

Lord of Life Lutheran Church

"Where There's Life For You!"

Volume 18 No. 12

e-mail us at: lolmv@verizon.net

January-February 2008

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!



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FROM THE



PASTOR

Evangelism- You CAN do it!

Inviting

Invite: to request the presence or participation of another person

LEVEL 1 - Movies, dinner, lunch, weddings, birthday parties, etc.

We invite people all the time. It's part of living with others. We invite people to share a meal with us or come for a visit. We invite them to see a new movie or go to eat. We invite for a variety of reasons. Nothing to it.

We invite! What invitations are easy to extend?

LEVEL 2 - Church Activities

Inviting people to a church activity can be more challenging for us. Why do you think this may be true? Don't we think the church activity will be a blessing to that person's life? Perhaps we fear we might impinge on that individual's private faith-life. To a certain degree, this is true, but in a positive way. God blesses people. Hopefully, others might be blessed by the fellowship found at church.

Not everyone is ready to attend a service of worship every Sunday, but inviting someone to one service with special music, children's choir, or drama might be a start. Or, what about extending an invitation to a church potluck dinner? People love good food.

Inviting someone to a church activity doesn't have to be hard. It does involve some risk, but the potential of blessing for that person is significant.

Who in your life would you like to invite to a church activity?

Which activities would that person particularly enjoy?

LEVEL 3 - Faith in Jesus Christ

Our world is full of people hungry for meaning. Many long for someone to help us make sense of the complex puzzle of life. Luther put it something like this, "We are hungry beggars showing other

beggars where to find food." Thus, how can we not share our faith and hope in Jesus Christ? There are people who desperately need some good news in their lives.

Let us pray for God to empower us to be clear witnesses to the love of God made known in Christ. May God open our hearts, eyes and mouths to the opportunities to bear witness to Christ. Let us pray for courage to invite, invite and invite.

Who is God bringing to mind for you to witness to God's love?

How might you share the joy and love of Christ?

Adapted from the ELCA's Evangelism website at www.elca.org/evangelism

Writer: Robin McCullough-Bade
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Over \$8 Million Raised in 2007!

"Souper Bowl" Sunday – Lord of Life youth will participate in the nation's largest youth-led weekend of giving and serving. Souper Bowl of Caring believes that youth are not only the leaders of tomorrow, but can also be the leaders of today. By equipping young people with knowledge about hunger and poverty, we help to guide them to a lifetime of service.

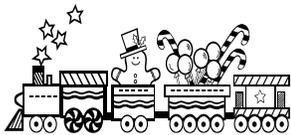
A special offering will be received on February 3rd, with 100% of the donation going directly to Central City Lutheran Mission (CCLM) in San Bernardino. This will be our 10th year of participation in this wonderful and caring event.

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Edgemont Christmas Toy Drive



This year was once again a successful Christmas toy drive for Edgemont. Even though this was a tough year, we made it with the help of a lot of prayer. We needed 709 toys and we were blessed with about 720. These extra toys allowed us to be prepared just in case we made a mistake. About 95% of all the toys collected came from LOL and the rest came from Park Place Realty and Liberty Baptist Church.

We had a bunch of people that helped all the way, you know who you are. Besides if I tried to name names I would probably forget someone. And according to Matthew 8, we need to be storing up our rewards for Heaven.

The wrapping party was a huge success, with all the help from our own members, and the local high school clubs. We wrapped all the gifts, bagged them up and checked them in in just about 2 hours.

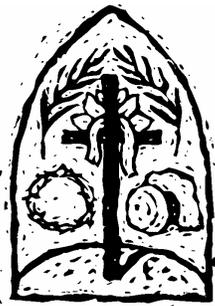
For those who helped deliver the toys at Edgemont, it was a big success and blessing. If you have never done that part of the toy drive you should plan on it next year.

Encouraging everyone to give toys is part of collecting all the needed toys, but next year maybe we need to collect more cash donations so that shopping can be done at much greater discounts. And Thrivent can match a portion.

Thanks to all who helped in any way. May the Lord bless you with many riches for your generous gift of toys, money and your time.

Love in Christ.

Martha Mott



2008 Lenten Worship at Lord of Life

February 6-March 13

Simple Suppers at 6 PM
Worship at 7 PM

Worship Schedule *For Lent*

Ash Wednesday, February 6 – Soup Supper
Holy Communion and Imposition of Ash

Thursday, February 14 – Taco Supper

Thursday, February 21 – Finger Food Supper

Thursday, February 28 – International Supper

Thursday, March 6 – Salad Bar Supper

Thursday, March 13 – Chili Supper

Holy Week Events

Palm Sunday, March 16

Maundy Thursday, March 20 – Baked Potatoes

Holy Communion

Good Friday, March 21 – no supper

Easter Sunday, March 23

10 Stewardship Principles

1

Respond gratefully

to what God has first given us. All that we do is a response to God's grace.

Everything we are, have, and use comes from God. Best of all, God gives the gift of Jesus Christ and the community of believers. It all begins with God. Our confession of faith in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior is not of our doing. Grateful stewards put God first.

"...but they gave themselves first to the Lord."
2 Corinthians 8:5

2

Obey responsibly

to glorify God as a faithful proclamation of God's word. We acknowledge our faith and show our faith in the gospel for the glory of God and for the building up of the body of Christ. This takes courage. It involves our life-long obedience, including the ways we treat our families, others, and ourselves.

"...you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ."
2 Corinthians 9:13

3

Sacrifice proportionately

as Christ sacrificed for us.

For our sake Jesus gave up everything to make us rich through the cross and the resurrection. We are called to sacrifice so others may share in God's word and blessings.

"...gave according to their means, and even beyond their means."
2 Corinthians 8:3

4

Give willingly

as moved by the Holy Spirit. We have been prepared to give of ourselves. We give our time, talents, and resources freely.

"For, as I can testify, they voluntarily gave..."
2 Corinthians 8:3

5

Share abundantly

as we have received. The purpose of these gifts is for the good of the community of God. We give to build up the body of Christ. We use and share our gifts for the benefit of all.

"...and God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work."
2 Corinthians 9:8

Our role as God's stewards is one of many dimensions - grateful, responsible, self-sacrificing, willing, sharing, proportionate, committed, regular, genuine, and challenged. By generously giving of ourselves, we discover joy in Christ.

"... you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."
2 Corinthians 9:7

6

Give proportionately

is our way of giving in relation to our abundance. We are to give according to our "means," not according to an income or a budget.

"If the eagerness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has—not according to what one does not have,"
2 Corinthians 8:12

7

Commit intentionally

means making a statement about your intent and following through. As members in the body of Christ, we are asked to make a commitment of our time, talents, and resources as a faithful response to God and as a statement of support for God's work.

"...arrange in advance for this bountiful gift that you have promised."
2 Corinthians 9:5

8

Contribute regularly

means practicing our stewardship

on a daily basis. By doing so this becomes a lifestyle. Paul instructs us:

"On the first day of every week, each of you is to put aside and save whatever extra you earn."
1 Corinthians 16:2

9

Live genuinely

means putting your faith into action. This is the tangible demonstration of what is sincerely on our hearts and where our treasure is, not simply a verbal expression. The Macedonians set an example that Paul called to the attention of the Corinthians.

"I am testing the genuineness of your love against the earnestness of others."
2 Corinthians 8:8

10

Accept a challenge

means recognizing the dynamic nature of our faith.

As our faith grows so will our blessings, and our responsibilities. Paul writes,

"...the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully."
2 Corinthians 9:6





Our **Thoughts** &
Prayers
are with...

Ira Yoder, Linda Willis,
Greg Van Hoosier, Cindy
Matheason, Brenda Payne and
family, Linda Baginski, Tony
Almodovar, Andy Franz, Laura
Duran and family, Josh Althoff,
Betty Lankster and family, Gail
Henderson-Peter, Mark Catus,
Richard Weber, Eileen Clark.

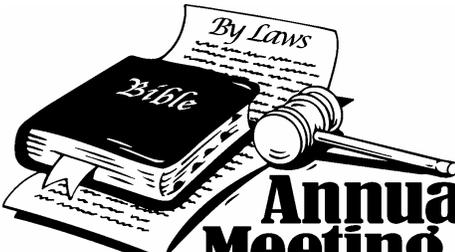


Workday-Saturday, January 26th
8:00 AM

We have scheduled a workday at Lord of Life and extend an invitation to all to help polish the gem on Nason Street. Please contact Fred Palestis if you have any questions.



Heavenly Printing is once again working on the sponsor ad page in the "Lifeline." Any business owners interested in becoming a sponsor can contact Heavenly Printing at (951) 850-9909. Space is limited and reservations are currently being taken. Help get your name out there!



Annual Meeting

**Sunday, January 27th at
10:30 AM**

- Election of Church Council Members
- Revision of Constitution
- Annual Reports
- Church Budget

Moreno Valley Relay For Life

April 26-27, 2008

SAVE-THE-DATE

JOIN

Lord of Life's Team

"Daisy's Chain"

A fun family event

VALLEY VIEW
HIGH SCHOOL
13135 NASON
MORENO VALLEY

PARTICIPATE IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CANCER. Join Lord of Life's renowned award-winning team, Daisy's Chain. Put on your tennis shoes and sign up for a time to walk whether its for a family member, friend, neighbor, co-worker or yourself. The power of Relay is that it allows a community to grieve for those lost to cancer and to celebrate the lives of those who have survived. For the newly diagnosed, the event offers an opportunity to meet someone who has survived the same type of cancer and provides an opportunity to share with others. For the long term survivor, it brings a community's recognition of the struggle and closure to a trying time in life. Caregivers also find hope at Relay. There is a peace of mind knowing that together we can face the challenges ahead.

- An individual who raises \$100 or more gets a Relay T-shirt. Incentive prizes available
- Sign-up for a time to walk, jog, dance, or wheelchair around the track
- All Cancer Survivors present will receive medals and recognized at the Opening Ceremony with a lap around the track.
- Attend the inspirational evening Luminary Ceremony – Write a message in honor of a cancer survivor or in memory of someone. Candles will light the way for our evening walkers.
- If you want to pitch a tent and stay overnight, its okay
- Relay For Life is a family friendly tobacco-free, alcohol-free community event. Fun and entertainment for all ages.

"Relay For Life represents the hope that those lost to cancer will never be forgotten, that those who face cancer will be supported, and that one day cancer will be eliminated."

Contact: Pat Rupert,

Days 951/300-1223, eves 951/243-1045.

E-mail: patricia.rupert@cancer.org

Share HOPE. Save Lives



We are the church community that takes up the challenge!