

# Lord of Life Lutheran Church

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

Volume 22 No.4

e-mail us at: lolmv@verizon.net

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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



## “What good is the church?”

Did you ever stop to think of the service that the church offers to its members? This is a good topic for discussion. The following article comes from my good friend and mentor, Reverend Bob Lyson, from Trinity Lutheran Church in Landsdale, PA., from the “Landsdale Lutheran,” Aug., 1986.

Some would say the Church does nothing - it's really quite useless. Others would add that they remember a time when the Church really did something good: It had good BBQ dinners, good rummage sales, and good old hymns.

Well, I would like to share with you just a few things about what the Church is good for. We all need to be refreshed about these things every so often or we become complacent, and feel the Church is not really doing much for us. What does church do for you?

1. It offers you an opportunity to hear and learn from God's word every Sunday throughout the year. And that opportunity is for everyone.
2. Your Church feeds you with the bread and wine of the Body of Christ that offers you strength and renewal in your faith.
3. Your Church baptizes your children and instructs them in the Christian way of life. It confirms them at the altar and leads them to Christ.
4. Your Church unites couples in holy marriage and adds God's blessing to their union.
5. Your Church comes into your home at a time of sickness or sorrow to bring prayer, cheer, and comfort.

6. Your Church stands by the bedside at life's end and sheds light upon the homeward path.
7. Your Church stands by the bereaved families at the open grave to heal the wounds of separation with the ointment of God's promise that “you shall rise again.”
8. Your Church supports the homes for the elderly and for children, where they may be tenderly cared for.
9. Your Church supports Christian colleges where young people are educated in the various professions and life work.
10. Your church helps carry out the Lord's command to preach the Gospel at home and abroad, and to make the witness world-wide.
11. Your church stands by you in all kinds of trouble. If sick, it visits you in the hospital. If young people find themselves in trouble, the church is there, too.
12. Your church follows you in other communities when you move, showing a concern for its people wherever they may be.

What good is the church? I often think of my father's comment...“Take the churches out of the community, and this world will be a much poorer place in which to live.”

So think “What good is the church?” then remember that you and the church, with the help of Jesus, make our community a wonderful place. Are we doing all we can as a Church, the body of Christ? What can we do better, and how? I look forward to your response. Amen.

In His Spirit,

Pastor Kishino

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## **Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,**

Summer is over, and a productive one it was. Our high school youth were able to go on their second annual retreat to the beach, where fun and fellowship mixed for a great time for all. Next, with the help of many volunteers, our younger children enjoyed a week of fun and learning more about Jesus. A big thank you goes out to all who help our youth; they are our church's future. And, finally, we had our Christmas in July fundraiser. Thank you to all who have and continue to give towards this important fundraiser. The funds raised during Christmas in July help supplement our building fund.

Now it is time to start up our church activities once again. Our choir, under the leadership of Ira, will resume as I am writing this letter. All are welcome to join in making a joyful noise to the Lord. We have been blessed with Jeffrey as our accompanist, and an excellent job he is doing. Thank you, Jeffrey. And then we have our Sunday school beginning again under the new leadership of Margo. If you enjoy sharing Jesus with our children, please see Margo. I'm sure she will have a spot for you. Maggie graciously continues to lead the women's bible study again this year. Have fun on your journey with Peter and Paul. I'm sure it will be an exciting trip.

As school has now started for most of us, we keep our teachers and students in prayer for guidance this year. Thank you, teachers, for all you do to enrich the lives of your students.

October brings us the time of Reformation. We can be grateful to people like Martin Luther who saw a problem with the Catholic Church and stepped up to change the church, enabling the Protestant church to come into existence. As a result of Martin Luther, we are now able to read the Bible on our own and see how God has given us His son to die for us, so that we may all enter the Kingdom of Heaven for free. For by grace are we saved that not of works lest any man should boast. Jesus paid the price on the cross and all we should want to do is share the good news with all we meet. The new church brochure is available to take and share with your friends, neighbors, or those in need of a church home.

In closing, on behalf of the church council, I want to say Thank-You, again, for your generous support of our Christmas in July fundraising campaign. We raised almost \$20,000.00, which is over and above our original goal! With our help, God will continue to bless our Miracle on Nason Street!

God's peace to all,  
John Lowe

## **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**

- Pastor Kishino  
\*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**

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

### **5. Property**

- Jim Cassem and Fred Palestis  
\*Maintain and monitor all church property

### **6. Social Ministry**

- Jo Lippire  
\*Igniting the fire of faith

### **7. Stewardship**

- Bob Vernlund, John Lowe, Jo Lippire, and Amy Freeman  
\*Growing joyful stewards in your congregation

### **8. Worship and Music**

- Jim Cassem  
\*Worship service structure, content, and music

### **9. Youth**

- Margo Ross  
\*Building our future with youth ministry.

## "God's work. Our hands." Sunday

is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America — one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. On **Sunday, Sept. 7, 2014**, the nearly 10,000 congregations of this church gather to serve communities in ways that share the love of God with all of God's people.

Whether it's 30,000 young people doing community volunteer work at an ELCA Youth Gathering, the passionate volunteers of the ELCA homeless ministry network or the devoted members of our congregations who fight for peace and justice in their communities every day, we are a church that boldly does God's work of restoring and reconciling communities.



*"When one congregation or group of congregations gather for service in their local communities, they are the church in that place, taking care of that part of God's vineyard. But this is all work that we do together. When one congregation works to feed people who are hungry, that is also the entire church coming together," says ELCA Presiding*

*Bishop Elizabeth Eaton.*

**"God's work. Our hands." Sunday** reminds us that we are church together for the sake of the world. Our lives have been changed by our relationship with God through Jesus Christ, and it's that encounter with Jesus that frees us to make a difference. As you participate Sept. 7, 2014, in the dedicated day of service, may you witness the love of God, who knows and loves each one of us."

You work every day to love your neighbors and make your community a better place. Now let's do it together!

**\*\*On September 7, Lord of Life will be headed to CCLM to help install a new playground for the children in the neighborhood. There is opportunity for all ages and abilities!\*\***



## 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Quilt

Start thinking creatively, because I am asking you to contribute a quilt square for a congregational quilt with the theme "Lord of Life." I will assemble it and it will be auctioned off for the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Squares can be embroidered (by hand or machine), counted cross stitched, appliquéd, pieced, painted or a picture can be printed on the fabric. You can also do a typical quilt square: log cabin, Ohio Star, bow tie, or flying goose, for example. Quilt squares of cotton and instruction sheets are now available so, if you haven't picked one up yet, please do so. If you need any help with implementing your design just give me a call.

Thanks

Jo Lippire



## YOU ARE INVITED!

Join us on Sunday, September 21<sup>st</sup> 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 joining a committee, getting involved in Bible studies, being an assistant during Sunday worship...there is a place for you! Have an idea for a new and exciting ministry? Let your church council know and see how God can help you share your time and talents!



Lord of Life Lutheran Church





**Lutheran World Relief**  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. LASTING PROMISE.

**Fleece Tied Blankets!**

This year, we've decided that this project would be a great youth group activity that will help provide gifts of comfort and warmth to those in need. In just one week, our youth have completed 5 blankets, with more to be finished by the October 24<sup>th</sup> deadline. We would like to thank those that have contributed fleece, kits, and monetary donations. As always, we appreciate you and the blessing you are to others.



I can't believe the summer is already over and the new school year is here! Some of our activities seemed to get put on hold due to scheduling conflicts, but mark your calendars...Barring any further delays, we will be having our **Youth Lock-In** on Friday, September 19th beginning at 7:00 pm until noon on Saturday. This is for the older Elementary, Middle School, and High School youth. Bring your sleeping bag (just in case) and plan to enjoy a whole night of fellowship, fun, games, and snacks with your friends here at LOL. See Becci for more information.



What a milestone celebration! Save the Date: Our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration will be held at Benedict Castle on April 18, 2015! Let's celebrate and praise God for the blessings on our church. Let's make this a celebration to remember!



The family of Donald Quinn, Joe Broussard, Cindy Cassem, Dorothy Parr, Michael Brown, Helen Larsen, Pete Larson, Susan Kilgore, Ira Yoder, The family of William Graham, Dave, Cindy Wade, Mrs. Gonzales, Gi Pierce, the family of Rikkia Vinans, Rachel,

**Please Pray for:** Karen Ptacek, Carole Horton, Rita Nielsen, Jewel Willis, Dr. Don Capra, Don Walker, Debbie Olson, Dotti Marconi, Kathryn Young, Mark Korshavn, Oly Vernlund, Maggie August, Kathy Bickel, John & MaryJean Abramson, Laura Entrekim, Dave Williams, Diane Kroh and John Meeks, Reannon Castro, Karman Johnson, Mary Lou Ptacek, Connie Lowe, Jim Busick, Marshall Whitney, Alan Yoder, Audra Ciasullo, Katherine Ward, Jack Hoffman, Janell Stanford; and all others needing God's healing touch.



**September:**

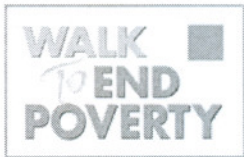
Adam Gonzalez  
Christina Gonzalez  
Alyssa Van Hoosier  
Diane Combes  
Karen Ptacek  
Nicholas Shearer  
Barb Shoemaker  
Lola Booth  
Teri Hilker  
Mike Kline  
Greg Van Hoosier  
Katherine Coutu  
Gary Ellingson

**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.*

**\*\*\*\* 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! \*\*\*\***



Saturday, October 4, 2014; Hope Lutheran Church, Riverside

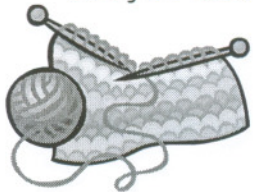
Registration: 7:30 a.m. Start Time: 8 a.m.

Refreshments & Raffle; Use our “**Friends Asking Friends**”

website to register to walk and/or volunteer for this fun event at [www.LSSWalk.org](http://www.LSSWalk.org). **Need more info? Go to the website or contact: Helen Ross at [hross@lsscommunitycare.org](mailto:hross@lsscommunitycare.org)**

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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!

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*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 \$6,000.00 in additional donations that have helped Lord of Life further their ministries.*

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## **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.

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Women of the ELCA present “Being made new.” The 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention and Gathering will be held November 7-9, 2014 at the Radisson Rancho Bernardo in San Diego. See Becci in the church office for registration and convention information.