

The Love Letter

Volume 53

May 2015

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Worship Schedule*

Sun. 8 a.m. Worship Service
Sun. 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
*Through May 17

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

A Look Ahead

Spring just got here, but we are already preparing for summer! Note that our summer schedule of a single 9 a.m. service on Sunday mornings begins **May 24**. The last day of Sunday School is **May 17**.

Happy Mother's Day to all the moms! The men of the congregation will provide a breakfast for mothers (free to moms, open to everyone!) on **May 10** between services.

Habitat for Humanity season is also here. Lord of Love hosts the build on **May 2**. Page 7 has the details.

It's also time to start planning for Vacation Bible School, which will be **June 8-12**. See page 6 for what this year's "Everest" theme is all about and how you can help.



In This Issue

Pastor's Page.....	2	Resources.....	11
Monthly Calendar.....	3	Men's News Corner	12
Worship.....	4	Women of Love.....	13
Nurture.....	6	Recipe of the Month.....	16
Mission.....	7	In Our Prayers.....	16
Outreach.....	7	Love Notes.....	16
LOL Youth.....	9	Mark Your Calendar.....	17

GREETINGS FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

In my experience working with congregations who are in the process of calling a new pastor, I have found that this process goes best when undergirded by prayer. Prayers for everyone involved in the call process—the committee who is compiling the ministry site profile, the call committee (when formed), the congregation council, the synod (especially Pastor Juliet, assistant to Bishop Maas, who is currently working with twenty congregations in transition), the entire congregation and me—are essential to the work that needs to be done during this time of transition.

With all this in mind, I ask you to keep those listed above in your prayers and devotions.

I also invite you to join a prayer team where we will take time to address specific concerns related to the call process in conversation and prayer. I would like to meet between services briefly **Sunday, May 11**, in order to address questions you may have and to schedule further meetings. (I want to keep this initial meeting brief so that we can enjoy the breakfast that the men are providing that day.)

If you want to participate on the prayer team but cannot be there on the 11th, please contact me.

Peace,

Pastor Glenn



Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

-Philippians 4:6

MONTHLY CALENDAR

May 2015						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 7:30pm AA Meeting	2 7:00am Men's Breakfast Ministry 8:00am Spring Clean-Up 10:00am Cosby Violin Recitals
3 8:00am Worship & Communion 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Confirmation Worship & Communion 11:30am Reception for Confirmands 6:00pm Bell Choir	4 6:00pm Gather Bible Study 8:00pm AA & AI Anon	5 9:00am Quilters 7:00pm Vision & Coordination Mtg.	6 6:00pm Luther Kids 6:00pm Brass Rehearsal 7:15pm Sr. Choir	7 6:30pm Preschool Party 7:00pm Boy Scouts	8 7:30pm AA Meeting	9 7:00am Men's Breakfast Ministry
10 8:00am Worship & Communion 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship & Communion 6:00pm Bell Choir	11 8:00pm AA & AI Anon	12	13 6:00pm Brass Rehearsal 6:00pm Luther Kids 7:15pm Sr. Choir	14 7:00pm Boy Scouts	15 5:00pm Pennell Shower 7:30pm AA Meeting	16 7:00am Men's Breakfast Ministry 11:30am God's Daughters Salad Luncheon
17 8:00am Worship & Communion 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship & Communion 6:00pm Bell Choir	18 8:00pm AA & AI Anon	19 9:00am Quilters 7:00pm Church Council Mtg.	20	21 7:00pm Boy Scouts	22 7:30pm AA Meeting	23 7:00am Men's Breakfast Ministry 12:00pm Kios Graduation Party
24 9:00am Summer Worship Schedule begins	25 8:00pm AA & AI Anon	26	27	28 NE Synod Asssembly 7:00pm Boy Scouts	29 NE Synod Asssembly 7:30pm AA Meeting	30 NE Synod Asssembly 7:00am Men's Breakfast Ministry
31 9:00am Worship & Communion 10:00am Summer Breakfast 1:00pm Baby Shower 1:00pm District 18 AA Ping Mtg.						

Lord of Love's Worship Servants

	May 3	May 10	May 17	May 24	May 31
Greeter(s)					
8 a.m.	Ed & Marjorie Keiser	Roger & Angie Meyer	Doug & Rose Roberts	9 a.m. only Kathy Christiansen	9 a.m. only Wayne & Joan Witt
10:30 a.m.	Art Behnkie & Gary Ramsay	Tom & Beth Olson	Lynd McGraw & E.J. Shaner		
Liturgist					
8 a.m.	Jesse Brewer	Paul Christenson	Heather Hansen	9 a.m. Matt Willard	9 a.m. Claudia Rowen
10:30 a.m.	Shawn Lorenzen	Lori Vandeventer	Rett Messerschmidt		
Communion Servers					
8 a.m.	Brian & Connie Walther	Edwards family	Brandon Hansen Bill Baker	Lisa Willard Jackie Combes	Paul & Ann Kroll
10:30 a.m.	Judy Messerschmidt, Angel Todd, Julia Ritonya, Aaron Edwards	Vandeventer family	Messerschmidt family		
Altar Care					
8 a.m.	Cathy Aden Sue Dieter	Connie Walther Lisa Meyer	Mardi Fiske	Wayne & Joan Witt	Deb Quadhamer & Judy Messerschmidt
10:30 a.m.	N. Quackenbush Karen Anderson	Janet Guthrie Nancy Shinrock	Paul & Ann Kroll		
Ushers					
8 a.m.	Paul Dieter, Dennis Hindemith, Brian Walther, Matt Willard				
10:30 a.m.	Brian & Deb Lund				
Nursery Care					
10:30 a.m.			Lisa Rieff	Ashley Meier	Pat Brewer
CD Recording					
10:30 a.m.	Pat Brewer	Paul Christenson	Dave Lueders	Paul Murphy	Jesse Brewer

WORSHIP

Summer Worship Schedule

We go to one
9 a.m. service
Memorial Day
weekend, **May 24**.
The summer
schedule continues
until Labor Day
weekend (Sept. 6).



Starting May 31, breakfast will be served following worship. Cooking volunteers, please sign up on the bulletin board.

Musicians Needed

We at Lord of Love get spoiled most of the year with all the wonderful brass, choir, and bell choir music. Please consider sharing your musical talents with us over the summer months when the groups are taking a break.

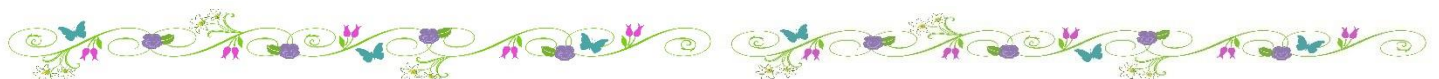
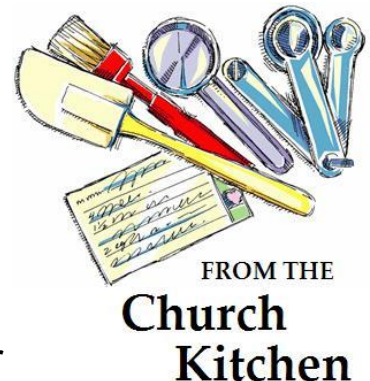


Sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex.

NURTURE

Reminders from the Kitchen Coordinator

- If you are taking things out of or putting things in the freezers, please **be sure the doors are completely shut** afterwards. We found quite a mess one Sunday after some frozen raspberries apparently thawed out and dripped down from the top shelf of one of the freezers.
- If you should ever find a mess in the kitchen or storage room, please call us at [402.578.6834](tel:402.578.6834) and leave a message or email us at happyinmykitchen@gmail.com so that we can promptly take care of the situation.
- Please **mark items that you are leaving in the freezers or refrigerator** so that we know who they belong to and how long they have been around. This is for health and space considerations.
- The kitchen currently does not have an ice maker, so **if you need ice for a function you will need to supply your own.**
- We **thank you** for your help in keeping the kitchen clean and organized so it is always ready for use by whoever needs it.
- Our thanks to the folks that contributed to the **dessert server fund**: Connie and Brian Walther, Jackie and Joe Combes, Jeri and Jim Morgan. We have been able to purchase four dessert servers and would love to purchase more. If you would like to contribute, simply give Julie or Paul Concannon \$5 and say it is for the dessert server fund. Thank you!



Klos Graduation Party

Mike and Christie Klos would like to invite the congregation to an open house to celebrate the graduation of **Leah Shely Klos** on **Saturday, May 23**, from 12-3 p.m. at Lord of Love.



Confirmation

Aaron, Angel and Julia will be confirmed at the **May 3, 10:30 a.m.** service. Please join us as these children of God whom you have watch grow up at Lord of Love affirm their baptism. The confirmands and their families invite you to join them after the service for a luncheon in the fellowship hall.

Last Day of Summer School

The season of Sunday School is coming to an end. Soon summer will be here and we will celebrate one service and summer breakfasts together. Our last day of Sunday School will be **Sunday, May 17**.



Please take time to thank your Sunday School leaders and helpers for the time and talents they have shared with your children all year. They are a gift to our ministry and we are grateful for them.

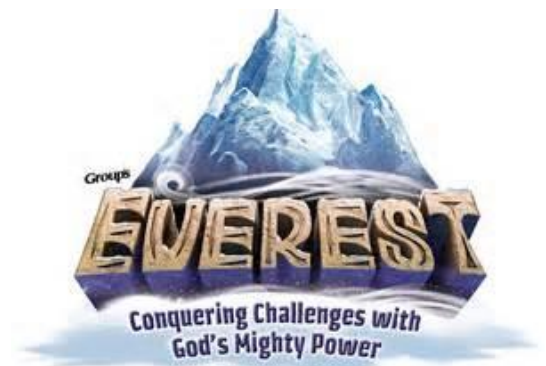
EVEREST Vacation Bible School

VBS is coming June 8–12, 2015! This year we will embark on an “icy” mountain adventure—right in our church! At Everest VBS, we’ll explore one of the most majestic, beautiful (and sometimes dangerous!) places on earth. Kids will join Climbing Crews to “trek” through Everest VBS, discovering God’s power and promises all along the way. Kids learn to overcome obstacles—with God’s awesome power.

When you make it to the top of Everest, you’re at the highest point on earth. But Jesus is higher still! He promises to provide, to comfort, to love us forever, and more. At Everest VBS, kids learn that his awesome power is enough to overcome any “mountain” or problem in their lives. Kids become anchored in rock-solid Bible truths—ready to face life’s challenges.

Many volunteers are needed to make this program a success.
We need:

- Welcome & Registration table
- Crew leaders and assistants
- Station leaders
- Science/activity leaders
- Audio visual and photo team
- Skit team
- Decorations
- Dinner/kitchen crew



Prayerfully consider what time, talents and gifts you can share with our VBS this year and contact Heather Christensen at heather@lord-of-love.org.

MISSION

Mission Possible Update

Our special offerings from the Wednesday night Lenten services, the proceeds from the soup suppers, and the special Easter offering will go to the Lord of Love Youth for their trip to the ELCA Youth Gathering in July and the special offering to the ELCA Walk for Water for Hunger program. Thanks for your generous support.

The Team will soon discuss and decide where to direct funds from Summer Breakfasts.

Community Garden

Potatoes have been planted! As soon as temperatures permit, later crops will be planted, then weeding will be done. As we get into June, regular garden days will be **Monday and Thursday at 9 a.m.**

Contact one of the regular gardeners if you are interested in helping: Doug Aden, Dawn Burton, Dale Finck, Deb Lund, Jeri Morgan, Gary Ramsay, and Doug Roberts.



ELCA Delegation visits London, Geneva, Rome

CHICAGO (ELCA) – In an endeavor to learn, share and deepen dialogue with Christian partners around the world, the Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton, presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), led a delegation of ELCA leaders Feb. 1-13, 2015, to meet with religious leaders in London, Geneva and Rome.

"Our pilgrimage to Canterbury, Geneva and Rome gave me a sense of the breadth of the church. The Anglican Communion, The Lutheran World Federation, World Council of Churches and the Roman Catholic Church span the globe and, in their history and tradition, span the centuries. The church is catholic – small c – and the ELCA is part of that," said Eaton.



Read more at <http://www.elca.org/News-and-Events/7724#sthash.QDT77wcy.dpuf>
See photos of the 2015 Ecumenical Journey at www.ELCA.org/Living-Lutheran/Photos

OUTREACH



It's time for Habitat for Humanity again! Lord of Love is in the ELF coalition that does a rehab house every year. Our house this year is located at 4105 North 23rd Street. **Saturday, May 2**, Lord of Love will host the build, starting at 8:30 a.m.

We encourage all able-bodied people to spend some time at the house. We work with the home owners as they earn their Sweat Equity hours. We actually get to know them and learn their unique story. We also need volunteers to provide food on the weekends we host the build. If volunteering is not your forte, please consider financial support. A donation can be made by writing a check to Lord of Love and putting Habitat for Humanity in the memo. Finally, we need your prayers as we continue "God's Work Our Hands".

For questions, please contact James Morgan.

MISSION

Invitation to Glocal Mission Event

Deb Lund is attending the Synod Assembly and will also attend the Glocal Mission Event pre-assembly. She invites you to join her at this **free** event!

The ELCA and the Nebraska Synod will host a “Glocal” Mission Event on **Thursday, May 28 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.** at the Younes Conference Center in Kearney as part of the Pre-Assembly Day activities prior to the 2015 Nebraska Synod Assembly.

God’s call for reconciliation propels us to encounter our neighbor. ELCA Glocal Interfaith Gatherings equip us to participate in God’s work in today’s global and local realities as well as their “glocal” intersections. Who is our neighbor? How do we engage one another across our differences and similarities? Join us for interfaith conversations around the realities of this world God loves.

Schedule

9 a.m. - Registration
9–9:30 a.m. - Sing-Along
9:30–10:30 a.m. - Accompaniment: God, My and Your Story
10:30–10:45 a.m. - Small Group
10:45 a.m.–noon - Landing Accompaniment – Interfaith

Noon–1 p.m. - Lunch
1–2:15 p.m. - Workshops: Slot 1

- Interculturality
- Music: A Language That Speaks Volumes
- Public Mission and Advocacy

2:15–2:30 p.m. – Break
2:30–3:30 p.m. – Workshops: Slot 2 (Choose another workshop)

- Interculturality
- Music: A Language That Speaks Volumes
- Public Mission and Advocacy

3:30–4 p.m. – Wrap-up



Registration

The Glocal Mission Event is free of charge. Lunch will be served. Pre-registration is required. To register, [click here](#). For more information, contact Stephanie Lusinski at [402.896.5311](tel:402.896.5311).



OUTREACH

Urgent Need at Project Hope

For years, Project Hope was a beneficiary of the “Feinsten Challenge”, a program that matched food and cash contributions with foundation funds. Lord of Love was one congregation that participated in the challenge.

This year, the Foundation will *not* be sponsoring the challenge. This means Project Hope needs donations as much as ever. The good news is that, if Project Hope can raise at least as much as last year, several generous individuals will match that amount. Last year, they received \$32,226 in food and cash donations.

Project Hope is asking us to consider increasing efforts to donate cans and boxes of food, especially **hot and cold cereal, grain products, canned tuna** and **canned fruit**. Cash donations are also welcome.

For more information, please contact Lori Lindbergh and 402.453.7649.



YOUTH

Easter Breakfast Fundraiser



The generosity of our congregation and visitors on Easter was simply unbelievable! Our Easter breakfast hosted by the youth **served nearly 180 and raised over \$900** to support youth ministry programming.

This was amazing!

A very, very special thank-you goes out to **Doc and Jeri Morgan**. They utilized a special program Thrivent is offering their members to apply for a grant for seed money on a special project or ministry program. They applied for monies to pay for the supplies that made our delicious breakfast. Because of that, all offerings were pure profit to the youth program. On top of that, they did the shopping and delivered the groceries to the church!

Thank you for your gifts of generosity and time! We truly appreciate them!

Garage Sale Fundraiser

Thanks to all who cleaned out their closets and cupboards and donated to our garage sale. We were able to raise **\$708** for our youth fund and trip to the National Youth Gathering.

THANK YOU!!
THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Youth Fellowship Events

Sunday, May 17: Spring Fiesta
11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. in the
Fellowship Hall



Sunday, June 14: Summer
Fun at Fun Plex, 4 – 8 p.m.

Serving Dinner at the Siena Francis House, by Heather Christensen



On Saturday, April 18, five youth and 10 adults from Lord of Love volunteered to serve a meal at the Siena Francis House. It had been years since I had been down to serve a meal, so I wasn't sure what to expect. It was amazing how much the housing and buildings had grown. We wandered along a muddy 17th Street past an older building that looked familiar. There were also so many new buildings and what I would call almost a campus.

We found the men's shelter where we would serve dinner and received our assignments. For the next three hours, we plated meals, poured coffee and water, reset tables, and most importantly provided a warm smile and some conversation to the many who came through for a meal and a dry place to rest and have some fellowship.



Ben and Eric



Eli, Paula and Kyle

There were many things I experienced that day. There was joy in serving with my family—immediate, extended, and church family—and I was reminded how grateful I am for all that I have, from an education and employment, to a home and food. I found hope and faith in the conversation with the youth as they talked about what they observed that afternoon. They too are grateful for all that they have.

There are all kinds of people in this world, in our town, and we can help them, be kind to them, and love them as God loves them. We should not let too much time pass before we do this again.

Thank you to all who shared in this experience. We hope more of you will join us next time!



Rolie, Rex and David



CHURCH COUNCIL AND RESOURCES

2015 Lord of Love Church Council

Vision and Coordination: Brian Walther, President; Dave Hild, Vice-President; Judy Messerschmidt, Secretary; Jackie Combes, Treasurer

Nurture: Susan Lueders and Lisa Willard

Outreach: Mardi Fiske and Scott Reinhardt

Resources: Craig Pennell and Bill Quackenbush

Worship: Heather Hansen and Joan Witt



Giving Status

General Fund financial information for March 2015:

Actual Income - \$27,135.00

Actual Expense - \$26,582.48

Financial Information Year-To-Date as of the end of March:

Actual Income - \$74,739.00

Actual Expense - \$86,671.82



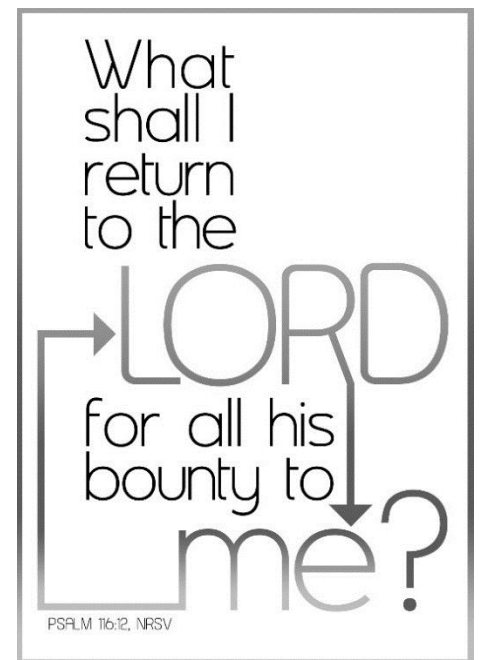
As of the end of March, the available cash deficit has not changed significantly. It is (13,634.14). Weekly offerings of \$6,799 are needed to meet budgeted expenses. The weekly offering average through the end of March was \$5,622. Thank you for keeping your pledges current.

Stewardship, from Heather Hansen

Stewardship is not how much we give but how we live in our giving. We don't use the word "steward" very much in our culture. The only steward most of us meet is the one who brings us a cup of coffee or a bag of peanuts on a flight. But in biblical times, stewards were among the most important people in society. A steward had command over the resources of another.

In a world without fax machines, cell phones, or pagers, a wealthy man had no choice but to entrust his holdings to his steward while he was away from his estate. In the parable from Matthew, Jesus teaches that all of us are stewards entrusted by God with vast wealth. Even the steward who received just one talent was given a fortune worth the equivalent of thirty-five years of daily wages.

But exercising our stewardship is often intimidating. Whenever we use our gifts, we risk what we think might be failure. It's tempting to think that if God is really so powerful, God hardly needs our meager efforts to multiply his wealth! *(continued on page 12)*



CHURCH COUNCIL AND RESOURCES

Stewardship, continued from previous

Each of us faces the temptation of compromising our calling. Is it really so evil to do nothing with the resources God has left in our keeping? Jesus' parable answers this question with a resounding yes! As the master illustrates, God treats us severely when we offer excuses to justify our reluctance to be stewards.



It's good to know that another option is open to us. We can seize our role as stewards with the eagerness of the first two stewards in the parable. Both of these faithful stewards multiply the master's resources. And both receive the same reward at their master's return: "Well done, good and faithful servant!" (Matt. 25:21).

At the end of time, will we hear those same words from our Lord?

Source: "The Joy of Generosity" devotional series developed by Barnabas Foundation and available at www.barnabasfoundation.com; adapted from the HomeLink series written by Pastor Bob Heerspink and released by Faith Alive Christian Resources (www.faithaliveresources.com).

MEN'S NEWS

Moms Eat Free!

Lord of Love Men **can** cook! Join us for breakfast on Mother's Day between services in Lord of Love's fellowship hall. **Moms eat free** and we ask for a free-will donation for other family members. Proceeds will go to support Nebraska Lutheran Campus Ministries-Omaha.

Eggs, egg dishes, meats, toast, pancakes, fresh fruit, juices and coffee will be served. **Everyone is welcome!**



Softball Schedule

All are invited to come and cheer on the men's softball team. We will play on Mondays at Kelley Softball complex (124th and Fort) on Field 8 (the field closest to Fort St.) or Field 5 (last one along the entrance road). During the summer, we go out for pizza after 6:30 p.m. games and anyone is welcome to join us.

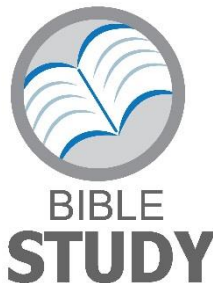
If interested in playing on the team, contact Don Rowen, [402.965.8977](tel:402.965.8977) or drowen@unomaha.edu.

May 4 - 6:30 p.m. at Kelley 8
May 11 - 9:30 p.m. at Kelley 8
May 18 - 8:30 p.m. at Kelley 8
June 1 - 6:30 p.m. at Kelley 5 Pizza to follow
June 8 - 6:30 p.m. at Kelley 5 Pizza to follow
June 15 - 8:30 p.m. at Kelley 8
June 22 - 8:30 p.m. at Kelley 8
June 29 - 7:30 p.m. at Kelley 8
July 6 - 7:30 p.m. at Kelley 8
July 13 - 7:30 p.m. at Kelley 8
July 20 - 7:30 p.m. at Kelley 5

Gather Bible Study Session Ending

This month is the final session of the “Transforming Life and Faith” *Gather* Bible study series. The Monday group will meet at the Oakview Mall Village Inn at **6 p.m. on May 4**. The Wednesday group will meet in the Mary Room at **6 p.m. on May 6**. The theme is “Reformation Today.”

Jewish and Gentile Christians became one church body by transforming themselves for the sake of the gospel. How can we learn from them? Session 9: “The Church Transforming and Reforming” theme verses are: “...I will set it up, so that all other peoples may seek the Lord—even all the Gentiles over whom my name has been called.” Acts 15:16-17.



Summer 2015 Bible Study and Retreat

This summer, Emma Crossen, Women of the ELCA’s former stewardship director, is writing a study on giving. *No Catchy Slogans* includes three sessions: “Give in Secret”, “Be like the Widow”, and “God Loves a Cheerful Giver.”

The Monday evening group will maintain its regular schedule throughout the summer unless otherwise announced.

All women are invited to attend the half-day Bible study retreat covering all three sessions. Deb Lund will host the retreat on **Saturday, August 15 at 8:45 a.m.**, followed by a potluck salad luncheon.



Gather Bible Study Being Made New

From the *Gather* Bible Study website: *Gather* is changing the format of its Bible studies. Instead of a nine-month study and a three-month summer study, it will run several studies during the year. And it will no longer publish a separate leader guide and companion Bible. The magazine will contain the leader information.

Traditionally, *Gather* has asked a scholar, often retired, to write the nine-month study. However, *Gather* is finding it increasingly difficult to identify new writers who are able to commit to such a large project. We hope that by shortening the studies, we can get new authors who could not make a commitment to write a longer study.

We think readers will enjoy hearing the perspectives of a large, more diverse group of writers. Also, we hope that shorter Bible studies will be more appealing for a monthly study group.

The Shape of the Year

- **Summer**--three sessions (June, July/August)
- **Fall**--three sessions (Sept. through Nov.)
- **Advent/Christmas**--shorter seasonal devotional (Dec.)
- **Winter**--four sessions, probably on a book of the Bible (Jan./Feb. through April)
- **Spring**--one session, an intergenerational lesson (May)

Women’s Ministry Team Meetings

All women are invited to attend the women’s ministry team meetings on the second Wednesday of each month. We will meet in the Mary Room at **6 p.m. on May 13**.

WOMEN OF LOVE

Lutheran Women of Omaha

Lutheran Women of Omaha will **meet Tuesday, May 12 at noon** at Bethel Lutheran Church, 1312 South 45th St. Pr. Lynda Walz will discuss the Lutheran Chaplaincy program. The project is the UNO Lutheran Campus Ministry.

Cost of the luncheon is \$6. A yearly membership is \$3. Please make your reservations with Ruth Manning at 402.451.0221 by Sunday, May 10.

Flat Sheets Needed for Quilts



The quilting group needs flat sheets for backing of the quilts. When doing your spring cleaning, take those sheets you no longer use and consider donating them to the Quilters. Please place sheets in front of the folding door to the quilting area in the Fellowship Hall. Thanks!

God's Daughters Luncheon

"Daughters" of all ages (yes, kids, friends and family too) are invited to attend the God's Daughters' potluck salad luncheon at **11:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 16** in the Fellowship Hall.

The theme is "**Walking by Faith**" and the event features **Laura Baum-Parr**, who, along with her husband, John, walked the el Camino de Santiago in the fall of 2014. This is a 500 mile pilgrimage from France through northern Spain to the Cathedral de Santiago de Compostela, where the bones of St. James the Apostle are buried. Laura will share pictures of their journey, stories about the people they met along the way and lessons learned. Please bring a salad or dessert to share. Also, we would love for you to bring a picture of you with your mother.

Dates to Remember

May 1 , 8 a.m.	Crane Coffee Fellowship
May 4 , 6 p.m.	<i>Gather</i> Bible Study, Village Inn, 2204 S. 143 rd Pl.
May 5 , 9 a.m. – noon	Quilters
May 6 , 6 p.m.	<i>Gather</i> Bible Study, Mary Room
May 9 , 6 p.m.	Crane Coffee Fellowship
May 13 , 6 p.m.	Ministry Team, Mary Room
May 15 , 8 a.m.	Crane Coffee Fellowship
May 16 , 11:30 a.m.	God's Daughters (all women and girls) Potluck Salad Luncheon
May 19 , 9 a.m. – noon	Quilters
May 29 , 8 a.m.	Crane Coffee Fellowship

Crane Coffee Fellowship

This month, **three** coffee opportunities are available to all women, at Crane Coffee, 77th and Cass. Join us at **8 a.m. on Friday, May 1, 15 and 29**. Teachers, add us to your summer schedule.



RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Wild Rice and Ham Chowder, from Julie Concannon

From *Taste of Home*

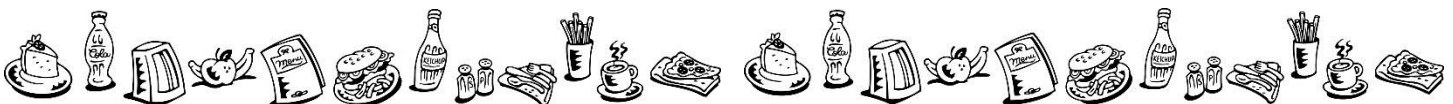
1/2 cup chopped onion
1/4 cup butter, cubed
2 garlic cloves, minced
6 tablespoons all-purpose flour
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon pepper
4 cups chicken broth
1 1/2 cups cubed peeled potatoes
1/2 cup chopped carrot
1 bay leaf
1/2 teaspoon dried thyme
1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg
3 cups cooked wild rice
2 1/2 cups cubed fully cooked ham
2 cups half and half
1 can (15 1/4 ounce) whole kernel corn,
drained
Minced fresh parsley, if desired (for garnish)

1. In a Dutch oven, over medium heat, sauté onion in butter until tender.
2. Add garlic; cook 1 minute longer.
3. Stir in the flour, salt and pepper until blended.
4. Gradually add broth. Bring to a boil.
5. Cook and stir for 2 minutes or until thickened and bubbly.
6. Add the potatoes, carrot, bay leaf, thyme and nutmeg; return to a boil.
7. Reduce heat; cover and simmer for 30 minutes or until vegetables are tender.
8. Stir in the rice, ham, cream and corn; heat through (do not boil).
9. Discard bay leaf. Garnish with parsley.

Yield: 8-10 servings (2 3/4 quarts).



Do you have a recipe that you're famous for? Share it with your church family by submitting it for the Recipe of the Month. Please email it to loveletter@lord-of-love.org. Thank you!



IN OUR PRAYERS

Karen Beck
Chris Beckman (friend of Jane Gehringer)
Connie Bennett (cousin of Karen Armitage)
Dick Bell
Syd Brinkman
Allyson & Tom Conhartoski
Patricia Connolly (friend of the Thoms)
Everingham family (friends of the Reinhardts)
Antoinette Anania (cousin of Deb Lund)
Vicky Hays (friend of Ann Kroll)
Mary Howard (friend of Carol Novak)
Charles Meyer (father of Pr. Brad)
Mark Miller
Matt Kreikimeier (friend of Brenda Mac)
Glenna Lee
Fran Lineweaver (mother of Gwen Edwards)
Lisa Lueders (sister-in-law of Dave Lueders)
Vi Neu (stepmother of Carol Novak)
Cynthia Palmer (friend of Dave & Lisa Rieff)
Arlene Schultz (mother of Pat Brewer)

Brian Shinrock
Georgene Sones (mother of Dayla Miller)
Don St. Ours (brother-in-law of Lynda McGraw)
Jill Sheridan (sister-in-law of Rebecca Lund Sheridan)
Brenda Thom
Drew Van Winkle (friend of Gustafsons)
Betty Wallwey (aunt of Shari Garder)
Ted Whitfield (former co-worker of Brian Shinrock)
Caregivers and those who suffer with depression

Those Who Mourn

The family and friends of Kay Terwilliger (sister of Tom Olson)

Those Who Are Deployed

Zach Gehrig, Steve Slone and Paul Wendzel

If you would like to add a name to the In Our Prayers section, 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

Rev. Dr. Damon D. Laaker of [St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church](#) invites you to celebrate their 110th year of ministry. A celebration with special music and guest speaker **Bishop Brian Maas** will take place on **Sunday, May 3, at 3 p.m.**

St. Luke's is located at 2315 I Street in Omaha.

Ruth Manning and the Women of Love extend their thanks to **Jackie Combes** for heading up the coffee reception at Metro East Spring Gathering on April 25. Good and healthy!



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

May 2	Habitat for Humanity Spring Clean-up Day
May 10	Mother's Day Breakfast
May 16	God's Daughters Luncheon

Save the Date

June 8 – 12	Vacation Bible School
June 14	Youth Summer Fun Day
July 15-19	Youth National Gathering in Detroit



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