



## August Life Lines

August 2021

**Life Lines**  
Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 725 75th Street, Darien, IL 60561

### FROM THE PASTOR

- Monday, August 2, 2021

From Pastor Carole

During our Sunday morning Bible Study of 2nd Corinthians, I was reminded again of Apostle Paul's life of controversy and difficulty as he strove to build churches. His absolute commitment to Jesus kept him going under very difficult circumstances. Controversy in the church is nothing new: we just do it differently. Today emails, social media, etc. make it easier to chat among ourselves when we have disagreements rather than talking to the person with whom we have differences. As Roger Fisher and William Ury say in their best seller *Getting to Yes*, "everyone negotiates something every day, and although negotiation takes place every day, it is not easy to do well because standard strategies for negotiation often leave people dissatisfied, worn out, or alienated - and frequently all three."

I wonder, when listening to Paul's strong feelings expressed in 2nd Corinthians, if the subject of argument was always the gospel. Sometimes we argue about an issue when really what is at stake is something quite different. It may be related to feelings, or power, or a strong concern on a different subject all together. The evident disagreement is a "proxy."

In the past month your Congregation Council has had to navigate a congregational disagreement: should the 11:00 service be inside or outside? The Council sought ideas from everyone, and some valuable thoughts were shared. Some are far more concerned than others about the threat of Covid at Lord of Life for a variety of reasons including the inclusion of children who cannot yet be vaccinated. Some truly value the unique opportunity of worshipping in nature. Some truly dislike bugs and the variations of temperature in nature. Some see worship outside as doing something different and unique that represents our congregation's openness to trying different things. Some see worshipping outside as a personal nuisance. Some see worshipping outside as unnecessary change.

Having heard these and other comments, the Council agreed on a compromise with two overarching concerns: 1. All who wish to worship in person at LoL will have an opportunity and 2. The 11:00 service will, in some fashion, meet the desires of those who attend that service. A third desire, for ALL to be happy, may not yet been reached unless we ALL find joy in listening to those who differ and working out a reasonable compromise. And who can argue with that!

#### **11:00 Worship Service Compromise**

Worship the first two Sundays of each month will be held outside, weather permitting (no raining or temperature above 85° or below 65°). On the other 2-3 Sundays worship will be inside. We will remind you of the venue in the weekly Sunday zoom email.

## Council Explores New Custodian Option

Lord of Life has sadly said goodbye to Mark (with a \$500+ gift). The Property Brothers and Council hired, on a temporary basis, Raymond Silhan III and Matthew Jimenez to serve as custodians, and want to extend a special thank you to Arlene and Bruce Danielson for cleaning the church until this decision was made. The committee is also interviewing cleaning companies, and, within a month, a permanent decision on the custodian will be made. If anything in cleaning seems amiss, please contact Pastor Carole or Bruce Danielson.



## Let us Give Thanks

Let us give thanks this moment:

For the sturdy fact of God's continuing love,

For mercies which go before us a

And follow after us,

For those free gifts

Which cost God so much.

Let us give thanks:

For memory and expectation,

For the good that we have known

And know today in Jesus Christ,

For the Spirit's brooding presence

In our nights and in our days.

Let us give thanks:

For pleasures which comfort

And pains which force our growth

And keep us at the Shepherd's side,

For deep meanings revealed

And mysteries mercifully concealed,

For the image of God within us

The capacity to inquire and adore.

Let us give thanks for one another,

For just being together,

For differences which complement and complete,

For gifts which enrich

And disagreements which challenge

For our oneness in Christ.

Let us give thanks for melody and mirth

For rhythm and beat,

For the repeated and the common,

For the ever-unfolding,

And for senses with which to respond.

And let us give thanks for Someone to thank.

From: Gerhard E. Frost. Seasons of a Lifetime, Augsburg Publishing

## Our Call Committee Reports

Preliminary interview appointments with our new pastor candidates have been scheduled. The Call Committee appreciates your continued prayers and offers their thanks for your support.

## Congregational Council Update

- Attendance - More people are coming to church; online ministry remains solid.
- The Audit and Finance Report was discussed, and several items were reviewed and approved.
- Memorial fund protocols were created and approved by Council to be initiated.
- Significant time was spent updating the Shepherds Staff file to define and identify membership groups
- Council determined that the 11:00 A.M. outdoor service, weather permitting, would be held the first two Sundays of the month.
- Scout Troop 56 will meet two Mondays a month at the church
- The LCW's God's Work: Our Hands project for August will be a collection of school supplies for the Downers Grove family shelter
- Consensus to reorganize the bulletin board was reached and a diagram was created
- The Hospitality Committee made new bags for children to use during church service
- The Worship and Music Committee received approvals to use memorial fund money for two new banners for Christmas and Easter.

## Lord of Life Remembers Men of Faith

Saturday, August 7, 2021

A memorial service for **Ralph Reetz** will take place at the church on Saturday, August 7, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. Visitation with his family will take place at 3:00 p.m. at the church. Ralph was born on June 22, 1935 and died on April 27, 2020, but due to Covid protocols no service were held at the time. Ralph is survived by his son, Brett, and daughters Tracy and Wendy and ten grandchildren. Memorials for several medical research organizations can be directed to Tracy Reetz Dalton.

## Lord of Life Remembers Men of Faith

Friday, August 20, 2021

A memorial service for **Randy McNichols** will take place at the church on Friday, August 20, 2021 at 10:15am. Visitation with Debbie and Randy's family will take place at 9:30 a.m. at the church. Randy's cremains will be interred at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery followed by a luncheon at Chuck's where remembrances will be shared. Friends are invited to attend the luncheon (about 1:30) even if unable to attend the interment. Randy, one of 7 children was born on October 1, 1948 and died on June 27, 2021. He is survived by Debbie and three children, David, Heather, and Nicole and six grandchildren. Memorials can be directed to Lord of Life Church or the Gary Sinise Foundation.

## Senior Spirits and LCW Continue God's Work: Our Hands

In recent months both **LCW and Senior Spirits** have made generous contributions to FISH. In May, **Senior Spirits** welcomed John and Deb, coordinators of Fish, in a presentation of the workings of FISH's outreach. The following letter was received from them:

"Dear Senior Spirits at Lord of Life Lutheran Church.

Thank you for the very generous donation of personal care products and \$20.00 in cash to buy more. You were so kind in welcoming John and Deb. More of your neighbors come in for help each week, so having your donations available is a true blessing. These tens are always in demand.

We've moved next door to Downers Grove Township Social Service Center. The new location is ADA compliant and will include our Food Pantry and our Clothes Closet of gently used clothes. We can't wait to welcome people inside and are hoping that will happen soon. In the meantime we are continuing our drive-up service and our senior citizen service.

Thank you for remembering those who are in need. And please pass our names along to anyone who might need our help.

All the best,

Lynn Hayes

Corresponding Secretary"

Then Lord of Life once again generously supported FISH through **LCW's** God's Work: Our Hands project for July by donating household cleaning supplies and personal items.

**LCW** is continuing God's Work: Our Hands by launching its project for August which focuses on the need for school supplies for the children at the Family Shelter in Downers Grove. While we don't know which school the children may attend, we suggest collecting the following types of school supplies: one inch or two inch 3 ring binders, wide ruled notebooks, one subject spiral notebooks, #2 pencils with erasers, black Sharpie markers, assorted color highlighters, blue or black pens, 24 count crayons, packets or canisters of antibacterial wipes, and Kleenex packets.

**LCW** invites you to join them in collecting these supplies for the children. If you have any questions, please contact Sue Randa or Elaine Sherman."

## News from Senior Spirits

Senior Spirits has maintained a full calendar of events since it began meeting again after the pandemic shutdown.

On **July 15th** a representative from the **DuPage Monarch Project** gave a wonderful talk on the wondrous Monarchs.

On **September 16th** a representative from the **Darien Police Department** will give a talk on scams and other things seniors should be aware of. And, Marilynn Sells is working hard on getting a speaker for the next meeting scheduled for **August 19th**. Stay tuned.

All are welcome at Senior Spirits that meets at 12 noon. Please remember to bring your lunch and a beverage. We hope to see you on the 19th.



## Hospitality Committee Update

The **Hospitality Committee** met on Monday, July 12th. Members of the committee continue to send Pray For cards to members on the Pray For list. The committee also decided, that at this time, having a refreshment table between services will be delayed until the committee feels comfortable with serving treats.

## Blessings Upon Blessings

- Monday, August 2, 2021

Last November, as the Covid numbers skyrocketed, we began a blessings chain that was put up in the narthex. Every time we entered, we were greeted by these bright strips of paper that reminded us that, despite it all, we still are blessed. Counting our blessings has kept us going through our darkest times and will always move us to the future. We have retired the paper chains, but may we never forget to count our many blessings.

## Living Lutheran Magazine

Are you interested in reading about the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and matters of faith? Are you interested in what is working in other congregations? The ELCA, a diverse church of over 3.5 million members and 9300 congregations, publishes a magazine that features stories and commentary about your fellow Lutherans, resources to help you deepen your faith, monthly reflections from Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton and coverage of religious news and events. It even includes crossword puzzles, book reviews and the Light Side-humorous bits to make your day. There are sample copies of the magazine in the narthex for you to take home and read.

**Individual Subscriptions Available** You may order individual subscriptions to *Living Lutheran* magazine sent directly to your address at the cost of \$19.95 for one year by contacting Augsburg Fortress Subscriptions or by calling 800-328-4648. The cost for two and three year subscriptions are discounted.

**A second option is the Congregational Plan Subscriptions** If five or more families sign up for a subscription, the magazines will be mailed to the church once a month, and you can pick them up there. The congregational plan comes with a discount price of \$8.00!!!!

Anyone interested in subscribing may sign the sheet in the narthex by the offices.

The logo for Living Lutheran Magazine, featuring the words "Living Lutheran" in a blue, sans-serif font. The letter "L" in "Living" is stylized with a yellow crossbar.

# Council Members

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August 2021						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8 Worship 10 Bible Study 12 Worship Service 2:15PM - 5:00 PM	2 10:00 - Counties South Room	3	4 7:00 AM - West Room	5 7:00 AM - West Room	6 8:00 AM - West Room 10:00 AM - West Room	7 10:00 AM - West Room 12:00 PM - West Room
8 8:00 AM - Counties South Room 10:00 AM - Counties South Room 12:00 PM - Counties South Room	9 6:30 AM - Call Center NR	10	11 7:00 AM - West Room	12 6:30 AM - Call Center NR	13 8:00 AM - West Room 10:00 AM - West Room	14 10:00 AM - West Room 12:00 PM - West Room
15 8:00 AM - Counties South Room 10:00 AM - Counties South Room 12:00 PM - Counties South Room	16 10:00 AM - Counties South Room	17 7:00 AM - West Room	18 7:00 AM - West Room	19 10:00 AM - Counties South Room 12:00 PM - Counties South Room	20 8:00 AM - West Room 10:00 AM - West Room 12:00 PM - West Room	21 10:00 AM - West Room 12:00 PM - West Room
22 8:00 AM - Counties South Room 10:00 AM - Counties South Room 12:00 PM - Counties South Room	23 10:00 AM - Counties South Room	24	25 7:00 AM - West Room	26 7:00 AM - West Room	27 8:00 AM - West Room 10:00 AM - West Room	28 10:00 AM - West Room 12:00 PM - West Room
29 8:00 AM - Counties South Room 10:00 AM - Counties South Room 12:00 PM - Counties South Room	30 10:00 AM - Counties South Room	31				

## August Calendar