



The Love Letter

Volume 41

April 2013

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Worship Schedule

Sun. 8:00 a.m. Worship Service

Sun. 9:15 a.m. Sunday School

Sun. 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Mission Statement: Celebrating and sharing God's love in a welcoming community of faith, while serving others.

A Look Ahead

Christ is risen, and spring is here! April looks to be a busy month at Lord of Love. See how you can be involved in the life of our church family in this issue of *The Love Letter*.

On Sunday, April 7, join Ed and Janet Guthrie as they celebrate their **65th wedding anniversary** with an open house at Lord of Love (see page 5, Nurture).

On Saturday, April 13, shop at the Lord of Love **Preschool garage sale!** If you have items to donate, you can drop them off in the fellowship hall beginning on Monday, April 8 (see page 5, Nurture).

On Sunday, April 14, attend a **Legacy of Giving presentation** on estate planning at 11:45 a.m. (see pages 9 and 10, Resources).

On Monday, April 15, our **men's softball** team will kickoff its season at Kelly Field. All men 16 and older are invited to participate, and everyone else is encouraged to attend the game and cheer them on (see page 5, Nurture).

On Sunday, April 21, we will again celebrate our **prayer shawl ministry**. Anyone who has not received a prayer shawl is invited to stop by the table in the narthex between worship services and following the 10:30 a.m. worship service (see page 12, Women of Love).

Finally, on Saturday April 27, volunteer at the church for **spring cleanup day!** Help with the upkeep of our facilities through both outdoor and indoor tasks (see page 9, Resources).

In This Issue

Pastor's Page	2	Church Council	10
Monthly Calendar	3	Women of Love	12
Worship	4	In Our Prayers	15
Nurture.....	5	Love Notes	15
Outreach.....	8	Mark Your Calendar	16
Resources	9		

Moments of Pause by Pastor Brad

Throughout Lent, we were encouraged to take "Moments of Pause" to reflect on Jesus, prayer, God's wonder, and serving others. These moments of pause were to help us look inwardly at our relationship with God as we approached the cross and the resurrection.

Easter has come. Christ is risen! But our "Moments of Pause" are not over. Like the disciples who gathered after hearing from the women that the tomb was empty, we too take a moment to ponder what this message means for us.

Jesus' resurrection shows that his love for us is stronger than death and his love for us is experienced in the times of stillness that we spend with him. As the disciples walked on the road to Emmaus, they experienced Jesus' presence. As the disciples gathered "behind locked doors," Jesus appeared to them. Mary encountered Jesus at the tomb as she tried to find him. Even after Thomas doubted, Jesus revealed himself as the risen Christ. Jesus'

presence was revealed to those who sought him out, who desired to spend more time with him.

Henri Nouwen wrote: "O Lord, I know now that it is in silence, in a quiet moment, in a forgotten corner that you will meet me, call me by name and speak to me a word of peace. It is in my stillest hour that you become the risen Lord to me."

May your Easter be filled with moments spent with the risen Christ as he reveals himself to you in moments of stillness.

In your moments of pause, pray: *Lord, the life you have given me and the new life you have won for me are treasures that will never decay. Help me to appreciate them deeply, today and through the Easter Season.*

Peace,
Pastor Brad



MONTHLY CALENDAR

April 2013						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 6:00pm "Gather" Bible Study @ Old Country Buffet 8:00pm AA & Al Anon	2 Primary Election 9:00am Quilters 7:00pm Vision & Coordination Mtg.	3 6:00pm Brass 6:00pm "Gather" Bible Study 7:15pm Chancel Choir	4 9:30am Text Study at Guthrie's 7:00pm Boy Scouts	5 7:30pm AA Meeting	6 7:00am Men's Breakfast Ministry
7 8:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 2:00pm Freeman Recital 2:00pm Guthrie 65th Anniv. 6:00pm & 7:00 PM Bell Choir	8 Sanctuary Furnace replacement begins 8:00pm AA & Al Anon	9 7:00pm Sunnyslope Neighborhood Assoc.	10 5:30pm Supper 5:30pm Luther Kids 6:00pm Ministry Team Mtg. 6:00pm Brass 7:15pm Chancel Choir	11 9:30am Text Study at Guthrie's 7:00pm Boy Scouts	12 Garage Sale Set-up 8:00am Crane Coffee 7:30pm AA Meeting	13 7:00am Men's Breakfast Ministry 7:30am Preschool Garage Sale
14 8:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 11:45am Legacy of Giving 4:00pm Sunnyslope Pool Assoc. 6:00pm & 7:00 PM Bell Choir	15 8:00pm AA & Al Anon	16 9:00am Quilters 7:00pm Church Council	17 5:00pm 8th grade Confirmation 5:30pm Supper 5:30pm Luther Kids 6:00pm Brass 7:15pm Chancel Choir	18 9:30am Text Study at Guthrie's 7:00pm Boy Scouts	19 7:30pm AA Meeting	20 7:00am Men's Breakfast Ministry
21 8:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 12:00pm Pennell Shower 3:00pm Novak-Haar Recital 6:00pm & 7:00 PM Bell Choir	22 8:00pm AA & Al Anon	23	24 5:00pm 8th grade Confirmation 5:30pm Luther Kids 5:30pm Supper 6:00pm Brass 7:15pm Chancel Choir	25 9:30am Text Study at Guthrie's 7:00pm Boy Scouts	26 8:00am Crane Coffee 7:30pm AA Meeting	27 7:00am Men's Breakfast Ministry 8:00am Spring Clean-up 8:00am Worship Planning 8:00am Novak Workshop
28 8:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 1:00pm District 18 AA Mtg. 6:00pm & 7:00 PM Bell Choir	29 8:00pm AA & Al Anon	30				

WORSHIP



Lord of Love's Worship Servants

	April 7	April 14	April 21	April 28
Greeters				
8:00 a.m.	Dale and Karen Finck	Jim and Jeri Morgan	Ed and Marjorie Keiser	Dawn Burton, Chelsie Drakulich
10:30 a.m.	E.J. Shaner, Jane Hawkins	Roger and Angie Meyer	Nate and Brooke Penn	Dave and Lisa Rieff
Liturgist				
8:00 a.m.	Paul Murphy	Shawn Lorenzen	David Hild	Deb Lund
10:30 a.m.	Don Rowen	Rex Quadhamer	Karen Armitage	Susan Lueders
Communion Servers				
8:00 a.m.	Vandeventer family and Peg Murphy	Van Arsdale family	Combes family	Lund family
10:30 a.m.	Rowen family	Lynette Nore and Christopher Boarts	Armitage family	Lueders family
Altar Care				
8:00 a.m.	Klos family	Deb Christenson	Doug and Rose Roberts, Caroline Tessin	Vandeventer girls
10:30 a.m.	Deb Quadhamer, Judy Messerschmidt	Diana Haye, Marcia Roads	Debra Gillespie, Karen Armitage	Brenda and Suzanne Mac
Ushers				
8:00 a.m.	Kenn Garder, Matt Garder, Paul and Deb Christenson, Craig Pennell			
10:30 a.m.	Rett Messerschmidt, Rob Anderson, Paul Barnett			
Nursery Attendant(s)				
10:30 a.m.	Anne Yarger	Sarah Horan	Lisa Rieff	Ashley Meier
CD Recorder				
8:00 or 10:30	Pat Brewer	Paul Christenson	Karen Pickens	Brian Fanders



Ed and Janet Guthrie 65th Wedding Anniversary Open House

Please join us on Sunday, April 7, 2013, to celebrate Ed and Janet Guthrie's 65th Wedding Anniversary. The Open House will be held from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. in the Lord of Love Fellowship Hall. Your presence is the only gift desired.



Men's Softball

All men (16 and older) are invited to participate on the Lord of Love Men's softball team. We will be playing on Monday nights at Kelly Field from April 15 to early August. If you are interested in playing, contact Don Rowen at 402-965-8977 or drowen@unomaha.edu. We will have practice on Sunday, April 14, weather permitting.



Preschool News

Lord of Love Preschool is now accepting registrations for the 2013-2014 school year. Please contact Michelle Petersen for more information and tours. Classes are offered Monday-Friday from 9:15 to 11:45 a.m. for 3 to 5 year olds.

The preschool's annual fundraiser Garage Sale is scheduled for Saturday, April 13 from 7:30 to 10:30 a.m. Donations can be dropped off in the fellowship hall beginning April 8. Thanks for your support of Lord of Love Preschool!



Junior Choir

All children who are in 1st grade and up are welcome to join the Junior Choir! In April, practices will be held on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 to 7:25 p.m. in the Joseph Room. If you have questions, please contact Jane Hawkins at 402-343-1680 (please leave a message).



Weekly Education Opportunities at Lord of Love

Sunday

9:15 a.m. Sunday School (Preschool – High School) @ LOL Classrooms
Adult Studies @ LOL Abraham, Mary, and Joseph Rooms

Monday

6:00 p.m. *Gather* Bible Study @ Old Country Buffet (first Monday of month)

Wednesday

5:00 p.m. Confirmation (7th & 8th grades) @ LOL Abraham Room
6:00 p.m. Luther Kids (1st – 6th grades) @ LOL Preschool
6:00 p.m. *Gather* Bible Study @ LOL Mary Room (first Wednesday of month)

Thursday

9:30 a.m. Text Study @ Guthrie's

Saturday

7:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast and Bible Study @ LOL Fellowship Hall

Grow in Faith, Affirm Our Gifts – Adult Forum to Celebrate Women of the ELCA

Along with the 25th anniversary of ELCA, the Women of the ELCA celebrate their 25th anniversary. Join us for the adult forum on Sunday, April 7, at 9:15 a.m. to learn how the Women of the ELCA have changed, how they have grown, and how they have affirmed their gifts.

The Women of the ELCA are called to discipleship in Jesus Christ and are empowered by the Holy Spirit. They commit to engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society, and the world. How can this be done? Ministry is for all of us to do—men, women, and children.

W/ELCA is most likely thought of as starting in the kitchen serving church potluck luncheons and funeral lunches. Even though we continue to do those events, we now reach across the globe bringing health and wholeness. We provide seed grant monies enabling women to continue their integrated agricultural projects to farm 50 acres of donated land to grow cash crops—cocoa, bananas, and capsule. Another seed grant was planted in the form of funding the purchase of a four-wheel drive vehicle enabling the women to monitor the farming, go for training, travel to market, etc. Through the Women of the ELCA, women are helped; they help their communities: the women, the men, and the children.

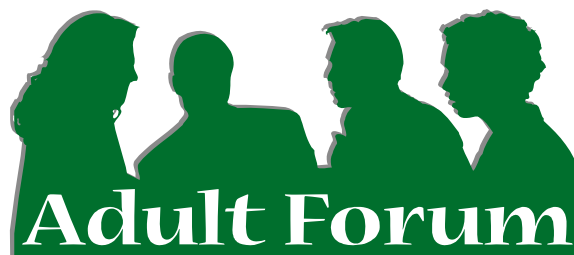


The W/ELCA logo—with the cross, water, and a white lily—identifies women as children of God: baptized, forgiven, adopted into God's family, full of grace and hope in eternal life. It is a reminder of the growth, beauty, and vitality that rises out of that life-giving baptismal water. It is also a reminder of the mission of the church to “Go, therefore, make disciples of all nations; baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit” (Matthew 28:19).

We invite you to attend the April 7 adult forum; to learn, share, and celebrate our history; and to learn of the works we are doing today to help everyone. This adult forum is for **everyone!** Come celebrate our anniversary with us and enjoy some cake.

Adult Education Opportunities in April

After hearing about planning for our future through Lutheran Planned Giving's “Legacy of Giving” presentation on April 14, we will continue discussion on Sundays, April 21 and 28 at 9:15 a.m. covering decisions about final arrangements at the time of our death. Discussion will be led by a local mortician and by Pastor Brad addressing the specifics of what a mortuary handles and giving you resources and support to plan your funeral.



For additional information, see the articles on a Legacy of Giving on pages 9 and 10, Resources.

Welcome New Members at Lord of Love!

We welcome these new members into the Lord of Love family:

- Dale and Karen Finck
- Jesse, Kylie, and Easton Kulp
- E.J. Shaner
- Delina Wiater
- Matthew and Lisa Willard
- Wayne and Joan Witt

We pray for God's blessings as they join us in ministry.



SonWest Roundup Vacation Bible School

Spring is officially here, and that means VBS is just around the corner! It's time to head out to SonWest Roundup VBS where buckaroos learn to trust Jesus!

Ride the trail through the Old Testament stories of Moses to help kids discover Jesus' unchangeable love. Kids will enjoy heart racin' activities like games, crafts, music, skits, Bible stories, and more!

VBS will run from Monday, June 10, through Friday, June 14, with a family dinner available from 6:00 to 6:30 p.m. and VBS from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Help our VBS program be a success! We are looking for volunteers to mosey around with the buckaroos and lead them through the evening's events, including volunteers to lead and share the Bible Story, Game time, Music, and Opening and/or Closing. We also need greeters at the registration desk each evening for about 1/2 an hour. Creation and set up of decorations with a Wild West theme are on the agenda, too. Jr. Volunteers are needed as helping hands and extra support in all areas.

If you are interested in learning more or volunteering, contact VBS Coordinator, Heather Christensen at 402-415-4571 or rn94@yahoo.com.

See y'all soon!!

Summer Breakfasts

Even though spring just started, summer will be here soon! We will have breakfast after the 9:00 a.m. summer worship service beginning the Sunday after Memorial Day and ending the Sunday before Labor Day.



A free-will offering is taken for the breakfasts, and the members who prepare and serve the breakfast take the amount for the food out of that offering and the rest will go to an organization or cause yet to be determined.

Please consider sharing your cooking talents to help prepare breakfast and promote fellowship!



The ELCA Malaria Campaign

The ELCA Malaria Campaign, an initiative rolled out by the 2011 ELCA Churchwide Assembly that works with Lutheran churches in Africa to prevent, treat, and contain the disease by 2015, is helping the Lutheran Communion in Southern Africa to create new programs in Angola, Mozambique, Malawi, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. These programs are meant to change the way people think about malaria prevention by reshaping culture altogether.

We cannot ignore the fact that within a poor socioeconomic group, there is a higher possibility for a more severe attack by HIV and AIDS, says Lucas Owuor-Omondi, who works with the Lutheran Communion in Southern Africa's Malaria Programme, a partner of the ELCA Malaria Campaign. HIV and AIDS and poverty work together. HIV and AIDS and malaria are good friends. They destroy and destroy very fast. So in order to fight malaria, Lucas says, it's essential to fight poverty.



In northwestern Zambia, for example, people are engaged in beekeeping but often aren't connected to the marketplace to make money from their harvest. What the program has done is that through introducing the value chain component, they have linked these beekeepers with the appropriate people in the private sector, Lucas shares, and these people have now introduced a different way of keeping the bees in terms of improved beehives, improved harvesting of honey. But what is more important, Lucas continues, is that the program has linked the beekeepers with the market in Lusaka, which is the capital, and already some money has come back and people are already giving testimonies of the kind of difference that this has made in their lives. A similar program in Mozambique is connecting sugarcane farmers with ways to improve harvest and link up with manufacturers who can use the sugarcane in their products.

The idea is that as people are able to make a sustainable living for themselves, they will use their money to not only provide a safer, healthier lifestyle for themselves but also to contribute to improving the community. And perhaps with an improved quality of life, people will have more time to focus on learning more about and actively trying to prevent malaria.

Through the gradual introduction of a high level of awareness, it is actually possible if that is backed up with a capacity to be able to afford that net, Lucas says. Our hidden agenda is that they'll not just buy cars, that they will remember the nets.



ELCA Malaria Campaign
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

RESOURCES

Serving in Faith and Love: Spring Cleanup Day

Though an emphasis this past anniversary year has been on service outside of our church building, the Stewardship Committee encourages each of us to help at Lord of Love at this spring's cleanup day on Saturday, April 27 from 8:00 a.m. to noon. There are tasks to do both outdoors and indoors. Come for all or part of that morning to assist in maintaining and improving our facilities. If you cannot be present, perhaps you would be willing to provide some treats for the workers!

We are blessed with generous, kind people who give freely of their time to help others. Thanks so much to all of you who show God's love to others by sharing of your time, talents, and treasures.



Legacy of Giving

Gather with us on Sunday, April 14, for a Legacy of Giving presentation from 11:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall at Lord of Love. A catered meal will be served at 11:45 a.m. provided by the Mission Investment Fund.



**Lutheran
Planned
Giving
Services**

Craig Stirtz of Lutheran Planned Giving Services will give a presentation covering estate planning basics, including ways people can give to loved ones and to ministry or charity, as well as on mistakes people make when creating their wills or trusts (for example, paying too much in taxes, giving the wrong assets to their children, and not taking advantage of charitable vehicles).

Lutheran Planned Giving offers free, confidential, focused planning including creating your first wills and power of attorney, personal property lists, living trusts, or updating any of these instruments.

This will be a very beneficial presentation to help in the responsible planning of your estate. Please consider attending this presentation! No products or services will be sold.



Legacy of Giving – Plan Ahead by Deb Lund

It is difficult for us to take time to plan as much as we ought, and finding time to discuss end-of-life issues with one's spouse or a family member is very easily put off. However, making plans for our finances and for the care of our children or dependents at the time of our death is so very important. Having control of our own end-of-life arrangements not only ensures that things are done according to our wishes, but can make issues so much easier for family members, too. Written plans also enable us to give to organizations and people who are special to us. Preparing end-of-life documents should be seen as an essential aspect of total stewardship, as it is a final way of taking care of our earthly gifts.

Continued on the next page

RESOURCES

Legacy of Giving – Plan Ahead, continued

Brian and I started doing more long-term financial planning when we were expecting our oldest child. We had attended adult Sunday school sessions with Pastor Frank and then local Lutheran Planned Giving representative Keith Nelson about end-of-life matters. Keith visited with us in our home to help us prepare for meeting with an attorney to draft a will. We decided to include preambles in our wills that are statements of faith. The toughest issue was determining who would be guardians for our children. There are many decisions to make, and they're not always easy. One subject that we readily agreed on was that a portion of our estate would be given to Augustana College, Sioux Falls; and another to Lord of Love Lutheran Church. Though our daughter was very young at the time, we felt it was a fundamental part of our stewardship to show our heirs that we give something back to God, even in death.

Attending the Legacy of Giving Presentation and lunch on Sunday, April 14 is one way to help you prepare end-of-life decisions. Two other opportunities for learning more about related issues will be during the adult forum sessions at 9:15 a.m. on Sundays, April 21 and April 28. There will be some time to review ideas from the Legacy of Giving session on April 21, and a guest from John A Gentleman Mortuaries will be with us to discuss funeral home decisions. The focus on April 28 will be planning our own funerals. Please consider spending time those Sundays in April to prepare your legacy in giving.

COUNCIL REPORT

Our Giving Status by Barb Haskins, Council Treasurer

General Fund financial information for February 2013 is as follows:

- Income: \$23,403
- Expenses: \$25,737



General Fund financial information for the year to date (through February 28, 2013) is as follows:

- Income: \$45,514
- Expenses: \$43,670

Thank you for your commitment to Lord of Love's ministry.

2013 Lord of Love Church Council

Executive Committee: Brian Lund, President; Kenn Garder, Vice-President; Judy Messerschmidt, Secretary; Barb Haskins, Treasurer

Nurture: Paula Foster, Lori Vandeventer

Outreach: Mike Klos, Karen Anderson

Resources: Rex Quadhamer, Paul Concannon

Worship: Randi VenHuizen, Pat Brewer



CHURCH COUNCIL

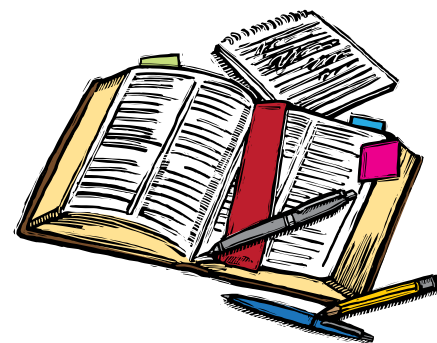
From the Council President – April 2013 by Brian Lund, Council President

Psalm 25 4-5 (NRSV) *Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation;*

Guess what? I don't read the Bible very much. I'm not averse to reading it, I just don't often take the time to just sit and read the Bible as I do other books. I do enjoy hearing God's word read each Sunday along with the insight provided by good preaching and teaching. I have read parts of the Bible when participating in study of specific books or topics. And, I do periodically search for Bible verses that address certain issues and questions that are of interest to me or help me prepare for our weekly Sunday school lesson.

So, I guess I really do read the Bible. I refer to it as needed. I use the Bible as a guide for my life, addressing my need for perspective and direction. I use it to find answers to questions or gain insight into controversial topics. Even though I may come away with more questions, the Bible provides me with a better understanding of God's will for my life.

How about you? Are you making time or taking the time to listen to God's word and to see how it addresses your life? Maybe you can be like me and use the Bible to shed light on a topic or to give needed direction to your life. Try it sometime. See how God can speak to you.



Recently our Sunday school class reviewed the Psalms and Wisdom literature books of the Old Testament. I was reminded of Bible passages that inspired the writers of hymns, choral anthems, and spirituals. I find it fascinating how the sometimes-stodgy language of the Bible is interpreted into words and music of faith, hope, love, prayer, and praise. I am grateful that talented people have been inspired to bring God's word alive to us through music. It makes me a little curious to look up the verses attributed to the hymns and anthems. Maybe I'll use those as another excuse to avoid reading through the Bible.

Isaiah 12:5-6 (NRSV) *Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth. Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.*

Let us give thanks and praise to God for His blessings and grace for all his people.

Thank you for your generous support of the ministry programs of Lord of Love. We reach out to meet the special needs of our members, our community, and others throughout our country and world through many different ministry teams. The ministry teams are open to all members. Ask a church council member about how you can get more involved in the ministry of our congregation. If asked to serve, please prayerfully consider giving of your time and skills.

Please continue to pray the ELCA, Bishop Hansen, our Nebraska Synod, Bishop Brian Maas and his staff, Pastor Brad, our congregation, and our ministry together.

Blessings in faith and service,
Brian Lund

WOMEN OF LOVE

Prayer Shawl Sunday

Another Prayer Shawl Sunday will be held on April 21 between worship services and following the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Anyone who has not received one, please stop by the table in the narthex. If you need one or would like one for a friend before April 21, they are available, along with prayer cards, from Marilyn Thomsen or Ruth Manning.



Prayer Shawl Ministry

Ladies Coffee Fellowship

Ladies, you're invited to join coffee fellowship at Crane Coffee, 77th and Cass Streets, on Fridays, April 12 and 26 at 8:00 a.m.

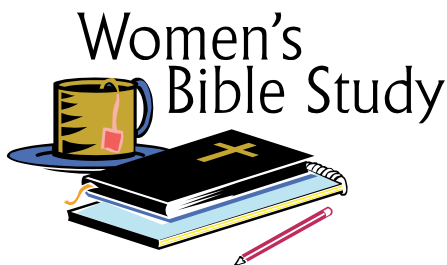


The gift of the prayer shawl is to be able to wrap someone in prayer, to be comforted and held when in pain or sorrow, and be safe and warm in God's presence.



Gather Bible Study

The theme for Session 8 of the Bible study, "Gathered to Share the Story: Story-telling," is based on Acts 14:27, *When they arrived, they called the church together and related all that God had done with them, and how he had opened a door of faith for the Gentiles.*



Women's Bible Study

You are invited to attend one of two study groups. The Monday evening group will meet at the Old Country Buffet, 145th and West Center Road, on April 1 at 6:00 p.m., and the Wednesday evening group will meet on April 3 at 6:00 p.m. in the Mary Room.

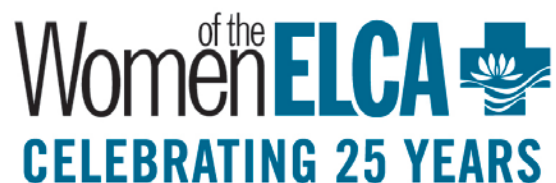
Women's Ministry Team

The Women's Ministry Team will not meet this month.



LOL Women of Love

Please join us during the Adult Forum at 9:15 a.m. on Sunday, April 7 as we celebrate the Women of the ELCA's 25th anniversary. Check out our display and register for a 1-year subscription to the official W/ELCA magazine, *Gather*. See the article on page 6, Nurture, for detailed information.



Spring Gathering

It was a beautiful spring-like day when 100+ women attended the annual NSWO Metro East Spring Gathering on Saturday, March 9 at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Millard. Attending from Lord of Love were Val Florea and Ruth Manning. The vocal group "Manna," from St. Paul's, led the gathering music.



Praise & Prayer

Bishop Brian Maas' Bible study focused on the theme, "Lift Up Your Hands in Praise." Using the Latin word "orans" which translates into "prayer," he shared several different "orans" postures, or prayer positions. The positions of prayer are a sign of vulnerability or surrender, blessing, welcome, and service. The four gestures Jesus used during the Lord's Supper were taking, blessing, breaking, and eating. Our prayers should be like Jesus on the cross, dying to self.

Offering was collected with $\frac{1}{2}$ going to Churchwide Women of the ELCA, $\frac{1}{4}$ to the ELCA Malaria Campaign, and $\frac{1}{4}$ to NSWO. As of that day, a total of \$1735 had been received. Tangible offerings were collected for Mosaic, and there were many contributions to support that ministry.

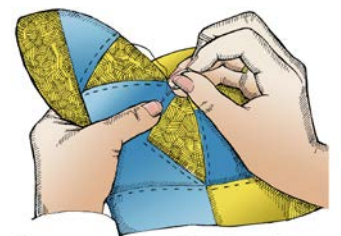
The business meeting included various reports and election of the 2014 Spring Gathering planning team and nominating committee. Ruth Manning was elected to the planning team. St. Michael Lutheran invited us to hold next year's gathering at their church (date TBA).

A delicious luncheon was served at noon at "birthday" tables decorated by the participating units to recognize Women of the ELCA's 25th birthday. Following the luncheon, gathering participants had the opportunity to attend two of seven workshops.



Quilting Ministry

Do you have about 3 hours available on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday mornings of the month? The ladies who make quilts for Lutheran World Relief could use some more helping hands. Sewing ability is not required.... If you can pin a back and front of a quilt together and tie the finished quilt, you are welcome! Also, fabric is needed for quilt backs. It must be sturdy; flat sheets in good condition are an excellent choice. If you have any questions, contact Nancy Shinrock. The quilters meet in the fellowship hall, and coffee and goodies are always available.



QUILTING GROUP

WOMEN OF LOVE

Saved to Serve Opportunity on June 7–9 at Bethphage Mission in Axtell, NE



Celebrating
100 Years!

Bethphage's 100th birthday party is being planned, and this is your opportunity to help with the preparations. Wow Mosaic! Help spruce up flower beds, touch up paint, wash windows, and make the facilities sparkle for anniversary visitors discovering or returning to a place that has touched the lives of those with physical and intellectual disabilities and their loved ones. Stay at the retreat center on the Bethphage Mission Campus, spend time with some of the residents, worship at the historic Zion Chapel, grow through a multi-part Bible study, and enjoy a special entertainment activity on Saturday evening.

The cost for each STSO Retreat weekend is still just \$39, which includes lodging, most meals, and a t-shirt. Participants will be contacted before the event with more information. The registration deadline is May 6. Send your check (payable to NSWOW) to NSWOW Treasurer JoAnn Rohrs, 1409 10th Street, Auburn, Nebraska 68305.

"-----"

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Church Name: _____ Church _____

Town: _____ E-mail: _____

___ Midlands ___ X ___ Metro East ___ SE ___ High Plains ___ NE ___ Central ___ So. Prairie

Dates to Remember

April

1	6:00 p.m.	<i>Gather</i> Bible Study, Old Country Buffet, 145 th and West Center Road
2	9:00 a.m.	Quilters, Fellowship Hall
3	6:00 p.m.	<i>Gather</i> Bible Study, Mary Room
5-6		Women's Retreat at St. Benedict's Center, Schuyler
7	9:15 a.m.	25 th Anniversary Celebration, Women of the ELCA
10		No Ministry Team Meeting
12	8:00 a.m.	Coffee Fellowship, Crane Coffee, 77 th and Cass
16	9:00 a.m.	Quilters, Fellowship Hall
26	8:00 a.m.	Coffee Fellowship, Crane Coffee, 77 th and Cass



Women of the ELCA

Looking Forward

September 20-22, 2013	NSWO Convention, Holiday Inn, Kearney
July 22-24, 2014	Ninth Triennial Convention of the Women of the ELCA, Charlotte, NC
July 24-27, 2014	Ninth Triennial Gathering of the Women of the ELCA, Charlotte, NC

IN OUR PRAYERS & LOVE NOTES

In Our Prayers

Diana Baker (friend of the Thoms)
Chris Beckman (friend of Jane Gehringer)
Dick Bell
James Cantrell (uncle of Gwen Edwards)
Ann Christiansen
Claire Foral (friend of Dave and Lisa Rieff)
Nick Gehrig (grandson of the Schuchards)
Mike Gillotte (neighbor of Bill and Karen Pickens)
Joei Harris (friend of Gwen Edwards)
Cathy Johnson (friend of Marilyn Thomsen)
Cheryl Jones (friend of Nancy Shinrock)
Dolores Jordan (aunt of Paula Foster)
Jude Konvalina
Donna Lueders (mother of Dave Lueders)
Lisa Lueders (sister-in-law of Dave Lueders)
Brenda Mac
Jim Mahler (brother of Jane Hawkins)
Marj Mahler (mother of Jane Hawkins)
Debbie Michalak (co-worker of Jackie Combes)
Brenda Nobles (friend of Gwen Edwards)
Karen Pickens
Dan Piehl (brother of Deb Lund)
David Pippin (nephew of Lynda McGraw)
Judy Quest (friend of Jane Gehringer)
Isaac Schroeder (infant son of Clay and Kelly)

Jill Sheridan (sister-in-law of Rebecca Lund Sheridan)
Georgene Sones (mother of Dayla Miller)
Ron Stoffers (friend of the Millers)
Ron and Brenda Thom
Roslynn Thom (sister of Ron Tom)
Marilyn Thomsen
Bill Wallway (uncle of Kenn Garder)
Ted Whitfield (former co-worker of Brian Shinrock)
Jeff Wise (friend of the Thoms)

Those deployed around the world:

Kelvin
Veronica Barnes and her fiancé Jake Harmon
Andrew Briggs
Terry Duke
Jesse Kinney
Nash Oltman

Children waiting to be adopted & those seeking to adopt

Men's servant ministry
Stephen Ministers and their care receivers
Those seeking employment
Those who mourn

If you would like to add a name to the In Our Prayers section of *The Love Letter*, please contact the office at 402.493.2946, send an email to marylou@lord-of-love.org, or fill out a prayer request note available in the narthex and place it in the basket. **Please help keep this list current by informing us when a name can be removed.** Thanks!

Love Notes

Happy 65th Anniversary to

Ed and Janet Guthrie!

With Love from your

Lord of Love family



Return Service Requested

Mission Statement: Celebrating and sharing God's love in a welcoming community of faith, while serving others.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

This Month

April 5-6	Annual Women's Retreat at St. Benedict Center near Schuyler
April 7	Guthrie 65 th Anniversary
April 13	Preschool Garage Sale
April 14	Legacy of Giving presentation
April 15	Men's Softball begins
April 21	Prayer Shawl Sunday
April 27	Spring Cleanup Day

Upcoming Events

May 5	Confirmation Sunday
May 31-June 2	2013 Nebraska Synod Assembly in Kearney
June 10-14	SonWest Roundup Vacation Bible School



Articles for The Love Letter can be submitted to the editor, Kim Gust, in the Love Letter mailbox at church or by email at loveletter@lord-of-love.org. Articles must be received by the Love Letter editor by the 20th of the month.