



The Love Letter

Volume 40

November 2012

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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

The Thanksgiving holiday is a wonderful reminder to be thankful for all of the blessings God has given us. The blessings we receive from our church family are evident each month in *The Love Letter* as the happenings in the life of our church and the ways that we reach out to others are highlighted. Below are a few of our blessings this November.

During the holiday season, we are blessed to have several **special worship services** at Lord of Love (page 4, Worship). The first, our annual **Thanksgiving worship and Pie Fest**, will be on Sunday, November 18 (see page 5, Nurture).

We recently were blessed with a **letter of thanks from Aimbora**, the nursing student in Tanzania whom we have been supporting financially. Her letter is included for all to read (see page 9, Outreach).

We also are blessed with the opportunity to help others this holiday season, particularly on December 8 as we **prepare cookie tins for elderly and shut-ins** (see page 13, Women of Love) and **make blankets for Project Linus** (see page 8, Outreach).

The women in our congregation are blessed with an invitation to help with the **Women's Ministry planning** for next year on November 10 (see page 12, Women of Love) as well as to participate in **Advent by Candlelight** on December 1 (see page 13, Women of Love).

We are blessed with these and several other events during this busy holiday season! Read more details in the articles in this issue *The Love Letter* and take a look at the complete list of events on the final page (see page 16, Mark Your Calendar). Have a blessed Thanksgiving!

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Rise Up, O Saints of God! by Pastor Brad

Are you a saint?

Even though we understand the meaning of the word *saint* as a person with holiness of life, we rarely apply that label to ourselves or fellow Christians. Rather, most often we notice the lack of a person's sainthood and explain the imperfection by saying, "I'm certainly no saint." More often, we make the comment about someone else. "Well, she's no saint!"

In reality, all saints are imperfect people who share the same faith in Jesus Christ and the same power of God's Holy Spirit living in them. The difficulty is pulling off that "saintly" attitude, disposition, and behavior all the time.

Martin Luther suggested that "we are both saint and sinner at the same time." We are a total

package of a person who daily attempts to do good, yet often fails. We are people who have a heart for "good," yet too often fall short in our efforts.

When we do our best to treat one another with love and compassion, we're sharing the gospel in a powerful way and revealing the presence of God. The hope is that we never give up trying to be the "saint." Hopefully others will see more of the saint than sinner in us.

November 1st is "All Saints' Day." Yet, as children of God, every day is rightfully All Saints' Day. Let's give it our best effort to be the saints of God.

Peace,
Pastor Brad



MONTHLY CALENDAR

November 2012						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 9:30am Text Study @ Guthrie's 7:00pm Boy Scouts	2 7:30pm AA	3 7:00am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 9:00am Novak Recital
4 Daylight Savings Time Ends 8:00am Worship & Communion 9:15am Education Hour 10:30am Worship & Communion 6:00pm & 7:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal	5 6:00pm "Gather" Bible Study @ Old Country Buffet 8:00pm AA & AI Anon	6 Election Day 9:00am Quilters 6:00pm Resources Mtg. 7:00pm Vision & Coordination	7 5:00pm Confirmation 5:30pm Supper 5:30pm Luther Kids 6:00pm Brass 7:15pm Chancel Choir	8 9:30am Text Study @ Guthrie's 7:00pm Boy Scouts	9 8:00am Crane Coffee Fellowship 7:30pm AA	10 Boy Scout Lock-in 7:00am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 9:30am W/ELCA PLanning Mtg.
11 8:00am Worship & Communion 9:15am Education Hour 10:30am Worship & Communion 11:30am Congregational Mtg. 6:00pm & 7:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal	12 8:00pm AA & AI Anon	13 7:00pm Sunnyslope Neighborhood Assoc. Mtg.	14 5:00pm Confirmation 5:30pm Supper 5:30pm Luther Kids 6:00pm Brass 7:15pm Chancel Choir	15 9:30am Text Study @ Guthrie's 7:00pm Boy Scouts	16 7:30pm AA	17 7:00am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 7:00pm Lord of Love Youth Lock-in
18 8:00am Worship & Communion 9:15am Education Hour 10:30am Worship & Communion 7:00pm Thanksgiving Service	19 8:00pm AA & AI Anon	20 9:00am Quilters 7:00pm Church Council	21 5:00pm Confirmation 5:30pm Supper 5:30pm Luther Kids 6:00pm Brass 7:15pm Chancel Choir	22 Happy Thanksgiving 9:30am Text Study @ Guthrie's 7:00pm Boy Scouts	23 Office Closed 8:00am Crane Coffee Fellowship 7:30pm AA	24 7:00am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study
25 8:00am Worship & Communion 10:30am Worship & Communion 1:00pm District 18 AA Mtg. 6:00pm & 7:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal	26 8:00pm AA & AI Anon	27	28 5:00pm Confirmation 5:30pm Supper 5:30pm Luther Kids 6:00pm Brass 7:15pm Chancel Choir	29 9:30am Text Study @ Guthrie's 7:00pm Boy Scouts	30 7:30pm AA	

WORSHIP

Special Worship Services in Nov. & Dec.

During November and December, there are several special worship services to note:

- Thanksgiving – November 18 at 7:00 p.m.
- Sunday School Christmas Program – December 9 at 10:30 a.m.
- Christmas Eve – December 24 at 4:30 and 11:00 p.m.
- Christmas Day – No worship service

In addition, “Anticipate the Promise” as we worship on the Wednesday evenings in Advent. The services, using Holden Evening Prayer, will begin on Wednesday, December 5 at 7:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve Worship Servants

Christmas will be here before we know it, and planning is already underway for our Christmas Eve worship services. Greeters, ushers, and communion servers are needed for the Christmas Eve services at both 4:30 and 11:00 p.m. A sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board in the Narthex. There will be no worship service on Christmas Day.



Lord of Love's Worship Servants

	November 4	November 11	November 18	November 25
Greeter(s)				
8:00 a.m.	Jesse and Pat Brewer	Doug and Rose Roberts	Paul and Sue Dieter	Dan and Ruth Manning
10:30 a.m.	Bill and Nicole Quackenbush	Claude and Sandy Hall	Paul and Ann Kroll	Don Rowen, Gary Ramsay
Liturgist				
8:00 a.m.	Deb Lund	Heather Christensen	Randi VenHuizen	Paul Christenson
10:30 a.m.	Heather Christensen	Brian Fanders	Stephanie Baird	
Communion Servers				
8:00 a.m.	Brian and Deb Lund		Brad and Randi VenHuizen	
10:30 a.m.	Christensen family and Yarger family		Jane Hawkins	
Nursery Attendant(s)				
10:30 a.m.	Anne Yarger	Sarah Horan	Lisa Rieff	Ashley Meier
Altar Care				
8:00 a.m.	Doug and Rose Roberts	Vandeventer girls	Ed and Marjorie Keiser	Cathy Aden, Sue Dieter
10:30 a.m.	Debra Gillespie, Karen Armitage	Brenda and Suzanne Mac	Rowen family	Brewer family
Ushers				
8:00 a.m.	Dave Hild, Paul Murphy, Claude Hall, Mike Klos, Bob Christensen			
10:30 a.m.	Rett Messerschmidt, Rob Anderson, Paul Barnett			

Welcome to Our New Members!

We welcomed new members at Lord of Love in October. We pray that their faith journey and love of Christ grows at Lord of Love.

Please welcome:

- Brian Fanders
- Brandon, Heather, Casey, and Bradon Hansen
- Connie Martin
- Jean Patronic
- Nate and Brooke Penn
- William, Nicole, and Emily Quackenbush



Sunday Morning Donuts and Coffee

Fruit has been added to the Sunday morning line-up of donuts, muffins, and cookies!



Volunteers are always needed. Please consider signing up to pick up donuts and to clean the coffee pots and cups after

Sunday school. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Narthex (near the sign-up sheet to provide altar flowers).

Thanksgiving Pie Fest

Please sign up and then bring a favorite pie to share at the Pie Fest following the Thanksgiving worship service on Sunday, November 18. Helpers are needed as well. See the sign-up sheet in the Narthex or talk to Deb Lund! Hope to see you there!



Junior Choir!

Children who are in the 2nd through 6th grades and would be interested in singing during worship, please contact Jane Hawkins at 402-343-1680 (please leave a message). Practice will be on Wednesdays from 7:00 to 7:25 p.m.



Substitute Teachers for Sunday School

The Sunday school program has 2 volunteers to serve as substitutes. If you have an interest in being a substitute, we would be happy to add your name to the list. Please let Claudia Rowen, Lori Vandeventer, or Paula Foster know which grade level you would like to teach.

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

A Letter from Bishop Maas

September 20, 2012

Greetings in the name of our Risen Lord, Jesus Christ!

I write to you mindful of what an overwhelming task and an overwhelming privilege it is to share ministry with you in the Nebraska Synod. My thanks to you for holding the synod, its staff, my family and me in prayer these last several weeks. Please let your prayers continue, and know that you and your ministries remain in mine.

We are all now undergoing a significant transition as we accept with gratitude the gift of the last 12 years of faithful service by Bishop deFreese and his staff, and look ahead to ministry yet to unfold. That transition brings countless questions, and far fewer immediate answers.



It's my intent for our relationships within this synod to be as accountable and transparent as possible. Communication is a high priority—even when, as now, there seems to be little to communicate.

For the sake of fulfilling that priority, I'm going to violate the first rule of good preaching by resorting to clichés. Here goes:

- **If it ain't broke, don't fix it.** There are so many thriving ministries and initiatives in the Nebraska Synod; sustaining their momentum is a priority. There'll be no change merely for change's sake.
- **Measure twice, cut once.** Discerning the most effective staffing constellation, and identifying the best staff to fill it, takes time. Staff transitions have begun, but are far from complete. My plan is to have all staff transitions completed by January 1.
- **There is no place like Nebraska.** This synod, with its people, ministries, identity and can-do attitude, is among the strongest in the ELCA—that's the good of its uniqueness. The bad is primarily its geography—the distance really stretches our efforts to remain well-connected as a synod staff. But we're working on it, striving to be physically present as much as we can, as often as we can, in as many places as we can. Your patience and grace—and your invitations—will help us meet this challenge.
- **If you don't know where you're going, any road will get you there.** Our synod's most recent strategic plan has run its course. It's time to develop a new one. That process will get underway—after a time for getting acquainted and listening, listening and listening to you and those among whom you serve.
- **God is good, all the time.** And all the time, God is good. Transition and change are always challenging, but we live in the company of the unchanging One, whose constancy ensures that all will be well.

I look forward with excitement to the future Spirit has in store for us all, and I'm grateful to be sharing that future with you.

With joy in Christ,

Brian D. Maas, Bishop

ELCA 25th Anniversary: Always Being Made New



Let's celebrate!

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America is celebrating its 25th anniversary in 2013 under the theme "Always Being Made New." What God is doing through us here at home and around the world is worth celebrating. As you embark in ministry during this anniversary year, take a look back at the people and events that have shaped us as a church while looking toward the future together anew.

In 2 Corinthians 5:17 Paul writes, "So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!"

We are a church that is deeply rooted—and always being made new.

If anyone is in Christ...

We are deeply rooted. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America is still comparatively new as a church body, and yet our roots are much deeper than our 25 years together. The taproot of our life extends through the histories of predecessor churches in the United States, through the formative witness of the 16th century evangelical reformers and their confessional writings, to the Scriptures and the word of Christ. Our life is in Jesus Christ. We are deeply rooted in his word of forgiveness and the promises of God's steadfast love and mercy. The word of Christ dwells in us richly. God nourishes us as one body in Jesus Christ with companions from around the globe who meet us at Christ's table of grace.

...there is a new creation

We are being made new every day. In Jesus Christ we are not unchanged. What God does in Christ is as radical as the death and resurrection of baptism, where new creatures in Christ rise to live "no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them." God is bringing that new creation to life among us in the ministry of reconciliation. In that service, we no longer see each other as we did before. We are no longer strangers, competitors, or enemies to each other. We are beloved companions in one body, restored to a communion where the rich diversity of our experiences, wisdom, and abilities serve the common good in Christ. The new creation in Christ rises to life among us every day.

Lord of Love's 40th Anniversary Celebration: Sharing our Memories

There were so many memories of Lord of Love submitted to the 40th Anniversary planning committee prior to the anniversary celebration! The committee wasn't able to share them all during the celebration, so a few memories will be shared in *The Love Letter* each month. Enjoy!

Sunday School Couches, submitted by Beth Olson as shared by Paula Lawhead

Paula (and many other youths) fondly remembers the couches in the Sunday School rooms. They were great for lounging and learning, but they were best remembered by the youth for the interesting sounds (we will leave it at that) they made after running and jumping into them. Lord of Love was a place to grow in faith and to have fun, too!

OUTREACH

Be a "Blanketeer" for Project Linus

On December 8, starting at 10:30 a.m., a blanket-making day for Project Linus will be held in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring enough fleece fabric to make one blanket. Each blanket can be made from two pieces of fleece, 1 ½ or 2 yards each.

Since 1995, the Project Linus organization has brought comfort and security to children who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need by donating quilts and blankets crafted with care by hand. Project Linus is named after the Peanuts character that always carried his security blanket. A recent update from Project Linus states that blankets for boys 9 years and older are especially needed, but many area hospitals and organizations are in need of blankets.

If you would like to participate, please bring enough fleece to make one blanket. Also, if you have scissors, please bring those, too. You can come long enough to make one blanket or stay for the entire time. If you would like to do this as a family, that is great, too.

Watch for a bulletin announcement and sign-up sheet as the time draws closer. Please contact Jackie Combes at 402-301-5664 if you have questions.



Mission Possible Update



Thanks to everyone who supported the CROP Walk on October 14! Lord of Love folks showed their Christian love for the hungry not only by walking in the community that day but also in their financial support of organizations that provide food to so many around the world, including our local Together, Inc. and the Food Bank of the Heartland.

Remember that another group opportunity for serving our neighbor is being planned for January 2013, most likely at Together, Inc. Stay tuned!

Endowment Committee is Looking at Needs Again

The Endowment Committee is again looking for special needs and missions that need funding. **Applications will be taken until the stroke of midnight on December 1.** The Endowment Committee helps fund special missions, projects, or one-time awards for good causes. It does not help with the general operating budget items of the church. To obtain funding for special missions, complete an application obtained from the church office or in the Narthex, and return it to the Endowment Committee.

In the past year, the Endowment Committee has awarded \$1,140 for three scholarships to the Nebraska Lutheran Outdoor Ministries, \$500 to replace the roof on the Education wing of the Vocational School at Pastor Anna's Church, and \$1,000 to the ELCA Malaria Campaign.

Furthermore, the Endowment Committee needs additional funding so that more can be done. Remembering the Lord of Love Endowment Fund in your estate plan is an easy way to supplement the fund and assure that your fruits on earth are extended beyond your lifetime. Lord of Love will take contributions to the Endowment Fund at any time. Simply put a check in the collection plate stipulating that the amount goes to the Endowment Fund (please make a check solely for the Endowment Fund).

Tanzania Ministries by Paul Christenson

In February 2011, Doug Roberts, Craig and Peg Pennell, and Paul Christenson traveled to Tanzania with the Nebraska synod. While in Tanzania, we meet amazing people and discovered God's grace at work in the church and in the people of Tanzania.

Money from individual members, small groups, and special funds (endowment and missions) was given for us to use as we felt the Spirit's guiding. I remember telling our Lord of Love group on the second day that I didn't think we would be giving away all the money given us, but by the fifth day, I didn't think we would have enough money to give.

We prayed and discussed the best way to use your money. It was during our visit at Machame Hospital that we experienced the ministry Bob Kasworm, working with Alegent Health, is accomplishing to improve health care and hospital needs in Tanzania. We learned of one student in particular, Aimbora, whose grandfather (he had been assisting with tuition funds) died, and she would probably have to drop out of nursing school. She was behind on her tuition, and a new semester was about to begin. Doug, Craig, Peg, and I immediately knew this was the place to give the money you entrusted to us.

Of course we didn't stop with Aimbora. As you may remember, we adopted Pastors Anna's church, and upon our return, we asked for funds for the school roof and to continue supporting Aimbora until she completes her nursing studies. We also support Houses for Health and assist with educational expenses for Martha Mkumbo as she works toward a teaching degree.

I have always been proud to be a member of Lord of Love. **Thank you** for everything you do to support mission. **Thank you** for your ministry at home and around the world. **Thank you** for being a blessing to my family and for being "My Family." **Thank you** for your service and faithful dedication to Almighty God.

I am pleased to share the following letter Aimbora wrote to everyone at Lord of Love:

To My Lovely People
Of Nebrascar:
Dear Sir / Madam:

First of all greeting you for the name of Jesus Christ. Hope you are quietly doing fine with your daily activities.

Myself. I thank God because I continue well with my studies and I quietly fine. I thank you much for your encouragement that you do for me. Now Am a third year student at our lovely school of nursing Machame Hospital. I real miss you. I thank you much for your sponser. May all mighty God be with you in everything you do for the glory of his name.

Thank you very much and be blessed.

Your daughter
Aimbora Silaa

ELCA Malaria Campaign—“God’s Work, Our Hands”

Lutheran churches in Africa have reached thousands of members and community residents with information about malaria. In early 2012, more than 4,670 people in Zambia took part in “awareness sessions” designed to stress the importance of malaria testing and understand clinical treatment options, particularly in the first 24 hours after the appearance of symptoms. Church and community leaders were trained to lead awareness sessions, and more than 1,160 rapid diagnostic tests were distributed. More than 2,030 people with malarial symptoms were tested in several open clinics in the northwestern part of Zambia.

Prior to these campaigns, malaria symptoms often went untreated, and many people were unaware of what dangerous effects the disease can have, especially on children. Pregnant women would seek care from “traditional healers,” who administered herbs that induced labor, instead of seeking care from health clinics.

Every 60 seconds, a child dies of malaria, a treatable and preventable disease that kills more than 655,000 people a year, mostly children in Africa.

The ELCA has partnered with Lutheran churches, organizations, and projects in 11 African countries through its ELCA Malaria Campaign. It is uniquely positioned to provide **mosquito nets, insecticides, medication, health care, education, and more**. A goal of the campaign is to raise \$15 million by 2015 to support the anti-malaria efforts of Lutheran churches and organizations in African countries.

From January to June 2012, 58 awareness sessions in Zimbabwe were carried out by “Malaria Focal Persons,” about one every 3 days. More than 690 community members throughout Zimbabwe were trained in malaria treatment methods, including rapid diagnostic testing, intermittent preventive treatment, and early treatment-seeking behaviors.

“The statistics are compelling, even more so when we realize that each awareness session, each rapid diagnostic kit, each dose of malaria medication represents entire lives that have been changed and enriched by the work of the ELCA Malaria Campaign,” said Jessica Nipp Hacker, coordinator of the ELCA Malaria Campaign.

“Gifts to the ELCA Malaria Campaign have empowered our Lutheran sisters and brothers in Africa to provide necessary training and resources to their communities and to accomplish their malaria-control goals for 2012,” said Nipp Hacker. “The continuing support of ELCA members will mean additional life-changing programs in years to come.”

Information about the ELCA Malaria Campaign is available at www.ELCA.org/malaria.



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

COUNCIL REPORT

From the Council President – November 2012 by Brian Lund, Council President

1 Thessalonians 5:18 (NRSV) *Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.*

Growing up, I always looked forward to Thanksgiving Day. Of course, that was largely due to it being a holiday with time off from school. It was also another chance for us to gather as an extended family with the opportunity to enjoy time with cousins.

Thanksgiving continues to be a time for gathering of family. The participants keep changing. Our grandparents have been gone for a long time. We have become the aunts and uncles. Our kids are the cousins. A tradition for us is to name the things that we are thankful for as part of the blessing for our Thanksgiving feast.

Our thankfulness shouldn't be dictated by the calendar and one day reserved for giving thanks. As part of our nightly prayers, Deb and I give God thanks for his blessings to our family. Our church offering is a response to God's wonderful gifts of his Son, forgiveness and grace, His underserved love for us. We give of our time and talent in thankful response for our ability to work and to help others who may be less fortunate.



What are you thankful for? How do you give thanks? Whatever the answer to those questions, give thanks always!

Psalm 118:28-29 (NRSV) *You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God, I will extol you. O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.*

Thank you for your continued financial support of Lord of Love. We are blessed with a church family of caring and sharing people. Our ministries are possible because of your gifts of time, treasures, and talents. Follow your passion and get involved in one of the ministries of Lord of Love.

Please continue to pray for Bishop Brian Maas and the Nebraska Synod, for Pastor Brad and our congregation, and for our service to others. Give thanks always for the many blessings bestowed on us. Pray for healing for all those in need, safety for all who work on behalf of others, and wisdom for the leaders of our congregation, state, country, and world.

Blessings in faith and service,
Brian Lund

2012 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: Jeri Morgan, Mike Klos

Resources: Doug Roberts, Rex Quadhamer

Worship: Randi VenHuizen, Pat Brewer



COUNCIL REPORT

Our Giving Status by Barb Haskins, Council Treasurer

General Fund financial information for September 2012 is as follows:

- Income: \$34,557.41
- Expenses: \$29,900.87



General Fund financial information for the year to date (through September 30, 2012) is as follows:

- Income: \$233,030.18
- Expenses: \$223,391.19

Praise God! Just a reminder, a large variance doesn't necessarily mean we are ahead or behind; expenses do not always follow income exactly.

WOMEN OF LOVE

Women's Ministry Planning

What programs would you like LOL Women of Love (Women of the ELCA) to offer this coming year? Is there a local ministry you'd like us to support in some way? Should we add additional *Gather* Bible studies at another time? Are you interested in doing another Bible study for women? What is the best time for you to participate in women's ministry? These are some of the questions that could be part of our planning discussion.

Our programs and projects should reflect our Mission and Purpose as established by the national Women of the ELCA:

As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society and the world.

We invite you to join us in discerning the Holy Spirit's guidance at the planning session for 2013 at **9:30 a.m. on Saturday, November 10** in the Fellowship Hall. Coffee and goodies will be provided to jump-start our thinking process.

We also need additional women to serve on our ministry team. We meet at 6:00 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month (unless otherwise announced) to conduct the business of our women's ministry. In addition, two general meetings are scheduled during the year. Current members of the team are Val Florea, coordinator of women's ministries; Rose Roberts, coordinator of communication; and Ruth Manning, publicity coordinator. Members at large are Beth Olson and Pauline Shaffer. Ideally, we need at least 8, and up to 12, women to serve on the team. This is an excellent training ground to learn about Women of the ELCA in general and Lord of Love's ministry in particular.

For additional information, contact Val Florea at 402-397-6382 or JVFlorea@aol.com, or Ruth Manning at 402-452-0221 or cranecoffeekick@gmail.com.

Lord's Laughing Ladies

Join us for coffee fellowship at Crane Coffee at 77th and Cass Streets at 8:00 a.m. on Fridays, November 9 and 23. All women are invited to join us.



Women's Ministry Team

The Women's Ministry Team will hold its monthly meeting on Wednesday, November 14 at 6:00 p.m. in the Mary Room. All women are invited to attend.

WOMEN OF LOVE

Advent by Candlelight

Light the Way is the theme for this year's Advent by Candlelight to be held in the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, December 1 at 5:00 p.m. This is a wonderful evening of the Word, music, fellowship (and a delicious dessert) to prepare our hearts for the Advent season before the holidays get into full swing!

Hostesses are needed to provide table settings, decorations, and candles (preferably non-scented) for the tables, which will seat eight. We suggest using a sacred theme for your table such as candles, angels, greens, stars, the Nativity, etc. You also may invite a co-hostess to work with you. A sign-up sheet for hostesses is available at the Information Center in the narthex, and the deadline for sign-up is November 18.

Tickets are \$5 and will be on sale November 11, 18, and 25. A free-will offering will be received for our selected local ministry (details will follow in upcoming church bulletins.)

This event is for women and girls, so don't forget to invite mothers, sisters, aunts, daughters, granddaughters, and friends to this special evening.



Gather Bible Study

JESUS FEEDS



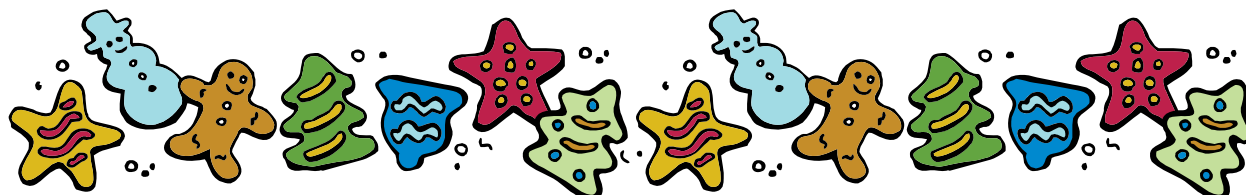
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The theme for the November Bible study is "Gathered for Life: Nothing Lost," based on John 6:11-12: *Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing maybe lost."*

All women are invited to attend one of two study groups. The Monday evening group will meet on November 5 at 6:00 p.m. at Old Country Buffet at 145th and West Center Road. The Wednesday evening group will meet on November 7 at 6:00 p.m. at Lord of Love in the Mary Room.

Cookie Tins for Elderly and Shut-ins

You probably aren't ready to think about Christmas yet, but when you start your holiday baking, please make 2 dozen extra cookies and bring them to the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, December 8 at 9:00 a.m. Come for a cup of coffee and a snack, and then help us pack up the Christmas tins.



WOMEN OF LOVE

Ninth Triennial Gathering

The Ninth Triennial Gathering of Women of the ELCA will be held in Charlotte, NC, July 24-27, 2014. It's an inspiring weekend for mothers, daughters, sisters, and best friends you call sisters. Experience enriching workshops, stirring worship, engaging Bible studies, and more.

The theme for the 2014 Triennial Gathering is **of many generations**, from Isaiah 58:12: *Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.*



Additional information on the Triennial will be published in future issues, but it's not too early to pencil in the dates on your 2013 calendar to transfer to your 2014 calendar! Several women from LOL have participated in the past, and we'd like to see several of our women go to Charlotte!



Dates to Remember

November

2 and 3		Fall Bazaar, First Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls, SD
5	6:00 p.m.	<i>Gather</i> Bible Study, Old Country Buffet, 145 th and West Center Road
6	9:00 a.m.	Quilters, Fellowship Hall
7	6:00 p.m.	<i>Gather</i> Bible Study, Mary Room
9	8:00 a.m.	Coffee Fellowship, Crane Coffee, 77 th and Cass
14	6:00 p.m.	Women's Ministry Team Meeting, Mary Room
18		Deadline for signing up to host table for Advent by Candlelight
20	9:00 a.m.	Quilters, Fellowship Hall
23	8:00 a.m.	Coffee Fellowship, Crane Coffee, 77 th and Cass
25		Ticket sale deadline for Advent by Candlelight



December

1	5:00 p.m.	Advent by Candlelight
8	9:00 a.m.	Prepare "goodie containers" for elderly and shut-ins



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
Michael Crow (friend of the Egrs)
Claire Foral (friend of Dave and Lisa Rieff)
Nick Gehrig (grandson of the Schuchards)
Mike Gillotte (neighbor of Bill and Karen Pickens)
Joel Harris (friend of Gwen Edwards)
Marilyn Haworth (friend of Brenda Mac)
Cathy Johnson (friend of Marilyn Thomsen)
Cheryl Jones (friend of Nancy Shinrock)
Dolores Jordan (aunt of Paula Foster)
Jude Konvalina
Jane Loquist (sister-in-law of Kristi Omar)
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)
Ardis Mickelson (mother of Shawn Lorenzen and Heather VanArsdale)
Brenda Nobles (friend of Gwen Edwards)
David Pippin (nephew of Lynda McGraw)
Judy Quest (friend of Jane Gehringer)

Marilyn Sanders (aunt of Deb Lund)
Isaac Schroeder (infant son of Clay and Kelly)
Hildur Shelton (sister of Pauline Shaffer)
Ron and Brenda Thom
Marilyn Thomsen
Audrey Wapelhorst (niece of Brenda Mac)
Ted Whitfield (former co-worker of Brian Shinrock)
Jeff Wise (friend of the Thoms)

Those deployed around the world:

Kelvin
Andrew Briggs
Terry Duke
Zach Gehrig
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

Thank you to all who helped make the lunch following worship on October 7, Celebration of Faith Sunday, a success. We appreciate your service!

Paula Foster and Lori Vandeventer
Nurture Committee

Thank You!
THANK YOU!

Happy
Thanksgiving



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

- November 2-3 Women of Love trip to Fall Bazaar in Sioux Falls, SD
- November 4 Daylight Saving Time ends
- November 10 Women’s Ministry Planning
- November 11 Congregational meeting
- November 17 Youth Group Lock-in
- November 18 Thanksgiving Worship Service and Pie Fest
- November 22 Thanksgiving Day

Upcoming Events

- December 1 Advent by Candlelight
- December 5 Midweek Advent Worship Services begin
- December 8 Prepare cookie tins
Make blankets for Project Linus
- December 9 Sunday School Christmas Program
- December 24 Christmas Eve Worship Services
- December 25 Christmas Day – No Worship

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.