

September
2022



Lord of Life Lutheran

Lifelines

Notes from Curt Matz

During the fall months, many congregations review their income and spending from previous months and years as they prepare proposed budgets for the coming annual (or fiscal) year. At times this process can become quite controversial - especially when anticipated income does not appear to be sufficient to meet anticipated needs. This can produce a great deal of fear and anxiety and cause people to wonder about the future of their congregation. Financial support of a congregation can then easily be seen as a duty or obligation or simply another bill that needs to be paid instead of an expression of our faith and trust in God.

I once wrote an article titled “God Doesn’t Need Our Money.” This is true because the money and possessions we call our own already belong to God who shares them with us and makes them available to us for our use. Like all of God’s gifts, they can be used appropriately to provide for our needs and the needs of others or misused when we use them in ways that benefit only ourselves. We were reminded of this a few weeks ago through the story called the “Parable of the rich fool” (Luke 12:13-21).

So why do we give to the church as well as other individuals and organizations that seek to serve those in need? We do so to give thanks to God for all of God’s marvelous, abundant, and completely undeserved gifts. We give as an expression of our love for God and as a means of sharing that love with the world. We give because we know that we can do so much more to share that love when we work together than any of us could ever do alone. We give because God invites us to be “cheerful givers” (2 Corinthians 9:7) who share what we have received from God with others. We give because of the joy it brings to us and the blessings it brings to others.

We give remembering that along with our financial gifts we are giving ourselves to God and promising to devote all that we are and all that we have to God’s service in God’s world.



Rally Sunday & God’s Work Our Hands Sept. 11

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Dates to Note

1st: 6pm Book Club (NEW!)
 5th: OFFICE CLOSED
 8th: 1:30pm School Lunches
 11th: 9am Confirmation Mtg
 11th: GWOH & Rally Sunday
 12: 7pm Council Meeting
 22nd: 6:30pm Potluck/7pm Bible Study

“LifeLines”

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee is one of the most important committees of the congregation. Their job is to seek out leaders who will guide a congregation to fulfill its mission of Jesus Christ. Their work is so essential; the congregation is called upon to pray for their deliberations. Before the Nominating Committee gathers for its first meeting, we ask the congregation to pray for wisdom. Lord of Life's committee members are Carol Dahl and Sean Garrison, with one slot open.

A sample prayer for Sunday worship: *Gracious God, our Nominating Committee will hold their first meeting this week. We give you thanks for those who serve on this committee. Inspire and guide them as they prayerfully consider leaders for our congregation who will lead us towards fulfilling your mission. Open our hearts to serve you as leaders and to support those called to lead. In Christ, we pray. Amen.*

Other Stuff

ASWO RETREAT Sept. 16 & 17

Where: Amazing Grace Lutheran Church,
Anchorage, AK

Cost: \$20 payable by cash/check on arrival

RSVP by **September 9** to
alaskasynodicalwomensorg@gmail.com
to assist with meal planning, etc.

Friday 5-7:30 pm Registration & social
gathering

Saturday 9:30 am Breakfast
10:15 am Opening Worship & Bible
Study, speakers, workshops and crafts

Sunday Worship at church of your
choice



School lunches

The 2022-2023 school year has begun. Our church is a member of The North Pole Alliance (of churches). We prepare weekend school lunches for students in need of help. LoL delivers lunches to schools who request assistance the second Friday of each month, except in November (the second Thursday). Once again, I ask our congregation to help provide provisions for these lunches. I am going to plan for 50. It is better to start out with too much rather than too little. Those of us who put together the lunches would appreciate your contributions by the end of the first week in September. Thank you!

—Janis Robertson

Lord of Life takes pride in a greener footprint—fewer paper products, mindfulness of utility usage, and recycling. Because the local facility lost their contract, we can't recycle scrap paper, plastic bottles or cans right now. A notice will be posted when recycling resumes!

Davey and Goliath



Ready for a moment of nostalgia? Davey and Goliath, a Claymation-style series that first aired in 1961, starred Davey Hansen and his dog, Goliath. It's fondly remembered by baby boomers. What you may not know is that, in 1958, the United Lutheran Church in American (later merged with ELCA) provided \$1M to fund a future TV program for children. The ELCA owns the rights to this day.

The original cartoons were distributed free, in an era when networks were required to allocate time for religious programming. Each story—71 episodes and specials in all—contained a Christian moral. Stories dealt with race and inclusion and making good choices. Although God was mentioned often, the series wasn't explicitly Lutheran. The show endures because of its simplicity.

Fans will be pleased to know that new episodes could result from an agreement between the ELCA and a Washington firm that markets animated characters. —*various articles*

Council Highlights

Bible Study: Luke 12:13-21 Parable of the rich fool.

Treasurer's report: Undesignated checking: \$ 6,553.10; Designated Checking: \$ 4,797.00; Debit Card Checking: \$ 194.71; Savings: \$ 21,798.25. Benevolence is paid through June 30, 2022 and payments will be paid quarterly going forward.



Pastor's report: Thank you to Kaylee for Vacation Bible School. Phase 2 of the Interim training to St. Louis is coming up; tuition is included. Met with Pananens before they moved south.

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

- ◆ Call process. Preparing by working through Mock interviews.
- ◆ Sunday School. Liz will continue to prepare plans for kids up through September. Al is doing Confirmation.
- ◆ Congregational/Community Events. Rally day will be our Fall Community Event.
- ◆ Electronic Sign. Dianna and Liz are working together on the grant.

Ongoing Business:

- ◆ Natural Gas changeout. Beckley was notified that changeout was approved. Installation will be end of Sept.
- ◆ Cleaning. Liz is investigating cost of once-a-month cleaning.
- ◆ Nominating Committee. President, Secretary, and one At Large position are coming open.
- ◆ Rally Sunday/GWOH. Wood needs to be cut/stacked. Ellie Herrera needs yard work.
- ◆ Meeting protocols. Cheryl will create a checklist to review at September meeting.

New Business:

- ◆ Annual Meeting . Worship and music report (Cheryl will work with Bob Thoma).
- ◆ Interim Pastoral Ministry. Contract extended through December 31.
- ◆ Festival of Trees. Declined to participate.



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

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 North Pole Alaska, 99705
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 Pastor Curt's cell: (907) 322-2065

E-mail

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: September 12 @ 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

9/1 Benjamin Gregory
 9/4 Brenda Sadler
 9/10 Robert Peterson
 9/20 Jim Woolace
 9/21 Dixie Keil
 9/27 Kaylee Lindhag
 9/28 Roger Bolish



Prayers for:

~ Er & Loretta P—smooth relocation to the lower 48
 ~ Eric P—healing from knee surgery
 ~ Barb T—grieving loss of her father
 ~ Chris B's brother-in-law—dying w/Parkinson's
 ~ Tanya A & son Bryan as he fights aggressive jaw cancer
 ~ Lord of Life—embrace change as we search for new pastor



Anniversaries

9/13 Meg & Gary Ojala
 9/15 Sam & Eric Aleshire

If your important date is missing, please let us know so we can celebrate with you!

~ Those with on-going health issues:
 Meg O, heart and mobility
 Darlene M, continued healing

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

Alaska Synod Prayer Partner for September:

Island of Faith Lutheran Church, Wrangell, AK

Please pray for:

~ Mothers, and those who care for/tend to them
 ~ Interfaith Table, bringing faithful voices of other traditions to a common place for sharing and service as they continue to develop bonds of trust and connection

