



# The Love Letter

Volume 41

June 2013

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Brian Lund

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Heidi Meyer

## Summer Worship Schedule

Sun. 9:00 a.m. Worship Service

Sun. 10:00 a.m. Breakfast and  
Fellowship

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

## A Look Ahead

Is it really summer? It's been hard to tell with our crazy Nebraska weather. Regardless of the temperatures outside, summer activities are heating up at Lord of Love!

We are now on our **summer worship schedule**, with one worship service at 9:00 a.m. (see page 4, Worship). Those interested in providing **special music** for summer worship can sign up in the Narthex (see page 4, Worship).

Following worship, **summer breakfast** will be served in the Fellowship Hall (see page 5, Nurture). The proceeds this year will go to the **ELCA Malaria Campaign** (see page 7, Outreach).

SonWest Roundup **Vacation Bible School** will be held June 10-14, with a family dinner available from 5:30 to 6:00 p.m. and VBS from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. It's not too late to register or volunteer (see page 6, Nurture).

A new **church photo directory** is being developed, and portrait sessions will be held at Lord of Love on June 27-29 and July 12-13 (see page 7, Outreach). Schedule your appointment online today!

The **Lord of Love community garden** has been planted, and you can help with weeding and watering (see page 7, Outreach).

Finally, the **Men's News Corner** and the **LOL Youth** sections of *The Love Letter* have been revived! Men can learn about the Saturday breakfast ministry and other activities, and both youth and adults can check out the youth page to learn about what's coming up and to view photos of past events!

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### A Simpler Life? by Pastor Brad

I've heard more and more people saying, "Things used to be simpler." "People were not in such a hurry when I grew up!" "I've acquired so much stuff; it's time to simplify and get rid of some of it."

With the recent move into our new home, we can relate to "too much stuff" and "attempting to make life simpler." We didn't get rid of a lot of stuff, but we do have fewer steps to climb!

Do you desire a simpler life? Many people do. It seems as if we're too busy, have too much stuff, or owe too much money, etc.... But what should we do about it? A drastic reaction is to think that obtaining the "simpler life" involves getting rid of our cell phones, cable television, DVRs, or other technology. Or maybe it would mean being involved in fewer activities that cause us to hurry from one event to another. I don't think it requires all that.

What it does involve is identifying the things that bring quality and contentment to your life. When you identify those things or people who are really important to you, your life takes on more meaning rather than just accumulating stuff or being busy.

I read this recently: "For most of us, our problem isn't that we need *more*. What we need is *better*. Do you have any things you no longer use or wear because they no longer add value to our life? Get rid of them (give them to people who don't have any stuff). Is your schedule so overloaded that you don't have time for those people or those activities that add to your life rather than taking away from it?"

Thomas Kelly wrote that our deepest need "is not food and clothing and shelter, important as they are. It is God." Adding a better relationship with God is more important than gathering stuff or just being busy. So rather than getting more "stuff," we need to spend more time with God.

Setting aside time with God is not just another thing to add to our schedules but rather, I would offer, a blessing that enriches our lives as we recognize God's presence throughout our day. Spending time with God may not make your life "simpler," but it will make it much more enjoyable as you feel God's presence around you and accumulate God's love.

Peace,  
Pastor Brad



# MONTHLY CALENDAR

June 2013						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b> 7:00am Men's Breakfast Ministry 4:00pm Granada Townhomes Assoc.
<b>2</b> 9:00am Worship & Communion 10:00am Summer Breakfast	<b>3</b> 6:00pm "Gather" Bible Study @ Old Country Buffet 8:00pm AA & Al Anon	<b>4</b> 9:00am Quilters 7:00pm Vision & Coordination Mtg.	<b>5</b> 6:00pm "Gather" Bible Study	<b>6</b> 9:30am Text Study at Guthrie's 7:00pm Boy Scouts	<b>7</b> 8:00am Crane Coffee 7:30pm AA Meeting	<b>8</b> 7:00am Men's Breakfast Ministry
<b>9</b> 9:00am Worship & Communion 10:00am Summer Breakfast	<b>10</b> 5:30pm VBS Family Friendly Dinner 6:00pm Vacation Bible School 8:00pm AA & Al Anon	<b>11</b> 5:30pm VBS Family Friendly Dinner 6:00pm Vacation Bible School	<b>12</b> 5:30pm VBS Family Friendly Dinner 6:00pm Vacation Bible School	<b>13</b> 9:30am Text Study at Guthrie's 5:30pm VBS Family Friendly Dinner 6:00pm Vacation Bible School	<b>14</b> 5:30pm VBS Family Friendly Dinner 6:00pm Vacation Bible School 7:30pm AA Meeting	<b>15</b> 7:00am Men's Breakfast Ministry
<b>16</b> 9:00am Worship & Communion 10:00am Summer Breakfast	<b>17</b> 8:00pm AA & Al Anon	<b>18</b> 6:00pm Women's Ministry Team Mtg. 7:00pm Church Council	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 9:30am Text Study at Guthrie's 7:00pm Boy Scouts	<b>21</b> 8:00am Crane Coffee 7:30pm AA Meeting	<b>22</b> 7:00am Men's Breakfast Ministry 3:00pm Pennell/Beult Wedding
<b>23</b> 9:00am Worship & Communion 10:00am Summer Breakfast 10:45am New Member Session	<b>24</b> 8:00pm AA & Al Anon	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Directory Photo's 2 pm-9 pm 9:30am Text Study at Guthrie's 7:00pm Boy Scouts	<b>28</b> Directory Photo's 2 pm-9 pm 7:30pm AA Meeting	<b>29</b> Directory Photo's 10 am - 5 pm 7:00am Men's Breakfast Ministry
<b>30</b> 9:00am Worship & Communion 10:00am Summer Breakfast 1:00pm District 18 AA Mtg.						

## Summer Worship Schedule and Summer Music

Our summer worship schedule began on Memorial Day weekend and will continue through Labor Day weekend (September 1). **During the summer, we will have one worship service on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m.** Following worship, summer breakfast will be served in the Fellowship Hall. Additional details on summer breakfast are provided on page 5, Nurture, and on page 7, Outreach.



The sign-up sheet for summer music is on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Do you have musical talents that you can share with us during worship this summer? If so, select a Sunday and sign up!



### Lord of Love's Worship Servants

	June 2	June 9	June 16	June 23	June 30
Greeters					
9:00 a.m.	Paul and Ann Kroll	Woody and Mardi Fiske	Kenn and Shari Garder	Debra Gillespie, Paula Foster	Wayne and Joan Witt
Liturgist					
9:00 a.m.	Paul Christenson	Randi VenHuizen	Doug Aden	Brian Fanders	Deb Lund
Communion Servers					
9:00 a.m.	Combes family	Brad and Randi VenHuizen	Doug and Cathy Aden	Men's Ministry	Lund family
Altar Care					
9:00 a.m.	Mike and Christie Klos	Deb Quadhamer, Judy Messerschmidt	Deb Christenson	Diana Haye, Marcia Roads	Doug and Rose Roberts, Caroline Tessin
Ushers					
9:00 a.m.	Combes family		Dave Lueders, Adam Lueders, Brad VenHuizen, Lynnette Nore, Christopher Boarts		
Nursery Attendant(s)					
9:00 a.m.	Anne Yarger	Sarah Horan	Lisa Rieff	Ashley Meier	Traci Cadwallader
CD Recorder					
9:00 a.m.	Pat Brewer	Paul Christenson	Karen Pickens	Brian Fanders	Brian Fanders





## Summer Breakfasts

Summer Breakfasts will be served in the Fellowship Hall after our 9:00 a.m. worship service each Sunday morning from June 2 through August 25.



The Summer Breakfast sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Narthex. June 2<sup>nd</sup> has been claimed, but at the time of this writing, all of the other Sundays are available.

Please consider signing up to prepare and serve breakfast on one Sunday morning this summer! Plan to make enough food for 50 to 60 people. This is a wonderful way to share your cooking skills, or just make a simple breakfast of pastries and juice. The important part is for fellowship and service.

All proceeds go to ELCA Malaria Project to provide supplies to prevent and eliminate malaria in that country.

## Gifts for Tanzanian Nursing Student

Tanzanian nursing student Aimbora Silaa graduated and passed her nursing boards! A stethoscope, blood pressure machine, and bandage scissors was purchased for Aimbora. Bob Kasworm will take this gift back to Tanzania.

## Christian Education by Heather Christensen

I would like to thank the committee and the congregation for your support of a Christian Education position at Lord of Love. I have enjoyed the many opportunities I have had to volunteer, worship, and minister with you and your children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren! It is an honor for me to participate in this ministry opportunity to help strengthen and grow our Christian Education programming for children, youth, and adults. God is at work in this congregation! We are blessed to have so much love and support surrounding us and a wonderful council and Pastor leading us. I sincerely thank you all for your well wishes and support.

Want to find the Christian Education/Youth Ministry person? Schedule a meeting, stop by and say hey, or share an idea. I will have office hours on Wednesday and Thursday evenings from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m., and I will be around on Sunday mornings usually from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. You can also email me at [heather@lord-of-love.org](mailto:heather@lord-of-love.org).



### Weekly Education Opportunities at Lord of Love

#### Monday

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

### SonWest Roundup VBS!

Join us for SonWest Roundup Vacation Bible School, where buckaroos learn to trust Jesus! VBS will run from Monday, June 10, through Friday, June 14, with a family dinner available from 5:30 to 6:00 p.m. and VBS from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Come 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!

If you haven't registered yet, you're not too late! Pick up a registration form from the display in the Narthex. Children age 4 through those entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to attend VBS!

Volunteers are still needed, too! Contact Heather Christensen at 402-415-4571 or [rn94@yahoo.com](mailto:rn94@yahoo.com) if you are able to help or if you have any questions about VBS.

### 2013/2014 Sunday School

I know that our last Sunday school class of the season was just held, but it is never too early to think about the next Sunday school year. If you have a passion for working with youth, from preschool age through high school, please consider giving of your time and talents! The youth give us as much as we give them! If you would like to teach, team teach, or substitute teach, please let Heather Christensen, Paula Foster, Lori Vandeventer or Claudia Rowen know, and we will sign you up for this service to Lord of Love.



### New Photo Directory

We are getting ready to create a new church directory, and we want everyone to be included. We will have a photography studio at the church on Thursday, June 27, and Friday, June 28, from 2:00 to 9:00 p.m. and on Saturday, June 29, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. For people who cannot get their portraits taken for the directory on those dates, we also have appointments available on Friday, July 12, from 2:00 to 9:00 p.m. and on Saturday, July 13, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.



### Lord of Love Community Garden

Our Lord of Love Garden is off to a great start this season. The vegetables have been planted (thank you, sowers!) and many are peaking through the ground. Weeding will soon be the next task, and watering may be needed. Everyone is welcome to assist in any aspect of the garden project. Contact Jeri Morgan or Deb Lund if interested.



### Summer Breakfasts and the ELCA Malaria Campaign

One way to support our ministries this summer is to provide, prepare, and/or serve, and eat summer breakfasts. The proceeds will go to the ELCA Malaria Campaign, in recognition of our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

*Malaria kills 655,000 people each year. Most are children under five. That's a child every 60 seconds. The ELCA, through the ELCA Malaria Campaign, is joining hands with eleven Lutheran church bodies in Africa and becoming part of an historic global movement to say, "enough is enough!" No child, no person, should die of a disease that is both preventable and treatable. Therefore the ELCA Malaria Campaign has committed to raise \$15 million to help prevent, treat and educate communities in Africa about malaria and eliminate deaths from this disease—for good.*

*The ELCA Malaria Campaign funds programs of our companion churches that:*

- *provide life-saving health care—including medicine to treat malaria*
- *train health care providers and church volunteers to diagnose and treat malaria*
- *teach people how to protect themselves from the mosquitoes that spread malaria, recognize symptoms and seek treatment*
- *distribute insecticide-treated mosquito nets and provide training on their use*
- *provide preventative medication to protect pregnant women and their babies*
- *encourage governments to provide adequate health care and malaria prevention activities*
- *support water treatment projects to control the environments where mosquitoes breed*

Be sure to join us for wonderful food and fellowship this summer. Please give generously to help us better the lives of our brothers and sisters in Africa.



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



## RESOURCES

### Spring Cleanup Day

A big "THANK YOU" to all of our workers at the Spring Cleanup Day at church. Whether you were cleaning windows, spreading mulch, helping remove shrub bases, or doing any other activity, the church grounds, building, and spirit are better for it. Your efforts are greatly appreciated, and we look forward to seeing you in the fall!



### Stewardship during 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year

Thanks to all of you for your time spent sharing the Good News with others this past 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary year. We encourage you to continue to use your gifts and talents serving others within our church family and beyond.



**SHARE YOUR TIME,  
TALENT AND TREASURES**



## COUNCIL REPORT

### 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 – June 2013 by Brian Lund, Council President

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Isaiah 42:5 (NRSV) *Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it:*

The extended winter weather finally left us in May. We went from heat to snow and ice to a record high in less than 2 weeks. As I write this, temperatures have moderated, and spring storms are occurring throughout the South and Midwest. I am in awe and wonder at the variety of weather we experience. I am humbled by the power of wind and rain, and experience joy at the beauty revealed in nature.

This time of year provides me with an opportunity to break out of the fall/winter mode of indoor activities. Deb and I get outdoors to work in the yard and just enjoy evenings and weekends on the deck. We hike, bike, and do some extended traveling in between our remaining summer obligations.

For Deb and me, it is important to remain connected to our church family during the summer. Many activities continue throughout the summer at Lord of Love. Summer worship and breakfast/brunch provides a time to gather as the body of Christ. Working in the community garden allows us to help many to have good food to eat. Volunteering for Vacation Bible School provides young families with a good experience to learn more about God's love for us. Our participation in Habitat for Humanity allows us to assist families with good, affordable housing. I encourage all of our members to take part in the work of our congregation through these and other activities.



1 Peter 4:10-11 (NRSV) *Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God; whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies, so that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ. To him belong the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen.*

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

Lord of Love's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year is officially over. As part of our celebration year, we challenged our members to give 40 hours of their time in service to our congregation and to others. I trust that you were able to live out your Christian faith in a variety of ways in service to others. I encourage you to continue to serve joyfully.

Thank you for your continued support of the ministry programs of Lord of Love. Even as we travel this summer, the work of the church continues and so do our expenses for staff, property, and programs. Your continued faithful giving helps us to continue to serve our congregation and community over the summer.

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

Blessings in faith and service,  
Brian Lund

### Men's Ministry Breakfasts

Men's Ministry continues to purr like a well-oiled machine. The Saturday morning breakfasts come off like clockwork. Since our last article, the men have prepared, consumed, and cleaned up after four delicious and nutritious meals—at which we had an average of 13 men in attendance.

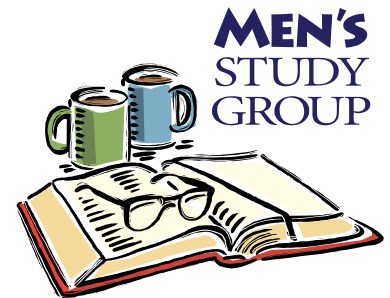
However, last month's open invitation to the men of Lord of Love to come and participate in camaraderie, table fellowship, and theological discussion with the Usual Suspects resulted in only a couple of new faces.



So we're trying again. Come on, men, you don't know what you're missing. Breakfast is served at 7:00 a.m. sharp (sort of). The hearty meal and lively discussion ends around 8:00 a.m., at which time cleanup commences (which you can stay and help with or not—it's entirely up to you). I'm guessing that the majority of the Usual Suspects are always there because their wives want a little peace and quiet on a Saturday morning. So be thoughtful and kind to your Better Half and come have some fun with the men. You might even learn something.

One possible explanation for the relatively few number of new faces during the past month may be a general concern that there might not be enough room for everybody. (Oh, you of little faith!) In an effort to eliminate any such concerns, we have made Gary Ramsay our informal maitre 'd. And Gary has assured me that anyone who shows up and greases his palm will be guaranteed a seat at the table. (Thanks, Gary!)

We will continue to read and discuss *Not a Fan*, by Kyle Idleman, between 7:30 and 8:00 at the Men's breakfasts. We have barely made a dent in this thought-provoking book, which seeks to differentiate between being a true disciple and follower of Jesus as opposed to a mere "fan." The discussions so far have been lively, entertaining, and enlightening. The book chapters are relatively short and largely independent of one another, so new participants will be able to join right in without being lost.



So come on, Men of Lord of Love. We'll be there Saturday morning at 7:00 a.m. Will you?

For more information, feel free to talk to any of the Usual Suspects on Sunday mornings before or after worship. We're easy to find. We're the ones that look well-fed and full of wisdom.

★ EXTRA! EXTRA! ★

# Men's News

★ EXTRA! EXTRA! ★

## MEN'S NEWS CORNER

### Men's Softball

The men of Lord of Love are playing softball on Monday nights at Kelley Softball complex (124<sup>th</sup> and Fort Streets) on Field 4. Field 4 is one of the four fields at the end of the drive. We currently have 2 wins and 3 losses. All are welcome to come and cheer! Each game is approximately 1 hour long, and the start times for June are listed below. If you are interested in playing or have questions, contact Don Rowen at 402-965-8977.



June 3.....6:30 p.m. (also join us for  
pizza after the game)  
June 10.....9:30 p.m.  
June 17.....To be determined  
June 24.....To be determined

### Exercising Spiritual Leadership

As men, we are called to be spiritual leaders in our homes. In light of that, please be aware that Lord of Love is now on our summer worship schedule, with one worship service at 9:00 a.m. through Labor Day. Be good shepherds and get the sheep to Lord of Love not at 8:00 a.m., nor at 10:30 a.m., but at 9:00 a.m. (or preferably a little before). Let's not have egg on our faces (unless it's after the Saturday morning breakfast—at which that sort of thing is perfectly acceptable).



### Promise Keepers National Men's Conference

It's not too early to make plans to attend the Promise Keepers "Awakening the Warrior" 2013 National Men's Conference in Cedar Falls, Iowa, on July 19 and 20.

The event will be held at the UNI Dome. The Friday program is from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., and the Saturday program is from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$69 per person; or \$59 per person if 2 to 9 men register together; or only \$49 per person if 10+ men register together. A Saturday lunch is included.

The program will include:

- Bill McCartney speaking on Hearing and Obeying God's Word
- Mike Silva speaking on Salvation
- Mark Gungor speaking on Purity
- Larry Jackson speaking on Masculinity
- Raleigh Washington speaking on Family
- Worship by Lincoln Brewster



Any men interested in attending the Promise Keepers 2013 National Men's Conference can speak to Ron Thom for more information or to discuss the possibility of car pooling, accommodations, or other logistics or concerns. (Thanks, Ron!)

## WOMEN OF LOVE

### Fall Festival is Coming!

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The Fall Festival will be on a Sunday this year as we're giving up our rivalry on Saturdays with those mighty Cornhuskers! October 20 is the date of our Fall Festival program and dinner. The program begins at 4:30 p.m., followed by dinner at 5:30 p.m. Our famous silent auction returns, and the winners will be announced after the dinner.



After expenses, the remaining money will be divided: 50% to Table Grace Café, 25% for LOL's Women on Mission (Tanzania in 2014), and 25% to the LOL Women of the ELCA operating fund.

We need your help! Please join us in the preliminary planning meeting on Sunday, June 16, at 10:00 a.m. following worship. Some items to be decided are the cost of the dinner ticket, a theme, and filling out the committees. The last Fall Festival was held 2 years ago, so we are anticipating lots of enthusiasm, interest, and assistance to make this a successful event.

Contact Ruth Manning if you have any questions at 402-451-0221 or [cranecoffeekick@gmail.com](mailto:cranecoffeekick@gmail.com).

### Lutheran Women of Omaha

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Lutheran Women of Omaha will meet on Tuesday, June 11, at noon at St. Matthew Lutheran Church at 1725 South 60<sup>th</sup> Street. The program will be the Papillion Seniors, and the project is the St. Matthew Food Pantry. Please make reservations with Ruth Manning at 402-451-0221 by June 8 if you would like to attend.

### Tied in Faith – Sent in Hope – Wrapped in Love

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The 2013 summer project for Nebraska Lutheran Outdoor Ministries will focus on the "Joy of Quilting" in partnership with the Nebraska Synodical Women's Organization of the ELCA. Volunteers are needed to come and work with the campers. **NO QUILTING EXPERIENCE IS NEEDED.**

Women and men are asked to volunteer for two or more days during the 8 weeks of camp to help campers tie the quilts. Volunteers will spend the time teaching, assisting, and interacting with campers, a wonderful intergenerational experience. In addition, a few good sewers are needed to finish the binding after the tying is done.

Nebraska Synodical Women's Organization has been asked to donate quilt kits—a top, filler, and back. For more information, please call Heather Abbott at 402-994-2544 or email [babbott@nlom.org](mailto:babbott@nlom.org).

(Article excerpted from the May 2013 issue of Expressions, the Nebraska Synodical Women Organization's newsletter.)

### Ladies Coffee Fellowship

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Ladies, you're invited to join coffee fellowship at Crane Coffee, 77<sup>th</sup> and Cass Streets, on Fridays, June 7 and 21 at 8:00 a.m. Teachers, celebrate your summer break by joining us!



### Women's Ministry Team

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The Women's Ministry Team will meet on Wednesday, June 12, at 6:00 p.m. in the Mary Room. All women are invited. We will select a delegate to the NSWOC convention in September, so if you would like to be considered, contact our Women's Ministry Coordinator, Val Florea at 402-397-6381 or [JVFlorea@aol.com](mailto:JVFlorea@aol.com).



## WOMEN OF LOVE

### *Gather* Bible Study

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The *Gather* Bible study half-day retreat and potluck salad luncheon will be held at the home of Deb Lund on Saturday, August 10. Freshly baked rolls and beverages will be served at 8:45 a.m., with the three-part study beginning at 9:00 a.m. Please bring a salad to share for the noon luncheon.

“All Who Hunger Gather Gladly” was written by Audrey Novak Riley who works for the ELCA World Hunger Appeal. The studies are available for download at <http://www.womenoftheelca.org/2013-summer-study-pages-121.php>.

- **Session 1: Hungry Hearts.** Matthew 14:13-16. Yes, those five loaves and two fish fed thousands of hungry mouths, but what about the people’s hungry hearts? How does Jesus feed them?
- **Session 2: Do We Have Enough?** Mark 6:32-37a. The disciples thought it would be next to impossible to feed all those people, but with Jesus, all things are possible.
- **Session 3: All Ate and Were Filled.** Luke 9:10-13a. The five loaves and two fish turned out to be not just enough, but more than enough—and look at all those leftovers!



If you would like to lead one of the sessions, please contact Deb at 402-493-3721.

The women’s choir will sing at worship the next day. There will be a rehearsal following the luncheon. If you cannot attend the study and luncheon, you are invited to join the rehearsal at 1:00 p.m.

### *Gather* Magazine Winner

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Congratulations to Heather Christensen, who won a year subscription to the *Gather* magazine. Her name was selected in a drawing following our W/ELCA birthday party.

### Free *Gather* Magazine?

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If you are not familiar the *Gather* magazine, now is an opportune time to check it out. The digital edition of the June issue is available—for free—at <http://content.yudu.com/A25vpz/June2013/resources/index.htm?referrerUrl=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.womenoftheelca.org%2Fdigital-edition-of-gather-pages-119.php>.

You can also download the app on iTunes or the Google Play store. A Kindle app is coming soon.

### Interested in Attending the Triennial Convention/Gathering?

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Nancy Johnson, NSWOTriennial Group Coordinator, is collecting names from anyone even “slightly thinking” about attending the triennial convention. The registration is expected to open in September this year, and Nancy expects additional information in mid-July or early August. She will send that information to all on her list.

Please send your name, address, and telephone number to Nancy Johnson, NSWOTGP 2014, 12777 A Street, Omaha, NE 68144. Phone numbers are 402-871-7906 (C) or 402-330-8649 (H). Her email address is [nancy.johnson5@cox.net](mailto:nancy.johnson5@cox.net).



## WOMEN OF LOVE

### Forms and Deadlines

Please note the following deadlines for submitting nomination forms and scholarship applications:

**July 1 – Nomination Form for officers of the Nebraska Synodical Women's Organization of the ELCA**, to be elected at the NSWOW Convention held September 20-22.

**July 1 – Scholarship Application for \$90 registration fee to NSWOW Convention.**

- Seven scholarships will be awarded to *first-time convention attendees*, one from each conference.
- Seven scholarships will be awarded to a *woman 35 years or younger*, randomly drawn, one from each conference.

**July 1 – Beth Bohling Scholarship, \$90 registration fee to NSWOW.**  
A financial need scholarship for an active member of the local W/ELCA unit. Registration form needs pastor's or local unit presidents' written recommendation.

**July 1 – Nomination Form for triennial delegate for 2014 Convention in Charlotte, North Carolina, July 22-27.** Ten delegates will be selected from the Nebraska Synod (plus the president, for a total of 11 delegates).

Don't Miss the

**DEADLINE!**



Copies of each of these forms are available in the Narthex on the bulletin board next to the nursery, and also may be downloaded from <http://www.nebraskasynod.org/welca/>.

### Dates to Remember

#### June

3	6:00 p.m.	Gather Bible Study, Old Country Buffet, 145 <sup>th</sup> and West Center Road
4	9:00 a.m.	Quilters, Fellowship Hall
5	6:00 p.m.	No Gather Bible Study
7	8:00 a.m.	Coffee Fellowship, Crane Coffee, 77 <sup>th</sup> and Cass
12	6:00 p.m.	Ministry Team Meeting, Mary Room
18	9:00 a.m.	Quilters, Fellowship Hall
21	8:00 a.m.	Coffee Fellowship, Crane Coffee, 77 <sup>th</sup> and Cass



#### Looking Ahead

September 20-22, 2013	NSWO Convention, Holiday Inn, Kearney
October 20, 2013	Fall Festival Dinner and Program
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



## Save the Date!

Planning is underway for more youth events! Take note of the following events, and watch for more details:

- June 10-14 – Youth assistants are needed for Vacation Bible School! See Heather Christensen to volunteer. More information can be found on page 6, Nurture.
- July 13 – On Saturday, July 13, all youth, grades 7-12, are invited to join us at the Messerschmidt's home for an evening of fun! We will hang out by the fire pit, play pinball, eat, and have a great time! This will be a great time for new participants to join us for an evening of fun!



Planning is also underway for a Youth Calendar for 2013-2014. We will be meeting regularly on the 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend of the month (on either Saturday or Sunday) to spend time together as a youth group. Events will include everything from service projects, to fellowship, to planning of youth gatherings or trips, to devotions and lock-ins. Have an idea for an event or service project??? Did your friends or your previous congregation do something great that we should try?? Want to help out and volunteer with any events??? It would be great to hear from you! Contact me at [heather@lord-of-love.org](mailto:heather@lord-of-love.org). Watch for a calendar of events coming soon!

## Junior High Girls Lock-in



Spring events for the youth included an All Girls Lock-In for Junior High on March 2. Leah Klos, Judy Messerschmidt, and Heather Christensen hosted 14 Junior High girls in an overnight of fun! Many hands make light work, and we made 7 fleece tie blankets that were donated to Project Linus. We ate many snacks, chattered, ate cupcakes, chattered, did some dancin' with the Wii (Heather could jam with One Direction...and no there is no evidence of this), laughed, played Apples to Apples, painted fingernails, and spent time in reflection and devotion about girlfriends. It was a great event and a great gift to spend time with the girls. Look for photos on the next page!

## Junior and Senior High Youth Lock-in

Both Junior and Senior High youth were invited to a last minute lock-in before confirmation. The lock-in was held on April 27, and we had 24!!! youth attend. It was wonderful to see so many bringing friends to fellowship and join us in worship on Sunday morning. We ate pizza and played games. Outdoor flag football, midnight basketball, and sidewalk chalk murals kept everyone busy. And then there was the gaming room...the Paul meeting room was converted into the flagship of video games and fellowship, with the fragrant aroma of feet. We shuffled in to 8:00 a.m. worship, and most everyone made it through...but if I had to guess, many naps were taken that afternoon. Thanks to all who came and brought friends. We'll do it again soon! Check out photos from the lock-in on the next page!





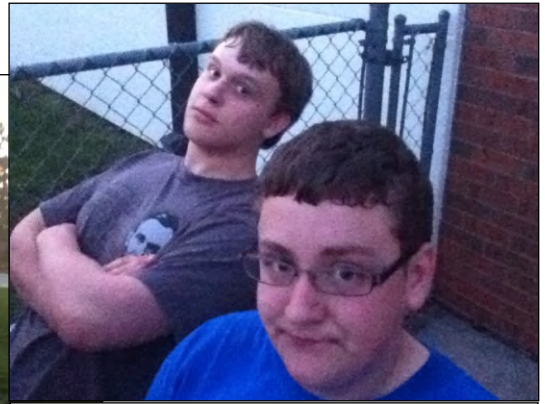
# LOL YOUTH



What the Girls Do at a Lock-in!



Goodie! Cody is here!



Whaas up???



Bonjour



Good Times!



Girl Time at the Youth Lock-in



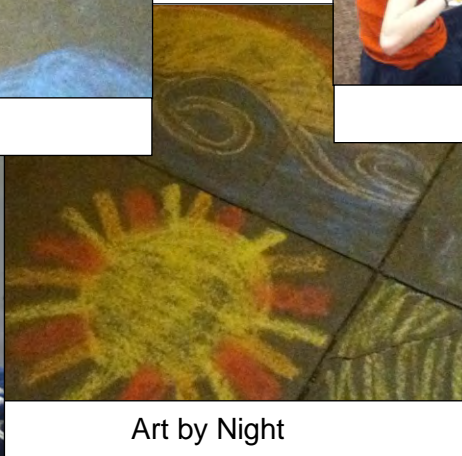
Midnight Art



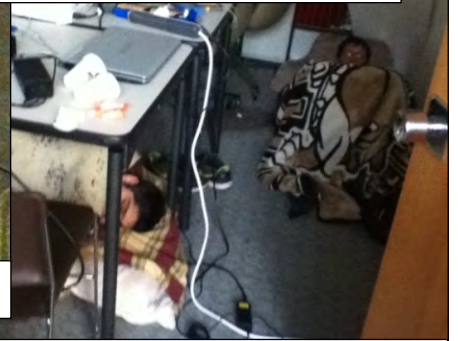
Oh No...UNO!



Video Game Deluxe Room



Art by Night



Video Game Diehards Sleeping



## IN OUR PRAYERS & LOVE NOTES

### In Our Prayers

Diana Baker (friend of the Thoms)  
Chris Beckman (friend of Jane Gehringer)  
Dick Bell  
Jan Davis-Hughes (aunt of Paula Foster)  
Claire Foral (friend of Dave and Lisa Rieff)  
Nick Gehrig (grandson of the Schuchards)  
Mike Gillotte (neighbor of Bill and Karen Pickens)  
Wyatt Nathaniel Hansen (infant grandson of Delina Wiater)  
Cheryl Jones (friend of Nancy Shinrock)  
Jude Konvalina  
Donna Lueders (mother of Dave Lueders)  
Lisa Lueders (sister-in-law of Dave Lueders)  
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  
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)  
Ron and Brenda Thom  
Roslynn Thom (sister of Ron Tom)  
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  
Jesse Kinney  
Nash Oltman  
Jeff Teton

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](mailto: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

Thank you to all who participated in the Wednesday night meals during the 2012-2013 program year! Meals will begin again in the fall. Have a great summer!  
Heather VanArsdale and kids  
Shawn Lorenzen

I want to thank everyone—children and adults—who have been in the Junior Choir and helped the Junior Choir. I am looking forward to when we start practicing again for the 2013-2014 program year.  
God's peace,  
Jane Hawkins

Thank you to all those who helped us move into our new home! Your time, care, and dedication in helping us made the move smooth, easier, and a lot more enjoyable! Your overwhelming willingness to help was greatly appreciated.  
God's blessing,  
The Meyer Family

Thank You!  
THANK YOU!



## 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

June 1-2	2013 Nebraska Synod Assembly in Kearney
June 1	Host weekend for ELF Coalition Habitat for Humanity build
June 2	Summer Breakfasts begin
June 10-14	SonWest Roundup Vacation Bible School
June 23	New member session
June 27-29	Photo sessions for new church directory

### Upcoming Events

July 12-13	Photo sessions for new church directory
July 13	Youth Group gathering at Messerschmidt's home
July 19-20	Men's Promise Keepers conference in Iowa
August 10	Women's <i>Gather</i> Bible study retreat and potluck salad luncheon
October 20	Fall Festival

*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](mailto:loveletter@lord-of-love.org). Articles must be received by the Love Letter editor by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month.*