



# The Love Letter

Volume 39

November 2011

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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: Created by God's gracious love, we are called, as a community of faith, to be witnesses and servants of Jesus to the world.

## A Look Ahead

The month of November and the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday remind us to pause and give thanks for all of the blessings God has given us. Among these blessings are our church family and the many opportunities we have to be involved at Lord of Love, whether in worship, fellowship, or service.

As the busy holiday season nears, mark your calendar for upcoming **special worship services for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's** as well as mid-week **Advent** services (see page 4, Worship). The **Thanksgiving worship and Pie Fest** will be on November 20 at 7:00 p.m. (see page 4, Worship, and page 6, Nurture).

On November 12, the annual **Fall Festival** will be held at Lord of Love! This year we are having a fiesta! Buy your tickets by November 6. Then come and enjoy food, fun, and fellowship and support LOL Women of Love and the Food Bank for the Heartland (see page 7, Nurture).

As we look ahead to December, there are so many ways to be involved. **Goodie containers** for the elderly, shut-ins, and those with special needs will be prepared on December 10. Then the **Sunday School Christmas Program** will be held during the 10:30 a.m. worship service on December 11, followed by **Christmas caroling** (see page 7, Nurture, and page 4, Worship).



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### The Power of Prayer! by Pastor Brad

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James 5:13-16 speaks of the power of prayer. "Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord...."

I've preached about prayer, studied prayer practices, prayed constantly for others, but never experienced prayer in the way that I did before my surgery!

As Heidi and I arrived in the parking lot of the Midwest Neurological Surgical Hospital in anticipation of my morning surgery, some "familiar faces" were seen milling around. A couple of people stood around talking outside their car and a few others exchanged conversation through car windows.

The "familiar faces" were members of Lord of Love who—unbeknownst to me—were gathering to pray with us before I checked in for surgery. As this loving group gathered around, first in conversation about what the day would hold and enjoying the crisp fall morning, another close friend of mine arrived to join in the circle of prayer.

As check-in time approached, we gathered closer, hand-in-hand, arms around shoulders, and I was showered with one of the most powerful experiences of prayer that I have ever been blessed with. Words of care and concern for my physical healing, guidance for the surgeon's hands and medical team, support for of my family, all spoken with deep faith and trust toward a God who loves and protects us.

I was overwhelmed by the extreme gesture of love from this group and by the knowledge of many, many others from Lord of Love and elsewhere who were lifting me in prayer. I thank you!

Walking into the hospital, I didn't feel like it was just Heidi and me; rather we were being accompanied, held up, and carried by the presence of God and others. Throughout that morning, and definitely since then, I've reflected on how blessed WE, the church, is that one can approach surgery, difficult life struggles, losses and blessings with the support of prayer and a loving community of faith.

Prayer is powerful! In a season of Thanksgiving, I give thanks for the community of Lord of Love, and for the church of Christ, and for the promise from God that tells us that we are never alone. We find comfort and hope in the knowledge that we are surrounded by God's presence and by the prayers of others.

Know that you are all in my prayers as we walk together on this journey called "life."

Peace,  
Pastor Brad



# MONTHLY CALENDAR

November 2011						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b> 9:00am Quilters 7:00pm Vision & Coordination	<b>2</b> 5:00pm 7th & 8th grade Confirmation Class 5:30pm Supper 6:00pm Brass Rehearsal 6:00pm "Gather" Bible Study 6:00pm Luther Kids 7:15pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	<b>3</b> 9:30am Text Study @ Guthrie's 7:00pm Boy Scouts	<b>4</b> 7:30pm AA	<b>5</b> 7:00am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study
<b>6</b> 8:00am Worship & Communion 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship & Communion 11:30am W/ELCA General Mtg. 6:00pm & 7:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal	<b>7</b> 6:00pm "Gather" Bible Study 8:00pm AA & AI Anon	<b>8</b> 7:00pm Sunnyslope Neighborhood Assoc.	<b>9</b> 5:00pm 7th & 8th grade Confirmation Class 5:30pm Supper 6:00pm Brass Rehearsal 6:00pm Women of Love Ministry Team 6:00pm Luther Kids 7:15pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	<b>10</b> 9:30am Text Study @ Guthrie's 7:00pm Boy Scouts	<b>11</b> 7:30pm AA	<b>12</b> 7:00am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 5:30pm Fall Festival
<b>13</b> 8:00am Worship & Communion 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship & Communion 11:30am Congregational Meeting 6:00pm & 7:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal	<b>14</b> 8:00pm AA & AI Anon	<b>15</b> 9:00am Quilters 7:00pm Church Council 7:00pm Sunnyslope Pool Assoc.	<b>16</b> 5:00pm 7th & 8th grade Confirmation Class 5:30pm Supper 6:00pm Luther Kids 6:00pm Brass Rehearsal 7:15pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	<b>17</b> 9:30am Text Study @ Guthrie's 7:00pm Boy Scouts	<b>18</b> 7:30pm AA	<b>19</b> 7:00am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 10:00am Women's Ministry Mtg. 12:30pm Mullen Music Club 4:00pm Boy Scout Lock-in
<b>20</b> 8:00am Worship & Communion 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship & Communion 6:00pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Thanksgiving Worship & Pie Fest	<b>21</b> 8:00pm AA & AI Anon	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Happy Thanksgiving!	<b>25</b> Church Office Closed 8:00am Laughing Ladies @ Crane Coffee 7:30pm AA	<b>26</b> 7:00am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study
<b>27</b> 8:00am Worship & Communion 10:30am Worship & Communion 11:30am District 18 AA Mtg. 6:00pm & 7:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal	<b>28</b> 8:00pm AA & AI Anon	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 5:00pm 7th & 8th grade Confirmation Class 5:30pm Supper 6:00pm Luther Kids 6:00pm Brass Rehearsal 7:15pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal			

## Holiday Worship Services and Events

Mark your calendar for the following holiday worship services and events:



- Our annual **Thanksgiving worship service and Pie Fest** will be held on Sunday, November 20 at 7:00 p.m.
- **Christmas caroling** will be on Sunday, December 11. Look for more details in the bulletin and in the December issue of *The Love Letter*.
- **Christmas Day and New Year's Day** occur on Sundays this year, and we will have only one worship service at 10:30 a.m. on these mornings.

## Advent: Proclaim the Wondrous Birth!

In Advent, we are looking forward to the wondrous birth of Jesus on Christmas, but along the way in Scripture, there were other wondrous births that pointed to God's promises fulfilled and to that most special birth in Bethlehem. We will hear proclaimed the news of each of the births that takes us straight to the crib to meet "the baby of promise." Join us for Advent worship on Wednesdays beginning November 30 at 7:00 p.m.



## Lord of Love's Worship Servants

	November 6	November 13	November 20	November 27
<b>Greeter(s)</b>				
8:00 a.m.	Jesse and Pat Brewer	Jim and Jeri Morgan	Paul and Peg Murphy	Woody and Mardi Fiske
10:30 a.m.	Brian and Lori Vandeventer	Paul and Ann Kroll	Rex and Deb Quadhamer	Lynda McGraw, Gary Ramsay
<b>Liturgist</b>				
8:00 a.m.	Shawn Lorenzen		Kenn Garder	Paul Murphy
10:30 a.m.				
<b>Communion Servers</b>				
8:00 a.m.				
10:30 a.m.				
<b>Nursery Attendant(s)</b>				
8:00 a.m.				
10:30 a.m.	Anne Yarger	Sarah Horan	Lisa Rieff	Pat Brewer
<b>Altar Care</b>				
8:00 a.m.	Vandeventer girls	Ed and Marjorie Keiser	Janet Guthrie, Nancy Shinrock	Mike and Christie Klos
10:30 a.m.	Brewer family	Karen Anderson, Mardi Fiske	Paul and Ann Kroll	Pauline Shaffer, Randi VenHuizen
<b>Ushers</b>				
8:00 a.m.	Dave Hild, Paul Murphy, Claude Hall, Mike Klos, Eric Klos, Bob Christensen			
10:30 a.m.	John Edwards, Dan Manning, Rex Quadhamer, Gary Ramsay, John Ramsay			



### The Faith Journey of Paul Kroll

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*When I first thought of asking Lord of Love members to tell their faith stories, I thought of Ann Kroll. She not only agreed to do so...she offered to write it. A couple of weeks ago, I received her husband Paul's faith story in my mailbox, which not only surprised me but encouraged me. I shouldn't have been surprised because Ann and Paul have been involved in our church's activities since they first walked through our doors in June 2008. They made friends quickly and have helped out wherever they see the need. Marilyn Thomsen and I, among others, can certainly attest to that.*

*Paul taught Luther Kids last year with Ann, but this year during that time he is taking a Language Interpretation for Medicine class. Ann is teaching Luther Kids this year. They both do altar care; Paul attends the men's group, and he is on the Stewardship committee and the Endowment committee.*

*Paul tutors in the Math Department at Metropolitan Community College. His past careers have been in insurance auditing and tax preparation. He also speaks Spanish and does translating.*

*We are fortunate to have Ann and Paul in our church family. Here is Paul's story.*

My faith journey started when I was born. I was raised in the United Church of Christ. I attended Sunday school every Sunday. My friends attended Sunday school with me.

After confirmation, most of my peers did not come to church. I liked church much more than high school. In church, I was treated more as an adult. High school was a very artificial society. After you leave high school, the cheerleaders, football players, student council presidents, and proms all fade away.

The one problem that remained was, "Who was God?" and "Who was Jesus?" Christianity was treated as an academic subject among my peers. We heard choice scripture every Sunday. The sermons were written in the famous onion style. There were three stories that went with the scripture. The first two would be partially explained, then the third story was completed, then the second would be completed, and then the first. This often explained what Jesus wanted, but it did not fully answer the question.

I attended college at Kansas Wesleyan. The students there said that they believed in God and the Bible; however, the ideas from church became mixed with other ideas, such as: Vegetarianism was God's will. Sexual relations were the answers to all ills. Watergate had been resolved and the Vietnam War was over. The opposition from these events was supposed to generate love and understanding instead of hate. It actually generated hypocrisy.

Early in the year 1976, I gave up with the snubs and retaliations that went on in the student body. I knew that the teachings of Jesus were true and right; I gave myself up to him. The one question that remained was, "What all did Jesus teach?"

That summer I went to Quito, Ecuador, to study Spanish. I had been in Spanish-speaking countries before, and I knew to bring reading material. I brought thirteen books consisting of novels, archeological books, and psychological books. I also brought an outreach version of the New Testament. As outreach version is a paperback with nothing more than the actual Bible, no extra notes or explanations.

*Continued on the next page*

## WORSHIP

### The Faith Journey of Paul Kroll, continued

After reading the other twelve books, I read the New Testament from Matthew to Revelations, in order. All the choice scriptures were in order. I read all four Gospels, then the complete Acts of the Apostles. I read everything in the Pauline letters. I then read the remaining letters and books. What Christ wanted and expected of us became clearer. I did not need those little extra notes from the study Bible. It is amazing how society has not changed in two thousand years. All the philosophical solutions were not new.



I have tried to live my life with what Jesus taught in the Bible and to remove all these other extra outside beliefs, new age thinking and various modern day rationalizations of what Christianity encompasses. I understand some of the outside ideas, and some are useful, but I keep the teaching of Christ first before all other ideas.

## NURTURE

### Thanksgiving Pie Fest

The annual Pie Fest will be at Lord of Love following the Thanksgiving worship service on Sunday, November 20. Ruth Manning is heading this event, so please contact Ruth if you can bring a pie.



### Piano Lessons

Interested in music and the piano? I've taught piano lessons for over 10 years to both children and adults. I live close to Lord of Love. If interested, call Jane Hawkins at 402-343-1680.



### 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 (7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grades) @ LOL Abraham Room  
6:00 p.m. Luther Kids (1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> 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

## Sunday Morning Donuts

It has been suggested that some people would like to sign up for 1 week at a time to pick up donuts and clean up. A new sign-up sheet will be at the donut table along with the process to pick up the donuts and instructions on how to start the dishwasher. If you enjoy a donut and coffee on Sunday mornings, please consider this call. There will be no donut pick-up on Sunday, November 27 or December 25.



## Sunday School Christmas Program



### Christmas Program

Plans are underway for the Sunday School Christmas program, and new costumes are being purchased. The program will be held on December 11 at the 10:30 a.m. worship service.

Let Lori Vandeventer know if you are willing to assist in the Sunday School Christmas program.

## It's Fiesta Time!

November 6 is the deadline for purchasing dinner tickets for the Fall Festival Fiesta dinner. It will be held at 5:30 p.m. on November 12 in the sanctuary. Tickets are \$15.00. By purchasing the tickets, you're helping support Iglesia Christo Rey church, Food Bank for the Heartland, the LOL Women on a Mission, as well as LOL women's ministry. The youth group will be serving the dinner, and we donate \$100, plus tips, for youth ministry.



Many wonderful items have been donated for the silent auction, and a couple of our LOL crafters will have booths. Doors will be open at 4:00 p.m. to peruse the craft items and to begin bidding on the silent auction items.

Shawn Lorenzen will emcee our program. Strolling musicians Mariachi San Juan will entertain us, and we will enjoy great food and fellowship.

## Youth Ministry Evaluation

Thank you for those who gave input to the Youth ministry program (defined as 7th grade through high school) Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) questions. The Nurture committee will use this information to enhance the Youth Ministry Job Description.



## National Youth Gathering 2012!

Seven youth and two adults are registered to attend the 2012 ELCA National Youth Gathering in July! We appreciate your prayers as we plan for this trip. Our prayer is that we will learn and grow in faith as we join with 39,000 young people and adults to share in the gospel through study, service, and fun! In the months ahead, you will hear about youth fundraising events to help us offset the expense of this trip. We thank you for your support and prayers in the months to come.



**TICKETS**  
NOW AVAILABLE

### Lord of Love Community Garden

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This past season's community garden was very productive and exemplifies so well "God's work; our hands." The garden gurus estimate about the same amount of produce went to the Lutheran pantries at Project Hope (North Omaha) and Iglesia Cristo Rey (South Omaha) as we gave away last year—roughly 1500 pounds. This was above and beyond the produce shared with the local herbivores (aka raccoons and Japanese beetles) as they occasionally enjoyed some tasty treats. Special thanks to everyone who gave so willingly of their time and energy to make the garden such a blessing for so many: Doug Aden, Leah Klos, Amy Kragnes, Brian and Deb Lund, Jeri Morgan, Gary Ramsay, Doug Roberts, and Jeri's nephew and his wife, Matt and Jessica. We look forward to another season in 2012 and would invite and encourage even more participation from Lord of Love folks.



### Opportunities for Outreach by Jeri Morgan

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A few weeks ago, I attend a Nebraska Synod event that focused on prison ministry and campus ministry. There were also other ideas to involve our church in service to the community. As I look over the many services, I was happy to see that Lord of Love does many outreach activities in the community. There is an area that I thought we could improve very easily yet this year. The area is our service men and women who are deployed. We have many young men and women on our prayer list who are deployed. The first step is to get the addresses of the people on our prayer list who are deployed. After we find out how many addresses of service men and women we can find, we will then ask for people to bring items to go into gift boxes to be sent to the service men and women. We want them to know Lord of Love is praying for them and to thank them for their service to our country. If you have requested that a service man or woman be placed on the prayer list, please give the address to Mary Lou in the office or to Jeri Morgan. You can contact Jeri Morgan by e-mail at [jerrymorgan@ymail.com](mailto:jerrymorgan@ymail.com), or you can text or call my cell phone at 402-415-4976.

### Mission Possible Update

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The Mission Possible Team will soon meet to review the surveys regarding choices for funding and to determine where our mission dollars should be spent for the rest of 2011 and into 2012. As you should know, 2.5 percent of our income goes to outreach mission projects, above and beyond the amount given to the Nebraska Synod for our mission share. The primary task of the Mission Possible Team is to explore, research, and decide where those monies should go each year. In addition, the Mission Possible Team assigns the recipients of all special offerings—Thanksgiving, Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, and summer breakfasts.

### Mission Funds Summary as of October 21, 2011

\$1,400	Tuition for one student at Machame Lutheran Hospital Nursing School in Tanzania (Easter 2011 offering, plus some congregational mission project funds)
\$3,621.01	Scholarship money for Maimu children (Advent and Christmas 2010 funds, plus 2011 Lenten monies)
\$ 250	Special offering for Nebraska Synod camp scholarships at Synod Assembly (Congregational Mission Project funds)
\$1,091	ELCA Disaster Response (Summer Breakfast monies)



*Continued on the next page*



### Mission Possible Update, continued

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#### **Mrs. Maimu is found!**

We are thrilled to report that thanks to special efforts by Rev. Martin Russell (Nebraska Synod Assistant to the Bishop) and our own Bob Kasworm, there has been contact and a response from Mrs. Elisante Maimu. As of this writing, we are in the process of transferring funds through Bob Kasworm to Mrs. Maimu for her sons' education. The following is summarized from an email from Bob Kasworm:

Mrs. Sara Elisante Maimu is 57 years old and seems very nice. Her first son is Elihuruma, age 21. He is studying for a BA in Education (Language and Management) at Mzumbe University in Morogoro Tanzania. Her second son is Peter, age 14, who is in form 1 (9th grade) at Boloti secondary school.

I explained that LOL had taken a special offering for the support of her and the kids after we received word of Pastor Maimu's death. She clearly was touched by this and said it would mean a lot as she is sending the kids to school and building a house. I asked her if she had any plans to go into the ministry since we knew she had studied theology but never had been ordained. She said she planned to speak to the Bishop, and it would be up to him.

She said this was clearly the plan of God, and she read the following Bible passage in Swahili to share with Lord of Love (she pulled an obviously well worn bible out of her bag): Hebrews 6:10 "God is not unfair. He will not forget the work you did or the love you showed for him in the help you gave and are still giving to your fellow Christians."



*Bob Kasworm and Mrs. Maimu in Bob's office*

## OUTREACH

### Nebraska Synod "We Do Mission" Field Trip 2011

More than 50 people from the Nebraska Synod served in the community of Lexington during Field Trip 2011 in October. The group built bunk beds for 26 children of families in need, painted a local apartment complex that is home to newcomers, and visited local schools. The group also learned more about the nation's complicated immigration system and its flaws through the Welcome Center, a Mission Field Nebraska ministry run by Lutheran Family Services.



### Nebraska Synod Joins Texas Hay Lift Effort

The drought and wildfires across Texas this year have destroyed hay crops used to feed livestock. With no feed available for purchase, many farmers and ranchers in the state are selling their cattle out of desperation.



Following the lead of other synods, Nebraska Synod farmers and mission centers have stepped forward to donate hay that will be transported to Texas ranchers in need.

Mission centers in Albion, Auburn, Falls City, Verdon, Scribner, Talmage, and Uehling, as well as the entire Prairie Cluster are sending 10 truckloads of hay south to help feed livestock through the winter in the affected areas.

### Mission Centers "Do Mission" at Fall Doings

This fall, Nebraska Synod mission centers have been doing mission for campus ministry and prison ministry at their cluster Fall Doings.

Campus ministry and prison ministry are both among the many outreach programs we share and support through our work and our mission share dollars. Fall Doings participants throughout the state not only spent time learning about these vital ministries, but also prepared care kits for college students and ex-offenders reentering society.

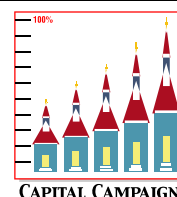


At the Northeast Cluster Fall Doing, 67 people attended and prepared 58 care kits for prison ministry.

## RESOURCES

### Capital Campaign Report

As of October 16, 2011, the Capital Campaign has received 60 gifts for \$68,795.00. Of that amount, we have received \$38,637 in cash and have remaining pledges of \$30,158. Thank you for your generous support of the campaign!



## RESOURCES

### Giving – Privilege – Obedience – Faith by Randi VenHuizen

When Brad and I are out of town on a Sunday morning, we find a Lutheran church to worship in because that is what we do on Sunday mornings—worship our God. On one of our last visits to Fargo, this quote was in their bulletin, and I thought it was worth repeating to our Lord of Love family: “Giving is more than a responsibility—it is a privilege; more than an act of obedience—it is evidence of our faith.” William Arthur Ward (1921–1994), American educator.

A Pastor I knew once suggested that it is a real privilege to serve on Altar Care as we are preparing the Lord’s Supper for our church family. Ever since then, I have considered it an honor to serve on Altar Care.



As many of you who know me well, you know I feel it is a privilege to worship God by being involved in the life of our congregation. We have so many ways to give of ourselves, whether it is on Council, Altar Care, Worship Planning, Liturgist, Usher, Communion Assistant, Choir, Bell Choir, Sunday School Teacher or Student, being involved in Bible Studies, attending Men’s breakfast, being involved in the women’s ministry, quilting, making prayer shawls, baking bread for Communion, gardening in the Lord of Love Community Garden, bringing items for Project Hope, or being involved in any of the committees we have, including Stewardship, Outreach, Nurture, and Worship. It is all a privilege to serve in any of these capacities.

And because we give to our congregation by serving, we are ultimately showing it is more than an act of obedience, it is evidence of our faith. I would ask everyone who reads this to say to themselves, “what can I do to serve our congregation?” Pray about it and then give some of your talents to Lord of Love.

## COUNCIL REPORT

### Our Giving Status by Barb Haskins, Council Treasurer

Our financial picture for the month of September 2011 is as follows:

- Income: \$20,813.99
- Expenses: \$24,068.01



### 2011 Lord of Love Church Council

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

Nurture: Lori Vandeventer, Paula Foster

Outreach: Paul Christenson, Jeri Morgan

Resources: Doug Armitage, Josh Combes

Worship: Karen Mullen, Randi VenHuizen



## COUNCIL REPORT

From the Council President – November 2011 by Brian Lund, Council President

1 Corinthians 4:1-2 (ESV) *This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy.*

This past month of October, we celebrated a new beginning of stewardship. As in other years, members were asked to make a financial commitment to support the 2012 ministries of our congregation. This year, we were asked to consider this a beginning of an emphasis on stewardship. To me, this means evaluating how we reflect our Christian faith in the use of our time, physical and mental abilities, and financial resources.



The church council has a large stewardship role each year. We care for the well-being of our staff and members. We work with others to repair and improve our church property. We focus on the details of the ministries of our congregation and engage our members to support those ministries. We manage expenses to the planned budget and adjust our spending in response to the financial giving of our members and the needs of our congregation.

Monthly financial reporting helps the church council to manage to the budget. These reports are not always easily understood. My assessment is that Lord of Love is financially healthy. Our current year income is slightly ahead of budget, but so is our expense. You may recall that we passed a \$22,000 deficit budget for 2011. At the end of September, our current year budget deficit was about \$7,500. The General Fund, our available cash, has a current deficit of \$17,000. This is our current year deficit plus about \$9,500 deficit carried over from last year. The shortfall could easily be eliminated by a second-mile gift of an additional \$150 to \$250 from each giving unit.

Our capital campaign has been very successful. Our members have responded generously to our property project needs. Because of this, we know that not all of our members can respond to the existing deficit with additional second-mile giving. The Executive committee is currently reviewing options to address a portion of the current deficit through other means. I intend to report on those options at the Annual Meeting on November 13.

Matthew 6:25-26, 33 (NIV) *Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.*

I am thankful for our members and their faithful sharing of time, abilities, and financial resources in support of Lord of Love and its ministries. Please continue to pray for Lord of Love, Pastor Brad, our ministry together, and for all those in need.

Blessings in faith and service,  
Brian Lund





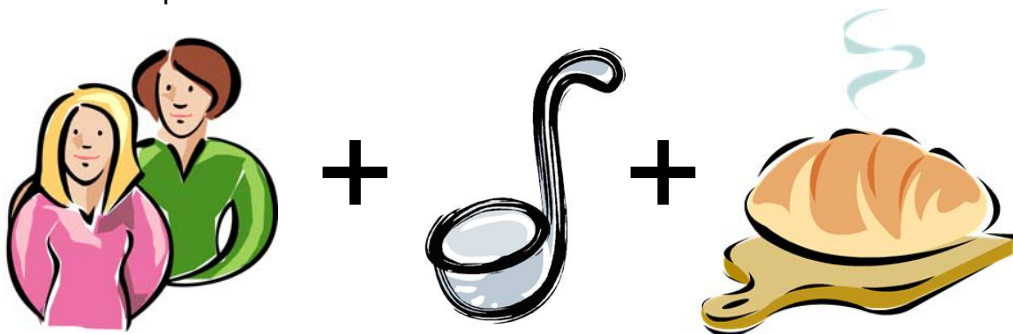
## WOMEN OF LOVE

### Ladies, Ladles, and Loaves!

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This is the theme of the semi-annual meeting of LOL Women of Love, which will be held on Sunday, November 6. We will elect the 2012 LOL women's ministry team, who will be installed at the Epiphany Luncheon on January 8.

Come and enjoy a meal of soups and breads in the Fellowship Hall at 11:30 a.m. following the second worship service. Other program items include news from the 2011 Triennial Convention, an update on "Women on a Mission," and more. You don't need to bring a thing...just come and enjoy the fellowship.



### Lord's Laughing Ladies

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The coffee group will meet on November 11 and 25 at 8:00 a.m. at Crane Coffee at 76th and Cass. Please come and join the fun!

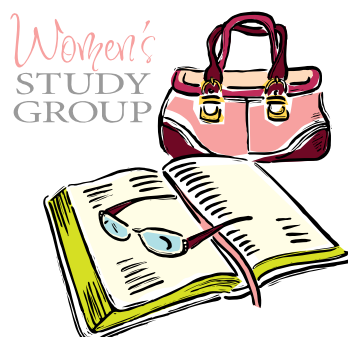


### Gather Bible Studies

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Session 3 of the *Gather* Bible study is "Power and Authority" based on the theme verse, "He said to them, 'Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?'" (Mark 4:40)

The Wednesday group will meet on November 2 at 6:00 p.m. in the Mary Room. The Monday group will meet on November 7 at the Old Country Buffet, 145th & West Center Road, at 6:00 p.m. All women are invited to attend either of these groups.



### Women's Ministry Team

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You are invited to participate in the monthly women's ministry team meeting, which is held at 6:00 p.m. in the Mary Room on Wednesday, November 9.

### 2012 Women's Planning Session

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All women are invited to attend a planning session for the 2012 women's ministry program. It will be held on Saturday, November 19 at 10:00 a.m. at Lord of Love. A brief orientation of newly elected ministry team members also will take place at this time.

Please come and share your ideas for service, programming, etc., for the coming year.



ANNUAL PLANNING

## Pie Fest

The annual Pie Fest will be held following the 7:00 p.m. Thanksgiving worship service on Sunday, November 20. Please bring a pie to share.

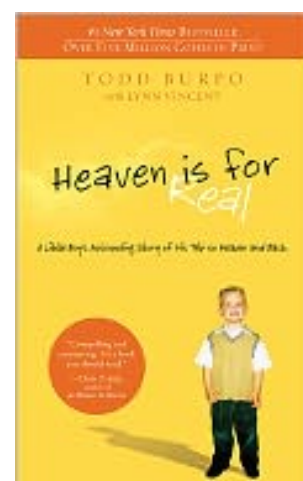


THANKSGIVING  
*Pie Fest*

## NSWO Winter Retreat

Just a “heads up” to mark your calendar for a “don’t want to miss” Nebraska Synodical Women’s Organization retreat scheduled for Saturday, January 14 in Grand Island. Featured speakers will be Rev. Todd Burpo and his wife, Sonja, who will tell the amazing story of their son Colton’s trip to heaven and back. The story is written in the New York Times bestseller, “Heaven is for Real.” In addition, Joan Naber, Ms. Wheelchair Nebraska 2010, also will share her story.

Further details will be in the December issue of *The Love Letter*.



## Dates to Remember

### November

1	9:00 a.m.	Quilters, Fellowship Hall
2	6:00 p.m.	<i>Gather</i> Bible Study, Mary Room
6	11:30 a.m.	<i>Ladies, Ladles, and Loaves!</i> Soup and bread luncheon; election of 2012 Ministry Team members
7	6:00 p.m.	<i>Gather</i> Bible Study, Old Country Buffet, 145th and West Center Road
9	6:00 p.m.	Women’s Ministry Team, Mary Room
11	8:00 a.m.	Coffee Fellowship, Crane Coffee, 76th and Cass
12	5:30 p.m.	Fall Festival Fiesta
15	9:00 a.m.	Quilters, Fellowship Hall
20	7:00 p.m.	Thanksgiving Worship and Pie Fest
25	8:00 a.m.	Coffee Fellowship, Crane Coffee, 76th and Cass

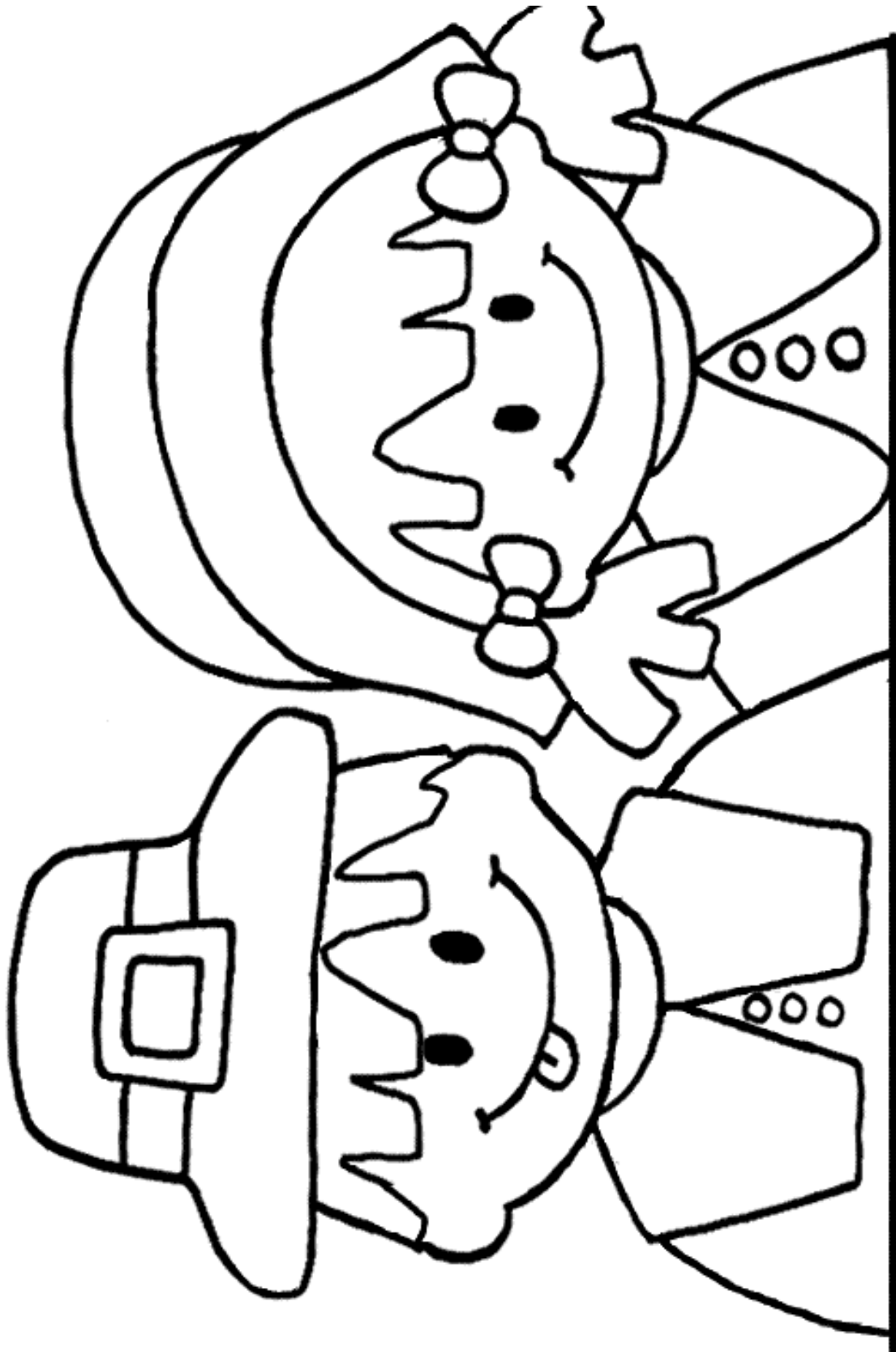


### Coming Soon

December 10	9:00 a.m.	Prepare goodie containers for elderly, shut-ins, and those with special needs
January 8	11:30 a.m.	Epiphany potluck luncheon and program
January 14		Nebraska Synodical Women’s Organization Winter Retreat



Thank you, God, for giving us everything we need...and more!





# Give Praise

Solve this puzzle to read a Bible verse about praising God for all his blessings.

**Directions:** In each group, underline the word that doesn't belong. Then write the underlined words on the lines below.

1. Give Take Grab	2. peanut praise pear	3. temple house LORD	4. proclaim past present	5. name boy lad	6. ruin destroy make
7. pine acorn known	8. train nations bus	9. done donut muffin	10. Sing Sleep Yawn	11. she him girl	12. sun praise moon
13. tell fast slow	14. red all blue	15. horrible dreadful wonderful	16. acts sisters aunts		

"\_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ his \_\_\_\_\_ ;  
 \_\_\_\_\_ among the \_\_\_\_\_ what he has \_\_\_\_\_ .  
 \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_, sing \_\_\_\_\_ to him; \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ his  
 \_\_\_\_\_ ." PSALM 105:1-2, NIV

## SIGN OF THANKFULNESS

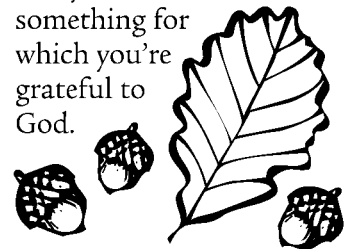
Create this festive sign, which will serve as a yearlong reminder to be grateful.

**What you need:**

- Hole punch
- Large piece of cardboard or cardstock
- Twine
- Twigs
- Glue
- Acorns, leaves (real or silk) and raffia

**What you do:**

1. Punch two holes in the top of the cardboard.
2. Thread twine through the holes and tie it in a knot (for hanging).
3. Using twigs, spell out "Be Thankful," "Thank God" or a similar phrase about gratitude. Glue the twigs onto the cardboard.
4. Decorate the sign by gluing on acorns, leaves and raffia.
5. Hang up your sign. Whenever you see it, think of something for which you're grateful to God.





## IN OUR PRAYERS & LOVE NOTES

### In Our Prayers

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Adrienne (staff member/friend of Rose Roberts)  
Karen  
Dick Bell  
Marty Beutler (son of Gary and Connie Beutler)  
Sharon Christiansen (daughter of Ann Christiansen and sister of Kathy Christiansen)  
Jason Combes  
Ruth Cooley  
Janet Duckworth (friend of Marilyn Thomsen)  
Brian Flores (friend of Brenda Mac)  
Claire Foral (friend of Dave and Lisa Rieff)  
Patty George (friend of Dave and Lisa Rieff)  
Keith Gillespie  
Kaye Haar (friend of the Novaks)  
Cory Heumann (friend of Cathy Petrick)  
Cheryl Jones (friend of Nancy Shinrock)  
Gene Jordan (uncle of Paula Foster)  
Jude Konvalina  
Lisa Lueders (sister-in-law of Dave Lueders)  
Graeme Mahler (brother of Jane Hawkins)  
Marj Mahler (mother of Jane Hawkins)  
Pr. Brad Meyer  
Debbie Michalak (co-worker of Jackie Combes)

Charlotte Peters (sister of Karen Mullen)  
Luana Salerno (friend of Sandy Hall)  
Doyle Sones (father of Dayla Miller)  
Phyllis Strasser  
Karen Swanson (sister of Marilyn Thomsen)  
Brenda Thom  
Marilyn Thomsen  
Elizabeth Werthman (mother of William)  
Agnes Wilson

Those affected by the flooding  
Children waiting to be adopted & those seeking to adopt  
Men's servant ministry  
Stephen Ministers and their care receivers  
Those deployed around the world  
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

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The Meyer family extends our deepest THANKS and gratitude to Lord of Love during my surgery and recuperation. Your prayers, cards, food, phone calls, and concerns were greatly appreciated. Thank you for helping make the healing process easier.

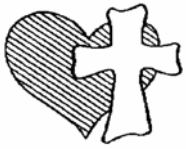
Peace,  
Pastor Brad



Many thanks to all of you kind and caring folks at Lord of Love. It has been my pleasure to get to know so many of you over the 20 years that I have been here in the office. It has been humbling to receive the gifts and read the kind notes many of you have written in honor of my 20 years here. The ministry at Lord of Love is very special, and I feel so lucky to be a part of it!

With sincere gratitude,  
Mary Lou Gustafson





The Love Letter  
Lord of Love Lutheran Church  
10405 Fort Street  
Omaha, NE 68134-1298

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## Return Service Requested

Mission Statement: Created by God's gracious love, we are called, as a community of faith, to be witnesses and servants of Jesus to the world.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### This Month

November 6	Women's Ministry Team semi-annual meeting
November 12	Safeguarding God's Children training at Rejoice! Lutheran Church Fall Festival Fiesta
November 13	Congregational meeting
November 20	Thanksgiving worship and Pie Fest
November 30	Advent worship begins

### Upcoming Events

December 10	Preparation of goodie containers for elderly, shut-ins, and those with special needs
December 11	Sunday School Christmas Program @ 10:30 a.m. Christmas caroling
December 25	Christmas Day (10:30 a.m. worship only)
January 1	New Year's Day (10:30 a.m. worship only)

*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.*