

July 2020

LIFELINES

The monthly newsletter of Lord of Life Lutheran Church

5601 Washington Rd. • Kenosha, WI 53144
E-mail Address: office@lordoflifekenosha.org Phone: (262) 656-1995

A Little About A Lot of Things

Our Virtual Congregational Meeting

In case you couldn't tell, or in case you weren't there on Sunday morning at our Zoom Congregational Meeting, your council members, Angie and I were all holding our breath to see if this would really work. Ever since I heard a pastoral colleague say - "If there is any way to do a congregational meeting other than Zoom - do it - ours was a disaster" - I've been worried about this. Ours worked! It took significant planning, chasing down multiple "what if's", and your patience - but we did it!

I was thinking about our meeting on Sunday morning as a bit of a celebration. This congregation has had a challenging year, but you have come through it intact - if not even stronger than before. I give thanks to God for your faithfulness, your flexibility, your willingness to give things a try, and most of all, your commitment to being the people of God in this part of the world.

Many thanks to Sonja Wolfe, John Meyer, and Jackie McCarthy for their service on council. And to Lori Vogel, Lisa McCarthy and Sherry Sinnen - welcome! I look forward to working with the new council as we continue to meet the challenges set before us.

Reopening Task Force

Just so you know - I would love to be able to return to worship as we were worshipping just three and a half months ago. I miss seeing people. I miss the hugs. I miss your voices raised in song and praise. I miss so many things. But, I also know that the risk of having people in the same space, breathing the same air over an extended period of time is just too high. A church in the state of Oregon that did not follow gathering restrictions and safety precautions is now the epicenter of that state's largest coronavirus outbreak. Contact tracing has linked 236 positive tests to worship services and events held in the church in late May and early June. That's 47% of the cases reported in the entire state of Oregon. And while I think I can deal with Covid 19 if I contract it (no - I'm not asking for it), if I were to inadvertently infect someone else, I would have a hard time living with it.

Until an effective vaccine is developed and distributed, I'm afraid Covid-19 is part of our new reality. No, it is not welcome. Yes, it is a challenge that we need to rise to meet. I am coming to realize that it is not just a three-month problem, but that we need to be thinking for at least the next year. How can we be and do church in a way that is loving of our neighbors? That is the central question. The Reopening Task Force will be grappling with this question and making recommendations to the council. Please know that this process is held in prayer, while drawing on the best science and data about our context. Please keep all of your leaders in prayer - as well as the congregation as a whole. We will get through this! God is here!

Confirmation

This summer, our entering ninth graders are continuing to prepare to Affirm their Baptisms - hopefully on Reformation Day at the end of October. During June, they worked on a unit on Martin Luther and the Reformation. In July, they will work on part of the Small Catechism: The Lord's Prayer and The Ten Commandments. In August and September, the focus will shift to The Apostles' Creed. In September and October, the plan is for them to work with mentors on what it means to live a Lutheran life. (If you are interested in being a mentor, please contact me.)

Continued on page 2 ➡

SERVING YOU AT LORD OF LIFE

**Pastor Carol
Jeunnette**

- Interim Pastor

Angie Wollschlager

- Church

Administrator

Connie Wittmus

- Admin. Assistant

Sue Quever

- Parish Nurse

Jodi Iorio

- Connections Ministry

Claudia Murillo

- Bookkeeper

Kerry Bieneman

- Music Director

Lynn Kancian

- Nursery

Coordinator

Pat Skinner

- Financial Secretary

Church Council

Brian Lynch

Lisa McCarthy

Joe Nosalik

Sherry Sinnen

Kathi Strott

Lori Vogel

Liz Young

Officers will be elected
at the 7/14/20
Council meeting.

Office Hours

Mondays & Wednesdays
10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

Our Website

www.lordoflifekenosha.org

LifeLines Deadline

The 15th of
every month

Our mission is to transform lives through grace by being an accepting, serving, and caring community, empowered by the Holy Spirit to grow in faith.

This material has been developed for students to work on their own (with parental assistance). If you would like to brush up on Martin Luther and/or The Small Catechism, please send an email to Angie or to me, and we will give you the link to download the materials. If there is enough interest, we'll schedule a Zoom call to go over it. I hope some of you give this a try!

Lean-In Group on Racism and Bias

Many "melanin-challenged" folks (thanks, Sonja for this term!), including me, find it difficult to talk about race. Yet, if we are to "love God and love neighbor as self," we need to be able to talk about what gets in the way of that love. Race - whether we recognize it or not - too often has gotten in the way, and continues to do so.

You are invited to be part of a "Lean-In" book group, with the purpose of listening, learning, and leaning into some difficult questions around justice and loving neighbor as self. We will meet once a month, online (at least for the time being). We will agree to read a book and discuss it - taking turns in leading the discussion.

We will choose one of the following books to get started: "The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration", by Michelle Alexander, or "Race Talk and the Conspiracy of Silence: Understanding and Facilitating Difficult Dialogues on Race", by Derald Wing Sue.

The first gathering of "Lean-In Book Group" will be Tuesday, July 28, at 6:30, via Zoom.

[CLICK HERE](#) or contact the church office to let us know if you are interested in participating and to indicate your book choice.

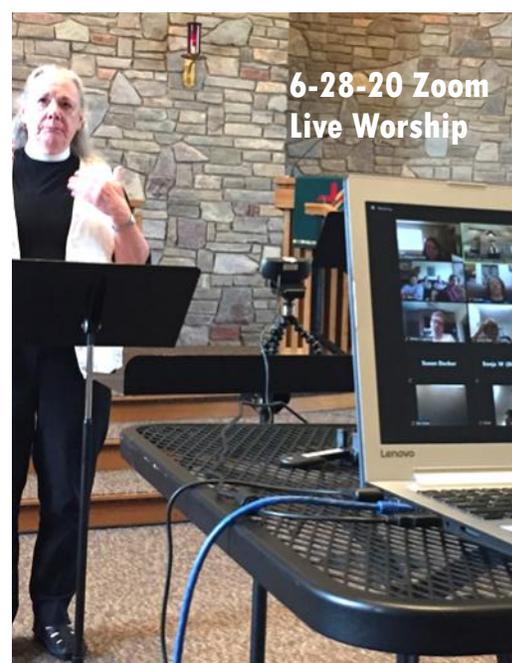
Worship

We continue to experiment with different formats - trying to reach as many people as possible in the most effective and safest ways possible. This weekend (July 4-5), we will return to the video recording of worship. (Part of the reason for this is that I'm taking a vacation! Yay!). The following weekend, July 11-12, we will experiment with outdoor worship - in the backyard of the church. We will worship at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, and 9:30 on Sunday. Please bring a lawn chair or blanket, your mask, your own communion elements (bread and grape juice), and sun screen and bug spray. When you enter around the west side of the building, please be careful to maintain social distancing - even though it is so tempting to bunch up. How well we do with this service will help us figure out if we will be able to manage social distancing and mask-wearing when we make plans to return to worship in the sanctuary.

There will be a "Blessing of the Masks", so please don't forget yours! Watch for details in the Wednesday emails.

Peace,

Pastor Carol



SERVICE OPPORTUNITY AT THE



If there are any families who would like to perform some service work, the ELCA Outreach center has opportunities in July:

- Monday, July 13th
- Wednesday July 15th
- Thursday July 16th

Volunteer opportunities are: outside garden work and yard maintenance or sorting clothing inside the building. Please call the Outreach Center at (262) 652-5545 and set up the time you would like to volunteer.

Please plan to bring your own mask.



2020 RIDE | RUN | WALK

june 18 - september 30

Outreach for Hope is inviting bikers, runners and walkers to remotely participate in 25 fitness and fundraising challenges in honor of Outreach for Hope's 25th anniversary. You decide the time and place of each activity, as long as it's between now and September 30th. Their goal is to register a minimum of 625 participants, log 25,000 miles, and raise \$150,000 for the life-giving ministries that serve with the people of low income communities within the Greater Milwaukee Synod.

[CLICK HERE](#) or visit www.outreachforhope.com/bike-ride-2 for more information, to register, or to donate to the event.



Two of our Lord of Life families have recently welcomed baby boys. We are so happy for them and can't wait to officially welcome them to into the Lord of Life faith family through baptism!

Meghan & Tory Blotta and big brother Gio welcomed Matteo James on May 29, 2020

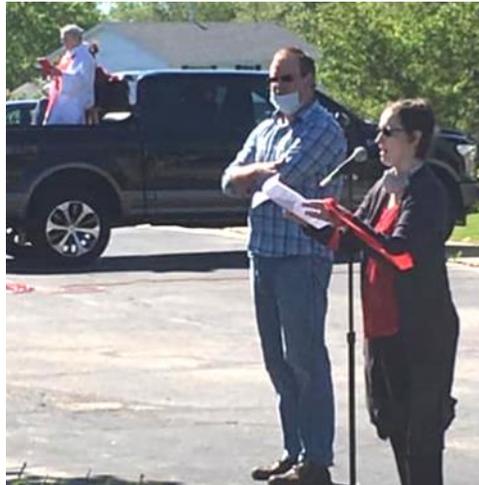


Alyssa & Jeffrey Dishno and big sister Naomi welcomed Elliot Russell on June 2, 2020



WE'VE BEEN BUSY!

May 31st Pentecost Drive In Worship



June 14th Zoom Worship

June 20th Zoom Worship (Drive in rainout)



June 23rd Ministry Leaders Meeting

June 28th Zoom Worship



June 21st Drive In Worship



COUNCIL'S CORNER

Lord of Life Congregational Council Meeting Minutes June 16th 2020

- Pastor's report: Pr Carol suggested that we have a Council Retreat this summer with both new council members and those three whose terms just ended and would like to do a formal installation for the new Council members. Pastor Carol said that we need to think about revisioning—what it is to be Church in a Covid-19 era. We also discussed how we as a congregation can address racism and Black Lives Matter. Then we discussed the timetable for a pastoral search and a Ministry Site Profile.
- Treasury Report: Brian reported that the treasury is solvent. He and Angie went over the numbers. Despite the challenging times we are in a good financial situation. Angie also reported on how the SBA Paycheck Protection Loan works and how it is shown in reports.
- Old Business:
 - The shed is done. All it needs now is to be painted and an inspection.
 - There was considerable discussion on reopening the Church. We're using scientific data to guide us. Joe said that the Kenosha County Department of Health advised against more than 10 people congregating inside at one time. Brian had a two-part motion: 1, to formulate a Task Force to set parameters to reopen. 2, to communicate the Council's intention to Lord of Life that the building is closed July and August. Opening will be based on the Task Force findings. The Task force will make recommendations to the Council. The Council will decide when to reopen. Sonja suggested that members of the Task Force not be related to anyone on the Council.
 - We discussed the various methods of worship we are currently employing. What works, and how we can improve the experience. We set the worship schedule for July. July 5th will be pre-recorded. July 11/12 will be outside worship: 4:00PM for Saturday and 9:30AM for Sunday. July 19th will be a Zoom meeting all done from home. July 25/26 will be outside worship: 4:00PM for Saturday and 9:30AM for Sunday.
 - We discussed the logistics of the annual meeting via Zoom. The service will be at 9:30 and the meeting will take place at 10:30. Also, we talked about onboarding of the new Council members and old Council members attending the first Council meeting in July.

MAY 2020 FINANCIALS

ASSETS

Funds on Hand

Cash on Hand - General Fund \$63,486.11

Restricted Accounts

Youth Account \$5,132.58

Memorial Account Total (ALL RESTRICTED) \$9,983.58

MEMORIAL FUND \$ 6,292.54

PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY \$ 1,318.51

HIGH FIVERS \$ 147.00

WOMEN'S TEA \$ 1,055.91

55 AND OVER \$ 120.00

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP \$ -

WOMEN'S RETREAT \$ 644.13

KINGFISH GAME \$ (240.00)

COLLECTIONS FOR OTHERS \$ 990.43

Scrip Account \$9,456.37

Scrip Card Inventory \$16,168.06

LIABILITIES

Credit Card Balance \$ 119.41

Payroll Withholdings \$ 134.13

SBA Loan - Forgivable \$ 25,115.00

Mortgage Balance \$ 1,191,196.95

Total Liabilities \$ 1,216,565.49

May

YTD Income -	YTD Expenses -
YTD Income	\$156,893.35
YTD Expenses	\$133,778.80
YTD Revenue	\$23,114.55
MEMBERS GIVING YTD \$18,598.94 OVER BUDGET	TOTAL EXPENSES YTD \$4,940.85 UNDER BUDGET

ELCA Benevolence Paid \$1,784.80

For a more detailed financial report including line by line income and expenses please contact the Church Treasurer, Claudia Murillo at treasurer@lordoflifekenosha.org. Thank you!

Dear friends,

If you are apprehensive, anxious, or concerned about life as we start to reopen from the COVID virus you are not alone. As we come out from our homes to resume work, shopping, dining out, exercise and daily life, many of us will scrutinize routine decisions we once thought nothing of. Many health care professionals are calling these emotions “re-entry anxiety.”

A person cannot help but be concerned about whether people around you are infected or contagious. This feeling can make a situation awkward and uncomfortable. The first thing experts will recommend is that you only do what is comfortable for you and to go at your own pace. All of us must realize that dealing with COVID musters a long-term strategy that could linger for months to years. So, knowing that “normal” life will not happen right away is part of the process.

A person must find things that you have control over, like your behavior in relation to the virus. This includes being factual and specific with your thoughts because worry despises that. For example we have no idea who is infected and who isn't, so we still need to social distance, wear masks, hand wash frequently, sanitize surfaces at home and work regularly, and be mindful of how much and many articles and news stories we are watching and reading about COVID.

We need to continue wearing our masks in the community as we protect our neighbor. Many people are struggling with face covers because it prevents us from seeing each other. Seeing people's faces is an important aspect of socialization which offers familiarity and connection. The masks remind us of a greater issue and sometimes we journey into a state of hyper-arousal of mind, body, and emotions when we think of COVID. To minimize the effects of the hyper arousal, here are a few strategies to follow:



- Practice mindfulness (In a mindfulness practice, a person focuses on the present moment, accepting and paying attention to thoughts and feelings without judging whether they are right or wrong), deep breathing, or meditation
- Start a new hobby or learn something new: knitting, cooking, learning a new language, refinishing furniture, photography, calligraphy, painting a room, etc..
- Keep a regular bedtime and waking time
- Take a walk daily
- Do not be afraid to cry because crying can be a release and way to cope with anger
- Talk to a compassionate friend, family member, or therapist
- Journal or engage in creative art, coloring
- Use creative visioning and imagine yourself safe and healthy
- Remind yourself that wearing a mask is an act of kindness and care for others

Take advantage of the good weather and the summer season right now. We desperately need to get back socialization, but we need to be mindful of distance and touch. A person could start with a small group of friends and get outside in a park, yard, or trail. Walk, talk, and share about life and be careful that it is not all about this virus.



Shalom,

Sue Quever R.N., F.C.N.
AdvocateAurora Faith Community Nurse Program

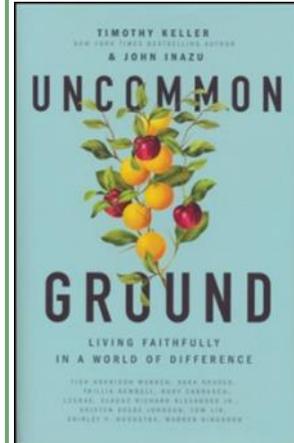
...Some wise words from chapter 3, written by Tim Lin, from the book "Uncommon Ground"

Transformed by Adventure: I love adventure because true adventure changes us. Living in the world means seeking common ground with people and pursuits that are not always gospel centered. For the adventurer, this is welcome news, because it allows us to ask different questions. "What might God be doing in this situation?" "With what struggles can I empathize?" "What bridges can be built?" "Where might the kingdom of God be manifesting?"

I love adventure because true adventure changes us. When growing up I loved to watch movies like Star Wars and Indiana Jones, featuring a self sufficient hero who has nearly everything he wants and needs. When he arrives home unchanged and largely unscathed. As entertaining as those movies were, they were ultimately unsatisfying.

By contrast, in the most satisfying stories the adventurer is changed. Frodo, from "The Lord of the Rings", begins the story weak and powerless. He is dependant on everyone for everything-direction, protection and provision. He is so powerless and vulnerable that he fails. His mission is accomplished in spite of him, not because of him. But the journey changes him. He returns home transformed, so ennobled and so broken that he cannot stay. "I tried to save the Shire, and it has been saved, but not for me, It must often be so, Sam, when things are in danger: someone has to give them up, lose them, so that others may keep them." (J.R.R. Tolkien, The Return of the King)

Like Frodo, if we accept the wilderness we find ourselves in and embrace the journey God has us on, we will not stray where we are. We will nnot be able to return to where we Began. We need to embark on an adventure. With each other and with God.



We live in a complicated & fragmented world. How can we respectfully interact with those who hold diverse views- and yet remain faithful to the gospel? Keller and Inazu-

along with a variety of artists, thinkers, and leaders---explore ways to reach across deep and painful differences as we seek to live with confidence and hope in a fractured age.

It is not too late to join our Monday night book discussion! I am really enjoying this book! Please join us every Monday at 6:30 p.m. this summer as we discuss a chapter a week.

The Zoom link will be in the Wednesday email each week. You can purchase the book on Amazon.

Hurray for our Heroes

-Our leader of the Prayer Shawl Ministry, Linda Hoeke, faithfully attends our Saturday service. She loves to greet and welcome guests and visitors.

During "Safer at Home", Linda has knit and/ crochet 5 baptismal blankets, and 3 prayer shawls. She also has crochet/ Knitted 30 dish cloths and 3 hats.

Thank you Linda for using your God given gift of Hospitality and your talent of knitting and crocheting!!



July 1

Doug & Janet Swihart

July 5

Steve & Amy Deschler
Steve & Kirsten Thompson
Melissa & Nathan Retzlaff

July 6

Joel & Beth Kaufmann
Scott & Kristie Fowler

July 9

Andy & Pat Skinner

July 12

Jim & Joan Zich

July 15

Chuck & Diane Pomerening
Steve & Jessica Hupcher

July 18

Dave & Kris Klimisch



July 19

Joel & Kathy Dutton

July 20

Jordan & Kerrie Gardina
Sean & Michelle Maddox
James & Arlene Skendziel

July 22

Lou & Patti Molitor
Roger & Dianne Wilde

July 23

Michael & Candice
Witek

July 24

David & Amanda Maedke
Ryan & Samantha
McGovern

July 27

Ron & Lou Ann Daniels

July 28

Russell & Eryn Schultz

July 29

Justin & Katie Weis

July 31

Jeff & Lindsay
Deinhammer
Kenny & Kelly
Wegmuller

- 1 Jackie McCarthy, Enzo DeBartolo, Taryn Derfus, Michael Stanislawski, Jeanine Jantz, Timothy Konz, Arael Gomez
- 2 Bruce McDonald
- 3 Nattan Degefa, Dillan Tiebout
- 4 Brenda Walentowski, Dominic Arturi, Robin Berry
- 5 Jacob Weber
- 6 John Iorio, Mikal Robinson, Mackenzie Konz, Joshua Mayerak, Everly Hanson
- 7 Kerrie Gardina
- 8 Anne Rasmussen, Joan Zich, Rose Ziemann
- 9 Abigail Nosalik, Karen Gahart, Camren Owens
- 10 Jennifer Venable, Skyler Guetschow
- 11 Denise Gifford, Rachel Wamboldt
- 12 Madeleine Meyer, Liam Thorson
- 13 Samantha Pavidonis
- 14 Ashley Skendziel
- 15 Brad Bloxdorf, Eric Corrao, Iver Iverson
- 16 Atalie Ward
- 17 Kim Voss, Serena Jones, Jacob Hiser, Rachel Bieneman
- 18 Colin Mossman
- 19 Dan Sinnen, Davan Smith, Cindy Lein
- 20 Daniel Faraca, Amanda Hanna
- 21 Tim Schiappacasse, Julia Arturi, Dan Cresco
- 22 Jazmyn Robinson, Jerry Romano, Jacob Young
- 23 Chris Daugherty, Tory Bilotta, Ann Hooper
- 25 Beth McDonald, Gabriel Cox, Justin Pierce, Norah Schiappacasse
- 26 David Rademacher, Ashley Leicht
- 27 Kris Klimisch, Candace Isetts-Williams
- 28 Kristi Schaeffer-Kleutsch, Jacob Dorst
- 29 Clara Winden, Steve Pierce, John Strott
- 30 Emma Klaus
- 31 Ivar Iverson, Jaynee Dunasky, Hayden Guetschow, Joshua Quever

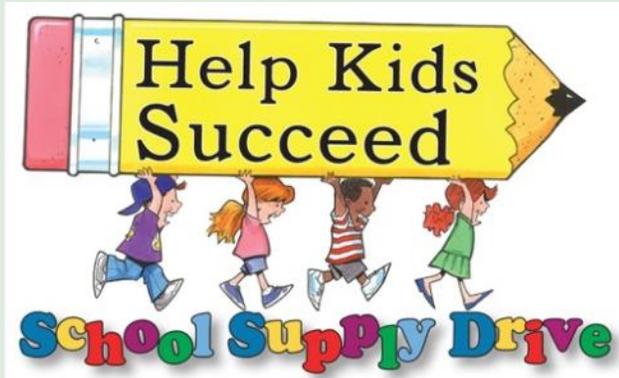


Once we have a better idea of when we'll be able to worship together again in person, we will share a schedule of volunteers.



School Supplies for the ELCA Outreach Center

Regardless of if school is held in person, or virtually, there are children who will be in need of supplies and rely on the ELCA Outreach Center to obtain them. Donations can be placed into the weatherproof box outside of the doors closest to the sanctuary at any time. Or you can [CLICK HERE](#) to shop from an Amazon wish list and the items can be delivered to church.



The suggested items to donate are:

- ⇒ No. 2 Pencils
- ⇒ Glue sticks
- ⇒ Self contained pencil sharpeners
- ⇒ Crayons—24 count box
- ⇒ Colored pencils—12 count minimum
- ⇒ Washable markers—8 count minimum
- ⇒ Wide ruled, 70 page spiral notebooks
- ⇒ Wide ruled filler paper



www.facebook.com/LordofLifeKenosha