

October
2019



Lord of Life Lutheran

Lifelines

A Note from Pastor Amanda

At the end of 11 days, the group of clergy at Holy Wisdom Monastery had gotten pretty close. We had shared our own struggles with keeping active spiritual connections with God, our own feelings of not having enough energy or skill to do our work well, and faced other ways we felt broken.

During our last evening meal together, the sisters presented each of us with Joan Chittister’s “A Little Rule for Beginners” and explained to us that we all are beginners – there are no experts in faith and trust of God, that each day is a new beginning, and living God’s way will take a lot of do-overs and new starts.

I think this attitude is reflected in the Lutheran Church as we talk about God’s work to constantly reform us. Sure, the reformation was 502 years ago but the church has re-formed many times since then. Lord of Life started 44 years ago and we have been re-formed with every person who gathers on Sunday morning. I started out as a pastor 10 years ago and I have been re-formed NUMEROUS times!

Being a beginner or being re-formed are not easy tasks. There are always some who feel they should be further along, those who are content with who and what they are, those who fight to hold on to what they are familiar with, those who struggle in in-between places.

The beauty is, there is enough space for each of us at God’s table. There is no believer pushed away from God’s grace, no needy person overlooked, no need too great for God.

I hope God is re-forming us to hold these same values with each other. But we have to remember to be gentle: we’re all beginners at living this way.

The ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) made some moves in August in hopes of reflecting God’s way back to this world. Church members from around the nation gathered to make policies and declarations about our Christian witness in the world. Some of them are expressions of support and awareness, others are decisions to lift up people who are oppressed, others are to recognize brokenness in our world and call for repentance. All of these are beginning steps – some shaky – on the path of God we read from Scripture.

You’ll notice an insert in your bulletin the first few weeks of October highlighting most of the actions of church-wide assembly. We will be presenting them in an open forum on Wednesday, October 23, starting at 6pm. If you’d like more about these actions, information can be found at elca.org.

Re-formed by God’s love,
~Pastor Amanda

October 27, 502-44-10 Anniversary Celebration!

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Dates to note

Oct. 11: School Lunches 10am
Oct. 13: 7-12 Youth Group 6pm
Oct. 14: Council Meeting 7pm
Oct. 20: 3-6 grade Underground
Oct. 23 6pm—ELCA Churchwide
Action introduction
Oct. 27: Anniversary Celebration
Oct. 27: 7-12 Youth Group 6pm

Discipleship Ministries (Growing in Faith)

Teach a Sunday Class!

This year, our children's group will be learning about God's call and care through stories in Genesis. Our curriculum encourages students to learn together the following topics:

- Oct. 6:** God keeps His promises
- Oct. 13:** God will guide us
- Oct. 20:** God wants us to be peacemakers
- Oct. 27:** Sometimes God surprises us
- Nov. 3:** God wants us to be encouragers
- Nov. 10:** God wants us to be helpful & kind even when no one else is watching
- Nov. 17:** God forgives us as we forgive others
- Nov. 24:** Families are important to God

We are seeking adults to teach one 45-minute class on a topic that resonates with them. Try your hand, even if you've never taught! Curriculum is provided to help plan your lesson, but it's up to you! Play a game or video to illustrate a point, share a personal story, make a craft, but mostly, let our children know you love God and them!



Underground: 3-6 graders

What does faith look like in real life? How do people figure out what they want to do when they grow up? How does God help us every day?

3rd Sunday of each month from 4:00 — 5:30pm
3-6 graders learn from people in the congregation and play with big questions of faith.

October 20th: Ever wonder what math and measurements have to do with your faith? We will meet with Steve Heideman at his airplane electronic shop to see what he does and how he trusts God in his work. JOIN THE FUN!

Youth Group: 7-12 graders

Big questions, big fun.

We all need a safe space to unwind, to connect, to grumble, and to laugh.

2nd and 4th Sundays from 6:00 — 7:30pm

Come be yourself, play silly games, learn how to deal with stress, how to deal with the drama of friends and relationships, figure out what God is saying to you, and breathe. You matter!

Adults grow in faith too!

New Member Class

Would you like to join the ministry and mission of Lord of Life by becoming a voting member? Join us for the following 2 introductions to our church community!

October 20: Who are you and a bit about where you come from, and who Lord of Life is - a brief history and current ministries.

October 27: Who are Lutherans? A survey of beliefs about baptism and communion and God's grace.

Adult Forum: Animate Bible

Sundays from 9:30-10:15am

Just how much do you know about the Bible and the stories it contains? What are the different genres and themes? How and who put it together? And...

how do we read the thing???

View an introductory video, dig a little deeper, chat about your experiences, write your thoughts, and delve deep into God's living voice through the Bible!

Monday 10am Bible study

For those free on Monday mornings, we join to read through the upcoming Scriptures for Sunday and discuss each one. We point out the words or phrases that stand out to us, see if there's a connecting thread between the 4 readings, and talk about the ways the Scriptures speak to us and our lives.

Upcoming Scriptures are printed in the bulletin each week if you'd like to read and study on your own!

Council Highlights

Bible study led by Pastor Amanda: example of manna in the wilderness as to how God provides what is sufficient. It's an act of faith to believe God provides. How has God met your needs in the past?

Upcoming events: Congregational Meeting Nov 10, time to prepare reports and review of ministries—due Oct 15. Youth ministry: Youth group 2nd and 4th Sundays and Underground on 3rd. Plans in process for Christmas program December 15.

- ◆ Treasurer's report: Undesignated checking: \$3477.52, Designated Checking: \$15,279.05. Debit Card checking: 647.06, Savings: \$770.93. Payroll will use what's in undesignated, discussed bills that can be stalled and what can be stretched (moving \$4,200 insurance to payments throughout the year.)
- ◆ Pastor's report: Been encouraging a few new ideas people have brought (new yoga group!) Updating advertising/Google listing. Have 2 new groups using the church during the week. On-going training: Mental Health First Aid. Currently working on Advent/December worship.

Ongoing Business:

- ◆ Anniversary Celebration—council will be leaders in worship, working on forming a party planning team and collecting photos for a slideshow.
- ◆ Handicap parking—decided on distinguishing 6 spots rather than the current non-descript row.
- ◆ Youth group decided to support the community using funds raised over the past years. \$1,500 will be divided between the Food Bank (with service project there on Sept 27), The Door (youth shelter), and Love INC (family housing.)

New Business:

- ◆ Draft budget presented for council review and October meeting will include time for discussion
- ◆ New member classes at 9am on October 20 and 27, receive new members in worship on Oct 27. Will be led by volunteers to better make connections in the congregation.

I am a Lutheran: Mary Huntington, Shishmaref Lutheran Church

I believe God loves us as we are, and we should all know the contentment of being accepted as children of God. God wants us to live in peace and harmony with everyone else on earth.

It's important to me to express my faith through my Inupiaq cultural singing and dancing because my Christian faith and Inupiaq heritage define me and complement each other. I especially love singing hymns translated into Inupiaq. Hearing them in Inupiaq makes the songs even more beautiful and special.



To me, church is a place where we can strengthen our relationship with God and his people. Whether to give praise or offer comfort, the Scripture and songs are rejuvenating, refreshing, healing or whatever they need to be each week. To hear them, say them and sing them together creates shared experiences and the knowledge that others have similar struggles and celebrations.

At last year's Multicultural Youth Leadership Event, I shared the conflict I feel between my culture and church, and my hopes to eliminate that internal conflict. While it was empowering to see many cultures included in worship, it was disheartening and painful that Alaska Native or American Indian cultural aspects were noticeably absent. Of nearly **700 youth in attendance**, only **seven Alaska Native** and American Indian youth were there. Rural Alaskans know little of traditional spirituality and how it can be compatible with the teaching of Jesus. —Read the full article in "Living Lutheran" Magazine

Days For Girls

Days for Girls distributes sustainable feminine hygiene kits and health education to the girls of Kuwaa Chiefdom, in a very remote area of Liberia. To date, Kuwaa Mission has distributed 300+ kits to the villages with another 400 kits awaiting distribution. With each kit, the girls are taught their worth, how their bodies function, and how the human race continues because of them. Girls replace confusion and shame with knowledge and dignity. With a reliable method to deal with menstruation girls can stay active in school and in their community.



Attention is paid to quality and detail so that each kit will last for up to 3 years. It is a reminder to the girl who receives it that she is loved and worthy of dignity, education and opportunity. Each kit contains: 2 pairs of panties, 2 washable panty shields with pockets, 8 washable flannel liners, a washcloth, a bar of soap, 2 Ziplocs for soaking and washing the items, all in a cotton drawstring bag. Days for Girls International (www.daysforgirls.org) has developed and field tested the kits and the educational programs. In the past 10 years, **1.5 million kits** have been distributed in **100 countries**.

Reformation Sunday Celebration

Always Reforming

LORD OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH
INVITES YOU TO OUR CELEBRATION OF THE

44TH ANNIVERSARY

of our church and the

10TH ANNIVERSARY

of the installation of

Pastor Amanda Kempthorne



Sunday, October 27th, 2019

Join us for Worship at 10:30 a.m.

&

Celebration Potluck to follow!

1005 St. Nicholas Drive, North Pole

Bring stories and a dish to share!

The ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) gathers in a church-wide assembly every 3 years to worship, vote on governance and policy, and be church together for the sake of the world.

Church members from around the nation gathered in early August to and made policies and declarations to stand with the vulnerable and raise up people who have been taken advantage of.

A very brief summary (see bulletin inserts in Oct):

Presiding Bishop Eaton was reelected on the first ballot; declaration of apology to our siblings of African descent; resolution declaring the ELCA a “sanctuary church body” with extra care for migrant children through AMMPARO; June 17 to honor the martyrdom of the Emanuel 9; adopted new social statement: “Faith, Sexism, and Justice”; and others.

To hear more about each of these, join us on Wednesday, October 23 at 6pm for a little deeper look and some healthy conversation about these actions. More information can be found at elca.org



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	October 1	2	3	4	5
9:30 am Education Hour	10 am Bible Study	9 am - 12 pm Kuwaa Sewing Group	12 pm Food Boxes	9 am - 12 pm Banner Bunch		9 am - 10 am Yoga Devotion
10:30 am Worship	8 pm AA	5:30 pm - 8 pm Girl Scouts	4:30 pm - 5:30 pm Girl Scouts - Daisies	8 pm AA		
11:30 am Fellowship						
6 pm - 7:30 pm Youth Group						
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9:30 am Education Hour	10 am Bible Study	9 am - 12 pm Kuwaa Sewing Group	12 pm Food Boxes	9 am - 12 pm Banner Bunch	10 am School Lunch Assembly	9 am - 10 am Yoga Devotion
10:30 am Worship	8 pm AA	5:30 pm - 8 pm Girl Scouts	4:30 pm - 5:30 pm Girl Scouts - Daisies	9 am - 12 pm 17 Mile Homemakers		
11:30 am Fellowship				2:45 pm Band Practice		
				8 pm AA		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
9:30 am Education Hour	10 am Bible Study	9 am - 12 pm Kuwaa Sewing Group	12 pm Food Boxes	9 am - 12 pm Banner Bunch		9 am - 10 am Yoga Devotion
10:30 am Worship	7 pm Council Meeting	5:30 pm - 8 pm Girl Scouts	4:30 pm - 5:30 pm Girl Scouts - Daisies	9 am - 12 pm 17 Mile Homemakers		
11:30 am Fellowship	8 pm AA			8 pm AA		
6 pm - 7:30 pm Youth Group						
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
9:30 am Education Hour	10 am Bible Study	9 am - 12 pm Kuwaa Sewing Group	12 pm Food Boxes	9 am - 12 pm Banner Bunch		9 am - 10 am Yoga Devotion
10:30 am Worship	8 pm AA	5:30 pm - 8 pm Girl Scouts	4:30 pm - 5:30 pm Girl Scouts - Daisies	9 am - 12 pm 17 Mile Homemakers		
11:30 am Fellowship			6 pm Churchwide Conversation	2:45 pm Band Practice		
4 pm - 5:30 pm 3-6 Underground				8 pm AA		
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
9:30 am Education Hour	10 am Bible Study	9 am - 12 pm Kuwaa Sewing Group	12 pm Food Boxes	9 am - 12 pm Banner Bunch		9 am - 10 am Yoga Devotion
10:30 am Worship	8 pm AA	5:30 pm - 8 pm Girl Scouts	4:30 pm - 5:30 pm Girl Scouts - Daisies	9 am - 12 pm 17 Mile Homemakers		
11:30 am 502-44-10 Anniversary Celebration				8 pm AA		
6 pm - 7:30 pm Youth Group						



Lord of Life Lutheran Church

North Pole, Alaska

2019 CHURCH COUNCIL

President:	Liz Sandbo	687-1918
Vice President:	Sean Garrison	888-2052
Secretary:	Cheryl Park	488-4167
Treasurer:	Sam Aleshire	488-4692
Education:	Paula Fritsche	488-3017
Mission & Social Ministry:	Evie Freeman	385-9588
Worship & Music:	Curt Renner	488-4405
Youth:	Jacoppi Pahkamaa	388-2620
Stewardship:	open	
Evangelism:	Nancy Uptgraft	378-4633
Facilities:	Tim Schackman	210-488-5961
Financial Secretary:	Amie Maranville	488-0552
Pastor:	Amanda Kempthorne	322-2065 (cell)

Lord of Life Lutheran

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

Phone: 907-488-6720
Pastor Amanda's cell: 907-322-2065

E-mail:

Pastor Amanda: pastor@lordoflifeak.com
Jo: 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: Nov. 11 @ 7:00 pm

Newsletter deadline: 20th of each month.

Website updates:
www.lordoflifeak.com

or

Follow our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/lordoflifeak
(even if you don't have a Facebook page!)

Special Prayers and Concerns

Birthdays

- 10/3 John Kowalski
- 10/6 Mark Uptgraft
- 10/9 Samantha Elliott
- 10/15 Janis Robertson
- 10/16 Robert Workman
- 10/24 Amie Maranville
- 10/30 Gary Ojala



Anniversaries

- 10/1 Morgan & Kristi Boatman
- 10/11 Jason & Amanda Kempthorne
- 10/16 Carol & Duane Dahl
- 10/21 Jo & Tim Schackman



If your info is missing, let us know!

Prayers for:

- * Eric P—healing after surgery
- * Meg O—positive results from stem cell injections to her knee
- * Kristi B—healing after surgeries
- * John H—positive results from medical tests, treatment plan
- * Mary A—less isolation and improved connections
- * Steve H.—continued healing with cancer treatment
- * Continued healing—Evie F, Al G, Jeromey L
- * Ongoing health concerns: Paula

Contact:

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

October Prayer Partner:
Our Savior's Lutheran Church,
Nome, AK

Please pray for:

- Preparations for the winter season
- Fall Conference gathering of Seward Peninsula peoples for prayer, worship, singing, and celebration of God's work!
Dates are Oct 12-14
- Transitions and changes in the congregation.

