

October
2021



Lord of Life Lutheran

Lifelines

A Note from Pastor Amanda

What a delight Rally Sunday was (whether you worshiped with us on Sunday or later in the week!) It has been delightful to watch many of you discover some of the gifts God has given you! We have received 26 responses and they continue to come in – so if you haven't done the inventory yet, head to our website: www.lordoflifeak.com and you will find it on the home page and under "the latest" tab. There are also copies out on the table at church, or you could email office@lordoflifeak.com and Jo will send it to you.

Your most common gift: Faith. It seems like that should be a given since we are a church... but to have a group of people *gifted* in *seeing* God at work in your lives and *trusting* you are being led by God – whew, that makes my heart soar.

Our other most common gifts are Administration to create and carry out plans, Service behind the scenes, Exhortation to encourage in times of troubles, Giving of not just our money, and Knowledge that drives us to uncover new insights in the Bible and how it applies to our lives.

Yet the greatest thing to rejoice over together: people are excited to bring those gifts to the community!!! I've had a number of conversations since handing out your gift-specific devotions, people excited about Lord of Life's ministries and being part of them!

Really, the gift inventory is about togetherness, about sharing ourselves more fully, and building community

founded on Christ's gift of salvation. Indeed, there are... "varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good... and you are the body of Christ and individually members of it." (1 Corinthians 12:4-7, 27)

In the coming months, your church will be inviting you to use your gifts with intentionality. Council members will receive your name and give you a call if your gifts fit with a project we're working on. When you get that call, pray about it before saying "yes" or "not now". God may nudge you to try something new, even if it's scary. But what better place than grace-filled Lord of Life to practice!

And to any with the faith-filled gifts of administration, leadership, knowledge, and service, consider serving on council as Treasurer, Vice President, or one of two open seats where you pick the projects you're passionate about.

I am honored to be the pastor of a church filled with so many gifted people and so much love and joy in serving.

Grateful to God,
~Pastor
Amanda



Oct. 3-10 is Fall Clean Up!

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Dates to Note

3rd—10th: Fall Clean Up Week
 3: 4pm Confirmation Kick-off
 10th & 24th: 4pm Confirmation
 6pm Youth Group
 11th: 7pm Council Meeting
 24th—31st: Loving Families Host Week
 31st: Reformation Sunday!

Youth Events



6-12 grade Youth Group meets on Sundays:
Oct. 10th & 24th

October 10, meet from 6-7:30pm Game Night!
Have some dinner and let's play some games! Bring your favorite!

October 24, 6-7:30pm Faith Conversation!
Where is God when things change? How do we face things when we don't know what comes next? Bring your questions and let's talk!

Confirmation Class

We are resuming our faith formation class for 7th, 8th, 9th ... 10th graders (thanks Covid.) We will meet from 4-5:30 on Sundays to talk Creed, Commandments and the Lord's Prayer. If your gifts are Exhortation or Knowledge, consider guiding these young ones in their faith as a Confirmation team teacher!

Loving Families

It's time for us to support families in their work out of homelessness! Love INC's "Loving Families" program supports families with temporary housing, food, and education as they save for permanent housing. Typically, we ask for groceries, meals prepared, meal hosts, and overnight hosts during our week.

Pandemic Loving Families Change: Families will be housed by Love INC. No overnight hosts needed.

What we do: We support these families with groceries, a few meals prepared (and possibly eaten together), and prayer!

When: October 24-31 (Sunday eve to Sunday morn)

Why: The families save for sustainable housing while we provide for their daily needs and encourage them. The purpose is to end local homelessness, one family at a time. This program works!

Watch for grocery signups at the church, listen for announcements, and check your email for updates.



Reformation Sunday



REFORMATION
Sunday

October 31 is Reformation Sunday!
Let's plan on celebrating it together!!

After this special 5th Sunday worship, we will have fellowship in the sanctuary with games on our screens. Bring a finger-food type dish to share and we'll spread out and have some fun!

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Days for Girls Kits

For years, Lord of Life's sewing group has created reusable menstruation kits to give "days" back to Liberian girls, to allow them to attend school during their periods. We lost our connection to get the kits to Liberia, and shipping them was far too expensive.



Bethel Church in Fairbanks recently offered to take 150 finished kits, and even agreed to cover the cost of the additional luggage fees (4 suitcases!). The kits will be distributed to girls in Sierra Leone and South America. We cannot express how grateful we are to Bethel Church for giving this priceless opportunity to 150 girls!

If anyone knows a missionary traveling to these areas, we still have 80+ kits ready to distribute.

"LifeLines"

Mark Your Calendar!

Upcoming events at Lord of Life:

Oct. 3-10—Fall Clean-up Week. Let's make sure our church grounds are ready for winter. Stay tuned for announcements and signups.

Oct. 24-31—Loving Families Host Week. See article on pg. 2.

Oct. 31—Reformation Sunday. An important anniversary in the Lutheran Church! Plan to help us celebrate after worship. Article pg. 2.

Nov. 14—Annual Congregational Meeting. Yes, that time of year is approaching. Your opinion matters and important decisions are made. Please plan to be present following worship.

Council Highlights

Bible Study: James 5:13-16. Led by Pastor Amanda. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective. We listened and prayed for each other.

Treasurer's report: Undesignated checking: \$5,368.75; Designated Checking: \$5,593.19; Debit Card checking: 1,004.31; Savings: 6,133.59; total assets: \$18,099.84. If we do not have offering to cover the next payroll, we will use up the remaining savings. Profit and Loss shows us in the red -\$7,689.39. Profit and Loss year to date is -\$27,116.87 (although, \$18,000 was received in Dec 2020 and spent in 2021.)



Pastor's report:

- ◆ Past—3 end-of-life events, 4 hours 1-on-1 counseling. Youth Gathering coordination with Christ Lutheran. Photo directory. New worship computer fixed the lag problem!!
- ◆ Present—Sunday School/confirmation/youth group. Worship planning/preaching outline. Church cleanup Oct. 3-10. Oct. 10 guest preacher Pr. Lisa Smith-Fiegel. New Member Sunday Oct. 17?
- ◆ Covid—Case rate 82 past 14 days. Christ and Fairbanks Lutheran returned to online worship only.

2021 Goal Check:

- ◆ Discover and tell faith stories. The Spiritual Gift Inventory is part of our “discover” our faith stories.
- ◆ Research/launch a signup & serve program. Used it, has been successful. Serve on Sunday (reader/ PowerPoint/ sound and video/ usher and greeter).
- ◆ Complete Gift Inventory for the congregation. Completed 9-12. Will engage people in ministry!
- ◆ Strengthen members' connection. Working on directory. Inside fellowship is more challenging.
- ◆ Engage people in worship planning. Curt Renner has Eileen Dubowski working on worship planning.

Ongoing Business:

- ◆ Photo directory reviewed and approved. Will print in house due to funds and constant updates.
- ◆ Reformation Sunday Oct. 31 with games, costumes, food.
- ◆ Loving Families Host Week scheduled for Oct. 24-31; what would it take for us to host in the church?
- ◆ Covid worship modification—fellowship will be suspended at 50+ cases per day, 14 day average.

New Business:

- ◆ August birthdays/anniversaries—cards will be sent out.
- ◆ Annual meeting reports are due Oct. 15. Work as teams to review and recap our church's ministries.
- ◆ 2022 Budget Planning. Exec council will meet separately and present at the next council meeting.



Lord of Life Lutheran Church North Pole, Alaska

2021 CHURCH COUNCIL

President:	Liz Sandbo	Check the directory for our council members' numbers!
Vice President:	Sean Garrison	
Secretary:	Cheryl Park	
Treasurer:	Sam Aleshire	
Worship & Music:	Curt Renner	
Youth:	Kaylee Lindhag	
Stewardship:		
Mission & Social Ministry:	Denise Hradecky	
Financial Secretary:	Becky Peterson	
Pastor:	Amanda Kempthorne	322-2065 (cell)

Lord of Life Lutheran

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North Pole Alaska, 99705
Website: www.lordoflifeak.com

Phone: 488-6720
Pastor Amanda's cell: 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: Monday, **Oct. 11** @ 7:00 pm

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

- 10/3 John Kowalski
- 10/4 Tony Fazio
- 10/6 Denise Hradecky
- 10/6 Mark Uptgraft
- 10/15 Janis Robertson
- 10/16 Bob Workman
- 10/24 Amie Maranville
- 10/30 Gary Ojala



Prayers for:

- * Jo S, grieving death of her mother and sister
- * Brenda S's grandson Ben, healing of RSV and pneumonia
- * Larry R (former member), healing from fall
- * Allen family's grief

Those with on-going health complications:

- Steve H, cancer treatments
- Meg O, mobility
- Erich and Polly Hoffmann

Contact office@lordoflifeak.com to sign up for prayer chain email!

Alaska Synod Prayer Partner for September:

Sitka Lutheran Church
Sitka, AK

Please pray for:

- sense of community when worshipping apart
- patience and care while Covid spreads
- ministry innovation as they support students at Mt. Edgecumbe High School

Anniversaries

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



If your important date is missing, please let us know!

