



Lord of Life Lutheran Church
725-75th Street - Darien, Illinois 60559

January #2, 2021



In Praise of the Thread

Holy God,
when I am holding on by a thread,
buffeted by gale winds,
anxious and overwhelmed,
teach me to praise the thread.
Show me the thread is your gift,
a connection of love and hope,
delicate as your tender mercy,
strong as your unquenchable grace.
In the thread, may I know
I am still with you.

And once I have learned to praise,
teach me to weave in and out
with the people you surround me with
until all the disparate threads
that connect us to you
twine together into cords of your love,
ropes to rescue us,
nets to hold us safe.
Threads of connection,
to weave the fabric of a new world.

But for now, while I hang here,
all I ask is that you help me
learn to praise the thread.

Amen.

Dear sisters and brothers,

We have a lot of threads to follow as a congregation. We have so much ahead of us! We hope you will read this additional Lifelines because it points to the future of Lord of Life. Included is:

- some news that didn't make it in Lifelines #1
- a review of all the amendments that we know of that will be brought to our congregational meeting January 31
- an explanation of how we can have a congregational meeting during a pandemic.

Peace, Pastor Carole

Let's Welcome Our New Member

What better way to welcome a new year is with a new member. Please take a moment to welcome Jon Silkaitis who became a member on January 3, 2021. By the way, check out the virtual service at

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cE_bM_CTnVs&feature=youtu.be

to see this momentous moment for yourself. You may recognize Jon as he has served as the lector for many virtual services throughout 2020.

Jon is a graduate of Downers Grove North High School and currently a student at the College of DuPage. In addition to his interest in cooking, camping and all things mechanical, Jon devotes much time to his love of scouting. After earning the status of Eagle Scout, Jon immediately became Cub master of a Pack 80 in Downers Grove. He is also the Assistant Scout Master to Troop 80 and is a Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow currently serving as the Central Area Chairman of the Takhone Lodge.

Please welcome Jon. He has much to offer Lord of Life.



A Note from Art and Janet Kardatzke

There seems to be some misunderstanding regarding the personal letter we sent to all of the members of the congregation. We intended our letter to be a rallying cry to support all aspects of the call process as we move forward to select a new Pastor. We miss seeing everyone and look forward to working together to insure the future of Lord of Life Lutheran Church.

Eagle Scout Project Completed

Be sure to stop and admire the new collection cabinet built as a requirement to earn the status of Eagle Scout and donated to Lord of Life. Ethan Austerman designed the cabinet and then supervised the construction and delivery. While this cabinet will not necessarily replace any existing objects used for collection means, it will help in the storage of necessary items in the narthex



The Annual Congregational Meeting Is Coming

The Annual Congregational Meeting has been set for January 31, 2021 at 11:00 A.M.

Due to the COVID19 guidelines, this year's Annual meeting will be both virtual and in person. For those planning to attend virtually via Zoom, a link will be sent to attend the meeting as well as instructions on how to vote for both new Council members and the constitutional updates.

For those planning to attend the Annual Meeting in person, two to three groups of 10 people each will be created. To participate in person please contact the church office and make a reservation. You will be assigned a room and door to enter so that we keep our groups separated and small. The agenda for the Annual Meeting is in the Annual Book of Reports. During the meeting time will be allocated for congregational conversation from all three in person locations and zoom. See you there, one way or another.

Lord of Life's Annual Report

The Annual report has been sent via email or can be picked up when picking up communion packets. If anyone wants a hard copy, contact the church office and Kathy will send out a copy or request it when you drive up for communion. The annual reports are available a week before the congregational meeting so that you can read and formulate any questions. Thank you to everyone who wrote reports so that we have a full picture of last year.

Updated Constitution

During the month of December everyone received a copy of a Proposed Updated Constitution for Lord of Life. Updating the constitution is one of those things a congregation does during the interim. Earlier this year the Congregation Council appointed a Constitution Taskforce to review required changes and suggested changes from the ELCA. The Taskforce studied each suggested change and then chose to recommend it or not to the Council. These recommendations went to the Congregation Council who studied each proposed change and chose to approve or change the recommendations. The Proposed Updated Constitution you received was this constitution. The next step was congregational conversation. Two Sunday Morning Coffee Conversations took place where 3 amendments to the Proposed Updated Constitution were suggested by participants. Below is the list of each of those amendments that will be entered from the floor at the congregational meeting.

C.10.03

Original: Notice of all meetings of this congregation shall be given at the services of worship on the preceding 2 (two) consecutive Sundays and by mail to all voting members at least 10 (ten) days in advance of the date of the meeting. The posting of such notice in the regular mail, with the regular postage affixed or paid, sent to the last known address of such members shall be sufficient.

Updated: Notice of all meetings of this congregation shall be given at the services of worship on the preceding 2 (two) consecutive Sundays and by mail or electronic means, as permitted by state law to all voting members at least 10 (ten) days in advance of the date of the meeting. The posting of such notice in the regular mail, with the regular postage affixed or paid, sent to the last known address of such members shall be sufficient. An email sent to the member's last known email address is also sufficient notice.

This change was made to clarify the sufficiency of email

C.13.05

Original: When a pastoral vacancy occurs, a *Call Committee* of six (6) voting members shall be appointed by the Congregation Council. Term of office will terminate upon installation of a newly called pastor or upon dissolution of the committee by the Congregation Council. No more than two (2) Council members are to serve on this Committee.

Updated: When a vacancy occurs in a position for which this congregation calls a rostered minister, a *Call Committee* of six (6) voting members and one (1) alternate shall be appointed by the Congregation Council. No more than two (2) Council members are to serve on this Committee. Term of office will terminate upon installation of a newly called rostered minister.

This change was made to reflect the current practice used twice in appointing Lord of Life's Call Committee and ensuring that a full committee will be present when calling a pastor.

C13.08

Original: The pastor of this congregation shall be an *ex officio* member of all committees and boards of this congregation. The president of this congregation shall be an *ex officio* member of all committees and boards of this congregation, except the Nominating Committee.

Updated: The pastor **and the president** of this congregation shall be *ex officio* members of all committees and boards of this congregation **except the Nominating Committee, Audit Committee and Call Committee. These committees may seek the counsel of the pastor and the president.**

This change was made to clarify roles of pastor and council president on boards and committee.

Please pray for members

Dolores Schramm – Dolores thanks everyone for the birthday cards and calls.

Brenda Slonek

Pray for other family and friends ...

Marie Seaman, friend of Caryl Schaer

Dave Shook

Mike Grosse, Marilyn Sell's brother, after surgery

Marion Sletten, friend of Caryl Schaer

Sue Horton, daughter of Toni Blesy

Joseph Capozziello, son of Toni Blesy

Former LoL members Ken and Bonly Dry

Dick Eggert, Bob's brother

Provi Valentin, Elsy Eggert's aunt

Ella Jones, Eggert's friends' young child

Gilbert, Elsy Eggert's nephew

Gloria Valentin, Elsy Eggert's sister

Carson, grandson of the Gullifords

James Hazelton

Jaden Rhode, grandson of the Mattas

Scott Hutt, Judy Padera's brother

Jim Gardner, friend of Cor Peterson

Joyce Adams, friend of Cor Peterson

Jan Dubick, sister of Cor Peterson

Ryan Hart, friend of Cor Peterson

Joanne Mutz, niece of Cor Peterson

Dennis Schneider, friend of the Randas

Bev, friend of Debi Scarpelli

Lisa Schramm, granddaughter of Dolores

Hannah Stapleton, great niece of the Sloneks

Mary Wojtala, sister of LeeAnn Swanson

Mary Haapoja, goddaughter of Mary Szyszka

Margo Bonbrake, friend of the Waechters

Ken Kettner, Sandy Waechter's brother

Don Michaels, brother-in-law of Nancy Zavattaro

The Rinaldi's, friends of Nancy Zavattaro

Nance Nagy, friend of Nancy Zavattaro

Bob, friend of Deanna Riha

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Web Address: lordoflifedarien.org

Visit the ELCA home page on the Internet at <http://www.elca.org>

Address Service Requested

Lord of Life Staff

Pastor Carole Willer

Rosita Yao, Church Musician

Kathy Clinton, Secretary (e-mail: LordLifeSec@aol.com)

Mark Rokicki, Custodian

All are welcome!

Dated material-Please deliver promptly

January, 2021

January 31 - 11:00 am - Annual Congregational Meeting

