

November  
2022



Lord of Life Lutheran

Lifelines

## Notes from Curt Matz

Psalm 100 -

1. Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.
2. Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing.
3. Know that the Lord is God. It is he that made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
4. Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him, bless his name.
5. For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

This short Psalm is one of the most commonly read Bible passages when individuals and congregations focus on the theme of "Thanksgiving." The last few words ("O give thanks to the Lord for He is good; his mercy endures forever.") are often used as a prayer of thanksgiving following meals. Because our nation observes a national "Day of Thanksgiving" in November, we will hear the word "Thanksgiving" hundreds of times as that holiday approaches. Yet few will pause their normal activities and reflect on what the word means. Even fewer will take actions - beyond saying an occasional quick "thank you" to someone who has been helpful in

some way - to express appreciation and gratefulness to God or other humans for the ways that their gifts and presence have enriched their lives. I know that I all too often can be just as guilty of this as anyone else.

Psalm 100 reminds me that "God gives generously and graciously to all" (James 1:5 TEV). I am thankful that God continues to give God's precious gifts to the world even when we may not recognize or give thanks to God for those gifts. Psalm 100 reminds us of who God is and what God has done - and continues to do - for us each and every day. It reminds us of God's care for us and of the love of God that continually surrounds us. It urges us to respond to God's goodness and love by worshipping and honoring God in all that we do not just when we attend a formal worship service. An interesting quirk of this year's calendar means that we will gather to celebrate the birth of Jesus - God's greatest gift of love - exactly one month after we celebrate Thanksgiving Day. That gift sustains us both in this life and in the next. Thanks be to God for all of God's generous and life giving gifts.



### Annual Congregational Meeting Nov. 13th!

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#### Dates to Note

7th: 6pm Book Club  
 9th: 1:30pm School Lunches (new day!)  
 13th: Annual Congregational Meeting  
 13th & 27th: 6pm Youth Group  
 14th: 7pm Council Meeting  
 23rd: noon-2pm Thanksgiving Food Boxes

# November Happenings

Opportunities abound to participate in God's work!



## All month long

- \* Start collecting frozen turkeys—or hams—to distribute with Thanksgiving Food Boxes (most local stores will be offering great deals this month, often for a FREE turkey).
- \* Pick up gifts/gift cards for the Helping Alaska (formerly Love INC) Christmas Adopt-a-Family we will adopt for the holidays. Stay tuned for details about our assigned family. We had an overwhelming response last year!

## Sunday, November 13 at 11:30am

You are invited to call new leadership, highlight ministries, and discuss the 2023 budget at the Annual Meeting. Your input is vital to the mission and ministry of our congregation! The Annual Report and proposed budget are available at the church and on our website: [lordoflifeak.com/the-latest](http://lordoflifeak.com/the-latest). Attendance is in person or on Zoom.com.

**Meeting ID:** 764 1290 6860 **Passcode:** LULNoc

Bring a snack to share with your congregational family if you wish.

## Wednesday, November 23, helpers needed at 11:15am

Every year, Lord of Life distributes Thanksgiving Food Boxes from the local Food Bank to households in need at Thanksgiving! We will be handing out 200+ boxes in our parking lot starting at noon until the food is gone. Here's a schedule of the day:

**9am** — early set up of 4-5 tables to put turkeys on, post “enter” and “exit” signs, paint arrows

**10am** — North Pole area churches (mostly St. Nick's) bring the turkeys they've collected

**11:15am** — **Volunteers arrive**, food needs to be unloaded into the handicap section of our parking lot (one area for food boxes, turkeys or hams are put on/under the tables)

Come as you can, stay as long as you're able. **We're generally wrapping up by about 2pm.**

## Wednesday, November 23 at 7pm

An Ecumenical Community Service will be held at New Hope Methodist Church.

# Council Highlights

**Bible Study:** Devotion 10: Expressing Love to Others in Gratitude Luke 10:25-37.

**Treasurer's report:** Check was cut for \$5,530.77 to get the work started on Natural gas. This month our expenses exceeded our tithes and we are currently **-\$3,445.23** for the month. Net income was \$5,903.39.



**Pastor's report:** Willing to do a Bible study on Revelations titled Now is the Time. ELCA Pastors in Alaska have been meeting via Zoom weekly since Covid; they are scheduled to meet at a camp in Big Lake in early November. Darlene will have surgery in November, is healing well from first surgery.

## Ministry Events Calendar & 2022 Goal Setting/Objectives/Timeline:

- ◆ Call process. Per Bishop Shelley, many congregations in Alaska are looking for a pastor.
- ◆ Congregational/Community Events. Reformation and All Saints Sundays. Pastor is in talks with New Hope about them hosting an ecumenical service.
- ◆ Electronic Sign. Nothing to report.

## Ongoing Business:

- ◆ Natural Gas changeout. We are on the schedule for October and installation will take three days.
- ◆ Cleaning. Liz has a list of what needs to be done to clean the church. Proposes to pay \$15.00/hr. for an individual to clean 3 hours a week, three times a month.
- ◆ Pianist Update. Pastor will reach out to Kari Hughes to see if she will share traditional Sundays with Margi the rest of the year and take over traditional Sundays after January.
- ◆ Annual Meeting. Council members need to get reports in ASAP.
- ◆ Meeting Protocol Checklist. Reviewed protocol for meetings.
- ◆ Nominating. We do not have anyone to fill President or Secretary positions. Evan Keil and John Dart will accept At Large positions.

## New Business:

- ◆ 2022 Benevolence. Food Bank, Helping Alaska, The Door and Rescue mission will receive \$500 each.
- ◆ 2023 Proposed Budget. Reviewed and approved.
- ◆ 2023 Tithe Pledge. Approved to have a tithe pledge. Discuss details next month.
- ◆ Helping AK Surplus NP Cares funds. Covid 19 funds were given to Helping Alaska. They would reimburse a congregation for benefiting the community. Pastor Curt will contact Dean re deadlines and specifics.
- ◆ 2023 Phone Book. A yellow pages listing will cost \$17/mo instead of being free as formerly. We will drop the listing.
- ◆ Reformation Day Prayer Vigil. Lord of Life's 47th anniversary is the same day. Prayer vigil and prayer board are planned.
- ◆ Christmas Day. Since Christmas Day falls on Sunday, a Christmas Day service will be held as well as Christmas Eve.



Lord of Life Lutheran Church North Pole, Alaska

## 2022 CHURCH COUNCIL

President: Liz Sandbo  
 Vice President: Bob Thoma  
 Secretary: Cheryl Park  
 Treasurer: Dianna Lindhag

At Large Members: Denise Hradecky  
 Kevin Powers  
 Allen Griswold

Check the directory for our council members' numbers!

Interim Pastor: Curt Matz  
 Financial Secretary: Becky Peterson

## Lord of Life Lutheran

1005 Saint Nicholas Drive  
 North Pole Alaska, 99705  
 Website: [www.lordoflifeak.com](http://www.lordoflifeak.com)

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

### E-mail

Jo: [office@lordoflifeak.com](mailto:office@lordoflifeak.com)

### Office Hours

Monday - Friday 9am to 1pm

### Mission Statement

"God's word moves us to make connections by welcoming all, strengthening and serving the healthy and hurting."

Next Church Council Meeting: **Dec. 12 @ 7pm**

Newsletter deadline: 20th of each month.  
 Get the latest on our website:  
[www.lordoflifeak.com/the-latest](http://www.lordoflifeak.com/the-latest)  
 or

Follow our Facebook page, worship live Sundays at 10:30am:  
[www.facebook.com/lordoflifeak](http://www.facebook.com/lordoflifeak)

## Special Prayers and Concerns

### Birthdays

- 11/1 John Dart
- 11/4 Marge Austin
- 11/7 Margi Ungrodt
- 11/12 Hannah Musgraves
- 11/14 Vern Dulany
- 11/19 Kevin Powers
- 11/21 Mercedes Lindquist
- 11/25 Morgan Boatman
- 11/27 Chris Blais
- 11/28 Jeremiah Castor
- 11/28 Dennis Musgraves



### Prayers for:

- ~ Skinner family, grieving Zak
- ~ Pam, fighting kidney cancer (friend/family of Margi U)
- ~ Lord of Life family—embrace change as we continue to search for a permanent pastor
- ~ Those with on-going health issues:
  - Tanya A's son Bryan, jaw cancer
  - Meg O, heart and mobility
  - Darlene M, continued healing

Contact [office@lordoflifeak.com](mailto:office@lordoflifeak.com) to

## Alaska Synod Prayer Partner for November:

### Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Anchorage, AK

Please pray for:

- ~ A new called pastor
- ~ Guidance for interim pastor Tim, call committee, and council
- ~ Thanksgiving for their generosity



### Anniversaries

None

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

