

Spring
2026



Lord of Life Lutheran

Lifelines

Notes from David

As we look toward Holy Week we should be considering that we are freed from sin and death by the grace of God and the death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ. We need not acquire enough good works to justify ourselves, but rather have the freedom to show the world the love of God we have been given through the gift of the Holy Spirit can come out.

This opens up the freedom to show love to our friends and family, the opportunity to do with this life as we please, assuming we are not hurting others. This freedom gives us the opportunity to not do the things that are right and good, or to do them for the wrong reasons. When we are thinking about our ethical choices framed within Lutheran theology we have to decide what we are going to do with this freedom so generously given to us through our God.

Many people think of freedom as individualism or a selfish attitude. In the United States we think of political rights as our freedoms. This can lead to people responding to the world in selfishness, but we can respond as Christians to love God, our neighbors and ourselves. We can respond in a

loving way that pushes the glory to God rather than to ourselves. And so the love of God is actually felt by the recipient in a real manner rather than what we might think they need. If we are not responding in a selfish way to people we can respond with empathy. Freed to help the neighbor leads us toward giving ourselves away in acts of generosity.

Worship, in whatever form it takes, focuses our attention on God and not on ourselves; with gratitude focused outside of ourselves we can focus on God's mission rather than trying to focus on ourselves trying to be something that we cannot be. God uses all people with the gifts that the Holy Spirit gives us, so we now have the freedom to use the gifts to prepare and execute God's mission. Our freedom in Christ allows us a very expansive view of what worship can be. Worship can be created in a way that involves many people, that does not have to be the same every time. This highlights the love and grace of God that we encounter and then shows gratitude to the Holy Trinity in whatever manner is best for our souls and those souls around us.

Join us Easter Sunday!

Council Minutes	2
Holy Week Schedule	
Volunteers Article	3
Special Dates/Prayers	4

Dates to Note

Mar 29: 10:30am Palm Sunday worship
Apr 2: Maundy Thurs worship @ New Hope
3: 7pm Good Friday worship
5: 9-10am Easter Sunday breakfast/ 10:30am worship
9: School Lunches
13: 7pm Council Mtg
24-26: Synod Assembly

"LifeLines"

Council Minutes

January highlights:

1. Welcome Tina Holland, Vice President of Lord of Life Council.
2. Minutes of January 12, 2026 Council Meeting passed unanimously.
3. Immediate need for President of Lord of Life Council for 2026 (see any council member if interested).
4. Treasurer's Report provided and passed unanimously.
5. Lenten services will be 6:30 PM appetizers with 7:00 PM service.
6. Cold Weather Policy: If -40 degrees or colder at 9:00 AM Sunday morning (by calling 907.488.1111), worship will be cancelled.
7. Pastor Business Phone is 907.322.2065.

February highlights:

1. 2026 Clear Vision – Strategic Planning for congregational growth is a priority for 2026 Council. Tina Holland, Vice President provided community demographics to Council. Discussion to follow at March Council Meeting.
2. Minutes of February 9, 2026, Council Meeting passed unanimously.
3. Immediate need for President of Lord of Life Council for 2026 (see any council member if interested).
4. Treasurer's Report provided and passed unanimously.
5. Lenten services will be on Wednesdays via FaceBook. Maundy Thursday service will be at New Hope Methodist-Presbyterian Church, Good Friday at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, and Easter service as usual.

Holy Week Schedule



Passion/Palm Sunday (March 29)

Worship at 10:30am. This service includes live palms, in remembrance of Jesus' ride into Jerusalem surrounded by shouts of glory, with palms strewn in his path. It will be streamed live on Facebook and will be available later on our website at www.lordoflifeak.com.

Maundy Thursday (April 2). An ecumenical service will be held at **New Hope Methodist Presbyterian Church** on 2371 Bradway Road in North Pole. Stay tuned for details.

Good Friday (April 3). Lord of Life will host a worship service at **7pm** with special music by Amy Ingram. Due to the somber nature of this service, fellowship will be held prior to worship.

Easter Sunday

Worship at 10:30am. Halleluia! He is risen! This traditional service celebrates Jesus' resurrection. It will be streamed live on Facebook and will be uploaded to our website for viewing any time. A delicious **Easter Breakfast**, with a wide variety sure to appeal to everyone, will be served from **9:00am to 10:00am** to the service in the fellowship area. A signup sheet for volunteers is near the church offices.



How to Keep Church Volunteers



Developing a healthy culture of volunteerism requires more than vision. People want to know that the effort they put into serving matters. But next-level leadership requires churches to have a volunteer system that digs deeper. Many churches don't really know who their volunteers are, where they're serving, or how to communicate with them. Do you really wonder why volunteers quit? When leaders know who is serving and how effectively, they'll manage volunteers better.

To remedy the age-old dilemma of why

church volunteers quit, you'll need to put these 4 things into place:

1. Match people with roles they are suited for instead of fitting people where you have the greatest need. Discern the gifting – the skills and interests – of your people so you can ask them to serve where they'll thrive, not just where they'll fill in. Knowing your people's skills and interests provides awareness of each individual's spiritual gifts and how they can best serve the church. With that knowledge, staff/leaders can note specific skills or interests for each person to ask them where to serve.

2. Organize them into effective groups and teams. Treating all of your volunteers the same leads to ineffective serving and frustrated team members. Every volunteer system must define the teams and roles they need.

3. Ensure everyone is serving when and where they should. Getting ahead of the curve by knowing your people's serving preferences and defining the role requirements will go a long way in creating a solid schedule. Take heart. Scheduling involves a bit of a back-and-forth dialogue. You schedule your volunteers, and some let you know they can't serve at the requested time or in the role you've requested, so you adjust and repeat. The earlier and more directly you communicate, the less likely you will find yourself on a Sunday morning with a no-show on your roster.

4. Communicate well about serving in your church. Church communication is one of the hardest things to do effectively. Why? You have multiple audiences who only tune in to things that matter to them. With group communication, profile information, and calendars on mobile devices, your teams will have the tools they need to move ministry forward.

**The #1 reason
church
volunteers quit
is lack of
organization**

Volunteers enable churches to operate, grow, and thrive. **Most churches need three times as many volunteers as staff.** Think about that! This makes the need to manage and empower volunteers a key element in any successful ministry.



Lord of Life Lutheran Church

1005 Saint Nicholas Drive
North Pole Alaska, 99705
Website: www.lordoflifeak.com

Office Phone: (907) 488-6720
Intern Pastor's cell: (907) 322-2065

E-mail

Jo: office@lordoflifeak.com

Office Hours
Weekday mornings

Mission Statement
Sharing the Light &
Warmth of God's Love

2026 CHURCH COUNCIL

President: **Vacant**
Vice President: Tina Holland
Secretary: Ranae Browning
Treasurer: Mary Mills
At Large Members: Evan Keil
Margi Ungrodt
John Dart
Vacant
Intern Pastor: David Ingram
Financial Secretary: Carol Dahl

Next Church Council Meeting: **April 13 @ 7pm**

Newsletter deadline: 20th of each month.
Get the latest on our website:

www.lordoflifeak.com/the-latest

or

Follow our Facebook page, worship live Sundays at 10:30am:
www.facebook.com/lordoflifeak

Special Prayers and Concerns

Birthdays

4/6 Sarah Gregory
4/7 Jacoppi Pahkamaa
4/20 Jo Small
4/22 Sam Aleshire
4/23 Caden Lindhag
4/26 Kaylee Aleshire



Anniversaries

4/1 Missy & Dan Rees
4/3 Lisa & Sean Garrison



*Is your important date missing?
please let us know so we can
celebrate with you!*

Prayers for:

~ Jo S, healing from surgery
~ Pastor Kathrin, healing from
a bad fall with broken bones
~ Those with ongoing health
issues
~ Those traveling back from
Outside

Contact

office@lordoflifeak.com to
sign up for prayer chain emails

Alaska Synod Prayer Partner for April:

Central Lutheran Church,
Anchorage, Alaska

We praise God for:

- The wonderful life that creator God has given us
- The warm light that He shines into our hearts

The inextinguishable power
that the Spirit shares with us

