand! Thanks!!

Dear Lord of Life family,

As many of you know I have been "entranced" into candidacy for the ELCA church. I am already setting up a couple of online classes to get started on the journey. August 25-28, I was up at PLTS (Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary) in Berkeley. It was truly a "mountain-top" experience. (And those of you who have been there know that the seminary sits at the very top of the mountain.)

I would never have made it this far without the love, support, and prayers from my LOL family. I want to thank each of you for that support. Blessings and thanksgiving,

Cindy Cassem



September:

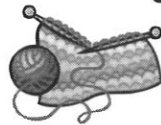
Alyssa Van Hoosier
Diane Combes
Karen Ptacek
Nicholas Shearer
Robert Nelson
Barbara Shoemaker
Chris Silvey
Lola Booth
Teri Hilker
Mike Kline
Greg Van Hoosier
Katherine Coutu
Gary Ellingson

October:

David Johnson
Hailey Levi
Gina Yates
Dale Gardner
Dirk Gardner
Marilyn Jackson
Kurt Kozma
Oly Vernlund
Deb Weitenhagen
Iver Sonnack
Alex Kozma

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.

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, Jackie Silvey, Darlene Bueker, Arlene Eder, and Penny Nay for all the beautiful blankets and prayer shawls!

Claiming God's Abundant Future: The Fall Bishop's Gathering will be at Trinity, Riverside on September 10th from 10am-1pm. We are meeting in large churches, intending to fill them full with many people from our congregations in those geographic regions. As you attend, you will have opportunity to connect with more people. Congregational presidents and vice presidents, worship and music leaders, those working with administration, finance, education, evangelism and outreach and others from various leadership aspects of the congregation will have an opportunity to meet one another, and hear from and learn from each other. If you would like to attend, please notify Marv Egeland or the church office as soon as possible.

Trinity Lutheran Church in Temecula will be hosting a seminar on Saturday, September 24th at Murrieta Mesa High School from 9:30 am -3:30 pm. Dr. Paul Maier will present a seminar titled **"Jesus, Legend or Lord?"** and will add a fresh dimension to the Scriptures with evidence from archaeology and secular history. Reserve your tickets at www.trinityisone.com or call 676-1492. Tickets are \$15.00/adult; \$10.00/seniors, students, and youth.



On Saturday, October 8, 2011 the Riverside Region of LSS will be holding its annual Walk-A-Thon which directly benefits the transitional living facilities and programs at

Genesis House and Amelia's Light. You can register to walk, or make a pledge at lsssc.org. Click on LSS walk-A-thon; click on Riverside. By supporting this worthwhile cause, you can make a world of difference in the lives of many folks in need. For more information, please contact Helen Ross at 951-689-7847.

Thrivent will be hosting an **Ice Cream Social** at Shepherd of the Valley on Sunday, October 23rd at 3:30 pm followed by a presentation of The Dead Sea Scrolls. Everyone welcome!



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.