



725 W. 75TH STREET DARIEN, IL 60561

Dear beloved members of Lord of Life Lutheran Church,

As we reflect on the month of April, we are reminded of the many ways we have worked together to make a positive impact in our community. Through our ministries and outreach programs, we have shared the love of Christ with those in need, and made a real difference in the lives of many.

Our commitment to filling shopping carts once a month for FISH and Mt. Carmel Food Pantries, packing food with Feed My Starving Children, and engaging in fellowship activities like Paint with Pastor, is not just about doing good deeds. It is about living out our faith in practical ways, and showing others the love of Christ through our actions.

As Lutherans, we believe that we are saved by grace through faith alone. But we also understand that our faith must be put into action. As the book of James reminds us, "faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead" (James 2:17).

By participating in these ministries, we are living out our calling to love our neighbors as ourselves. We are demonstrating to others the transformative power of Christ's love, and showing them that they are not alone in their struggles.

As we continue to serve our community, let us remember that we are not just filling shopping carts or packing food. We are sharing the hope and love of Christ with those who need it most. Let us continue to work together to make a difference in the lives of others, and to bring about God's kingdom on earth.

Blessings to you all,

Pastor Adam



ALERT- ALERT: COMING ATTRACTIONS

Mark Your Calendars!

- **May-September Outdoor Worship** will be held on the first Wednesday of May-September. Our first service will be on May 3rd. The weather will be beautiful, the surroundings lovely and the message meaningful. Mark your calendar now so you don't forget.
- **May 26th** Bring your luck, bring a dish to pass and join us for **BINGO** and a **POT LUCK** dinner. Our stomachs will be overly satisfied; Pastor Adam will call the lucky numbers; folks will shout BINGO; and prizes will be won. Don't miss this great gathering of fun, happiness, prizes and food!

A Special Mission for the Shopping Cart

In our first **Dedicated Item Collection** for **FISH**, we collected 54 boxes of cold and hot cereal. Bravo! We did well in our first collection attempt.

For our **Dedicated Item Collection** on May 7th we are collecting toiletries and cleaning supplies for **Mount Carmel**. Please drop your donation in our trusty shopping card and help us help Mount Carmel help the community.

God's Work Our Hands

God's Work Our Hands for **May** is the **Willowbrook Wildlife Center**. There will be a list available on the Narthex of items that they need to care for God's critters. Any help will be appreciated!

Any questions please contact Marilynn Sells at 630-927-9996
Thank you!



Lunch Bunch

In May we will meet at 3 Corners 7231 Lemont Road, Downers Grove on Tuesday, May 9th, at 11:30AM. If you are Corners interested in attending, please RSVP to Sue Tomaszek at 773-758-3161.

Senior Spirits

Senior Spirits met on Thursday April 20th. We had a representative of the Darien Police who gave us some very helpful information about recent Scams and other information regarding some of the other criminal activity in the suburbs.

On May 18th a representative from the TriState Fire Department will give a presentation on safety measures for homeowners! We'll meet at noon and please bring a dish to share and your own drink.

Next month we'll meet on Thursday June 15th and we will be collecting dues.

Still only \$15.00 and we'll have Pizza. We voted not to meet in July but will meet in August on the 24th and Leslie Goddard will give a presentation on Tupperware. If you have any questions please contact Marilynn at 630-927-9996.

Willowbrook Wildlife

Donation List



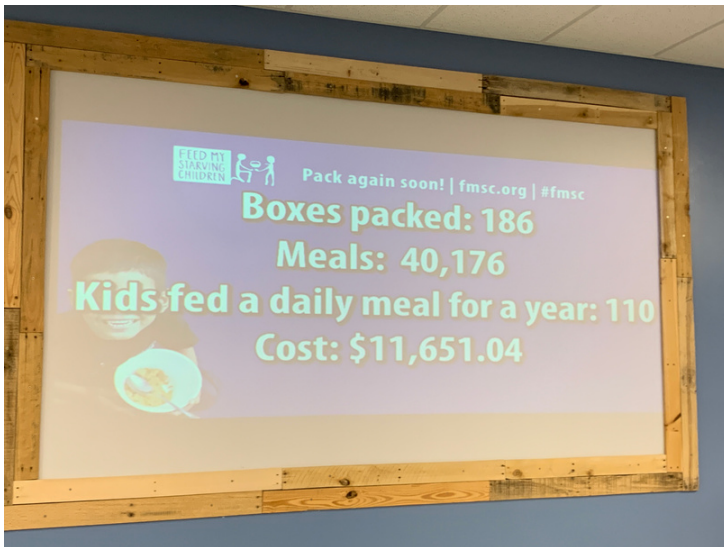
Adopt a Plot

Do you have a green thumb? Would you like to help make the landscaping at Lord of Life beautiful? If you have questions, please call Arlene at 630 918-7890 or Judy Padera 630-235-2195.

Feed My Starving Children



What a wonderful time was had by all who joined in to Feed My Starving Children on Saturday, April 22nd. There were enough of us to box up at least 15 bins of food items. If you missed joining us this time, we are going again in September. We had a blast; why not join us next time.



May Birthdays

May 2nd Penny S.
May 3rd Sue R.
May 4th Diana P.
May 8th Kerri B.
May 9th Janet K.
May 11th Francesco C.
May 12th Dan B.
May 14th Susan F.
May 15th Jim Eckwall
May 18th Rene B.



The Song of Unsung Heroes

In 1 Peter 4:10 we find:

“Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms.”

The following Lord of Life folks use their gifts in its various forms. We recognize them and appreciate them.

- **Elsy and Bob Eggert** and their team for collecting baskets filled with Easter dinner supplies for Mt. Carmel.
- **Connie Allekian, Andy Buda, Arlene Danielson, Bruce Danielson, Judy Padera, Bobbie Sejnost, Marilyn Sells, Debbie, Elaine Sherman, Jan Treibachs, and Sue Tomaszek** for their dedication in welcoming and providing treats for local election voters.
- **Joe Slonek** for energizing our Easter service with his delightful trumpet music.
- The **myriad of Lord of Life members** who, on Holy Saturday, dusted, mopped, swept, shined and washed to make our church shine in Easter’s sunlight.
- SPECIAL THANKS to **Pastor Adam, Rosita Yao and Sherry Sejnost** for all their extra hours of work during Easter.

Committee Reports

Finance - Lord of Life Financial Status Narrative: 03/31/23 March donations were very good. The \$22,157 total is the highest March in the last ten years, exceeding a very good 2022 (\$20,063) by \$2,095 and exceeding a very weak 2021 (\$12,133) by \$10,025. March expenses (\$19,449) were higher than 2022 by \$1,573 and higher than 2021 by \$2,833. March operations generated a \$2,708 surplus. The year-to-date deficit decreased to \$15,767, the third highest at the end of three months in the last twenty-five years.

At the end of three months, 25.00% of the year, 24.2% of the budget was spent. Most categories that exceeded 24.2% were highly seasonal. However, it should be noted that in prior years the percent expended has been several percent lower than the completed portion of the year.

Donations through March recorded in Shepherd's Staff agree in total and by fund with the financial records.

No pass-through funds are overdrawn. Nine on-line donations totaling \$895.02 were received by the last counters report date (03/27/23). There were no Thrivent donations (YTD there has been 1 Thrivent donation totaling \$536). The balance sheet remains strong. There is no long-term debt. Total assets have decreased by \$17,274 since 12/31/22. The decrease is due to the operational deficit.

Hospitality - Committee did not meet and no scheduled meeting set at this time.

LCW - LCW will set up treat tables on May 7th in celebration of Mothers' Day and June 11th in celebration of Fathers' Day

Property -

1. Cordless mic holder and flashlight installed on speaker's podium.
2. The recycled bench will be installed by the playground as soon as a secure location is determined by the property committee. Second bench to be determined.
3. Work on the audio/visual system in the Sanctuary continues. The second camera was installed on the East wall. Work remains to hide the dangling cables located behind the desk.
4. Will meet with Eagle Scout to discuss refurbishing the gazebo.

RIC - The RIC committee met on April 11th with Pastor Adam, Connie Allekian, Andy Buda, Toni Blesy, Janet Kardatzke, Sheila Ruh, Bobbie Sejnost and Sherry Sejnost in attendance. The committee continued to discuss Chapter 11 of the book Rescuing Jesus The next meeting will be held on May 30th at 4:00 P.M. to discuss the next chapters of the text and explore resources from the RIC website, Building An Inclusive Church

Stewardship - Stewardship has not met. Pastor has sent out a letter to the congregation to encourage an increase in offerings to help reduce the current debt.

Worship and Music - No Report. Worship and Music doesn't meet again until May.

Council Highlights

- Plaques for the garden benches will be dedicated to Pastor Todd Napoli and the Community
- Plans for renovating the narthex bathrooms are underway
- The recycling of plastic bags will be taken over by Pastor Shelton SDA in Oak Park
- Additional handicapped parking spaces will be added
- Lord of Life's past Continuing Resolutions were reviewed and accepted as such
- A Trunk Sale in the parking lot will be held in summer or early fall.

2023 Council Members

Judy Padera - Council President
Art Kardatzke - Council Vice President
Roberta Sejnost - Council Secretary, RIC
Connie Allekian - Stewardship
Arlene Danielson - Finance
Elsy Eggert - Children and Hunger
Ron Mata - Property
Debbie McNichols - Hospitality
Elanie Sherman - LCW
Sherry Sejnost - Evangelism
Marilynn Sells - Worship and Music
Alice Tangorra - Hospitality
Pastor Adam - Christian Education, Vision, Social Ministry



Pictures Throughout the Month



Pictures Throughout the Month



Pictures Throughout the Month



May 2023

SUN 30	MON May 1	TUE 2	WED 3	THU 4	FRI 5	SAT 6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am Worship Service In 11am Christian Educator 2pm Loving Word Service 	<p>First Day of Asian Pacific /</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:15pm OA 7pm Troop 56 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am Bible Study 6:30pm Outdoor Worship 7pm AA 		<p>Cinco de Mayo</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Card Group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am SDA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am Worship Service In 11am Daughter's Day Tre 11am Christian Educator <p>2 more</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11:30am Lunch Bunch 5:15pm OA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am Bible Study 11:30am Worship and Mu 7pm AA 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Card Group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am Spreading Mulch 9am SDA 12:30pm SDA Luncheon
<p>Mother's Day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am Worship Service In 11am Christian Educator 2pm Loving Word Service 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:15pm OA 7pm Church Council 7pm Troop 56 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am Bible Study 7pm AA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm Senior Spirits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Card Group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am SDA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am Worship Service In 11am Christian Educator 2pm Loving Word Service 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:15pm OA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am Bible Study 7pm AA 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Card Group 6:30pm Potluck and Bing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am SDA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am Worship Service In 11am Christian Educator 2pm Loving Word Service 	<p>Memorial Day</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4pm RIC Meeting 5:15pm OA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am Bible Study 7pm AA 	<p>First Day of LGBTQ+ Pride</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Card Group 	<p>Synod Assembly</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am SDA

“The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor.
Proverbs 22:9

