



Lord of Life Lutheran Church

December 2022

A Message from Pastor

Blessings to you in this season of waiting and watching, of anticipation and excitement, of hellos and goodbyes.

The holiday season has special meaning for me this year as the transition of leadership at Lord of Life moves forward. It is a bittersweet time. My tears flow easily these days as I am filled with gratitude for our time together. Memories flood my heart and mind, evoking both sadness and joy. I look forward to the future – to whatever God has in store for my family and me – and I'm definitely excited to celebrate with you on the weekend of January 13-15, 2023. But we know that change involves loss and that is hard; this is a difficult time for you as well as for Bob and me.

The first Sunday of Advent is all about hope – trusting that God is at work in whatever is happening in ways that will set us free. Peace, joy and love follow in the next 3 weeks. What a beautiful, complete picture of how God's love in Jesus comes to us to lighten our darkness. His love is enough; it is more than enough. When we embrace this truth, we can step into the future with confident joy, knowing that God is already there.

My wish for you during this season is that you can find peace in trusting that God's will will be done. In a couple of weeks, you will meet the candidate for Pastor/President of Lord of Life. I am certain that God's wisdom has led her to us and that she will lead this community into a future that faithfully reflects the core of who you are as a faith community. I am also certain that there is more for me to do in Western New York. I don't know what that looks like yet. But just as God's love is imprinted on our time together, so, too, will it expand beyond what we have been together to what has yet to be. Only God knows what form that will take. In the meantime, while we watch and wait, let us embrace all the emotions, share what we have meant to each other, and remember that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

May each day be a blessing, filled with hope, peace, joy and love. And may you share those gifts with someone each and every day.

In His love, *Pastor Debi*



Bottles for Babies

The Advent season is here; a time when we celebrate God's great gift to us, the birth of His son, Jesus Christ. The Global Team would like to thank everyone who took baby bottles to fill for Harvest House Ministry for mothers and young children. Our donations help make it possible for young mothers with limited resources, to better care for their children.



Use the fun calendar as a suggestion to help fill you bottles. The Drive continues until Christmas Day. Let our response to this need reflect a season of giving, a season in which we remember our Lord's humble birth in Bethlehem.



BE A HERO – ADOPT A HERO is an initiative of the Lancaster-Depew community, including the Village Boards, local businesses, and citizens. WNYHeroes, Inc. serves local veterans and their families, many of whom struggle. This initiative's goal is to provide a holiday dinner (ham and all the fixings) to 80 veterans and their families served by WNYHeroes, Inc. Donations needed include Tops gift cards in any amount, non-perishable food (vegetables, potatoes), and dessert mixes. You can drop off your donation by December 16 at Lord of Life or the Village of Depew or Lancaster municipal offices. Spread the joy this season by helping a veteran who served our nation faithfully and well. You'll be glad you did!

Lord of Life is **collecting packages of ramen noodles** (please, no cups). These will be added to bags of donations for those incarcerated. Please bring to church by Sunday December 4.

Longest Night Worship Service

Wednesday December 21 at 7pm

Memory Video

for Pastor Debi's Retirement

There is still opportunity to record your message for Pastor. Contact Damian directly ,or Corinne in the office, for details.

Damian will be recording up to Christmas, so don't miss out!

Pageant Rehearsal will take place on Saturday December 17 at 3 pm. The youth will stay for pizza dinner.

Everyone is invited to then join us for **Christmas Caroling** at 5pm. Cookies and hot cocoa will be served afterwards for all. Pick up at 6:30pm.



Pastor Debi Turley's Retirement Services at Lord of Life

Pastor's Last Day Preaching
Sunday January 8th @ 10 AM

Pastor's Final Service
Sunday January 15th @ 10 AM

Call Weekend Update

Saturday December 10th

Meet and Greet With Pastoral Candidate
10:00am and 2:00pm

Sunday December 11th

Worship 10:00am
Pastoral Candidate Preaching and Presiding

Following Worship,
the congregation will vote
on extending a Call to the Candidate.

If you have any questions please Contact Denise Williams



December 2022

December 2022

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

January 2023

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Nov 27	28	29	30	Dec 1 New Door Access System Install 10:30am Pastors Sharing (SANC) 6:00pm Music Ministry Rehearsal (Sanctuary)	2	3
4 10:00am Confirmation (During Worship) 10:00am Worship (SANC)	5 6:30pm Nar-Anon (ADHC)	6 5:00pm Matt's Table (DPW SNR CNTR)	7 11:00am Bible St (SCR) 1:00pm Mens Group (SCR)	8 10:30am Pastors Sharing (SANC) 6:00pm Music Ministry Rehearsal (Sanctuary)	9 7:00pm Bereaved Parents Group (Shaw Conference Room)	10 10:00am Meet & Greet Pastoral Candidate (Welcome) 2:00pm Meet & Greet Pastoral Candidate (Welcome)
11 10:00am Worship/Call Weekend (SANC)	12	13 1:00pm Mens Group (SCR) 6:00pm Church Board (SCR)	14 11:00am Bible St (SCR) 1:00pm Pastors Sharing (SANC)	15 6:00pm Music Ministry Rehearsal (Sanctuary)	16	17 5:00pm Christmas Caroling (outside/WC)
18 10:00am Worship/Baptisms (SANC)	19	20 11:00am Celebration (Pastor) (SANC)	21 11:00am Bible St (SCR) 1:00pm Mens Group (SCR) 1:00pm Pastors Sharing 7:00pm Longest Night Worship	22 6:00pm Music Ministry Rehearsal (Sanctuary)	23	24 10:00am CHRISTMAS EVE Family Service 7:00pm CHRISTMAS EVE Candlelight
25 CHRISTMAS DAY 10:00am Worship (SANC)	26	27 1:00pm Mens Group (SCR)	28	29 6:00pm Music Ministry Rehearsal (Sanctuary)	30 10:30am Balloon Drop & Dance (Welcome Center)	31