

The Love Letter

Volume 46

August 2016

Lord of Love Office

Phone.....402.493.2946
Fax.....402.493.3087
Website...www.lord-of-love.org

Lord of Love Staff

Interim Pastor

Glenn Schacht

Director of Christian Education/Youth Ministry

Heather Christensen

heather@lord-of-love.org

Office Administrator, Prayer Chain, and Financial Secretary

Mary Lou Gustafson

marylou@lord-of-love.org

Community Therapists

Kim Mueller

402.354.6891, Ext. 13

Becky Herber

402.354.6891, Ext. 21

Missionary to Tanzania

Bob Kasworm

Web Steward

Del Gust

webmaster@lord-of-love.org

Love Letter Editor

Charise Adams

loveletter@lord-of-love.org

Senior Organist

Carol Novak

Associate Organist

Amy Kragnes

Chancel Choir Director and Bell Choir Director

Jon Novak

LOL Brass Director

Brian Lund

Worship Schedule

Sunday, 9 a.m. (through
Labor Day)

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

A Look Ahead

August 13: Women's Half Day Bible Study Retreat (see page 11)

August 18-21: "Stuff a Truck" Outreach Project with Heartland Hope Mission (see page 6)

September 11: Kick Off Sunday (see page 5)

November 13: Night Out by Candlelight (see page 11)



Table of Contents

From the Interim Pastor.....	2	Church Council.....	8
Worship	3	Stewardship.....	9
Monthly Calendar.....	4	Men's News.....	10
Nurture.....	5	Women of Love.....	11
Outreach.....	6	Special Announcements.....	11
Mission.....	7	In Our Prayers.....	12
		Love Notes.....	12

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 (recipes or favorite poems, etc., are welcome) must be received by the 20th of the month.

FROM THE INTERIM PASTOR'S DESK

Friends at Lord of Love,

Recently I was asked if we could have a conversation about race and racism at Lord of Love this fall. In light of the events of the past year, both here in Omaha and throughout the U.S., I believe that this is a vitally important conversation for us to have.

My question is, "Do we have this conversation during Adult Forum on Sunday mornings, or do we have a small group study during the week (I would suggest Monday evenings), or do we do both in an effort to include more people in the conversation?" If you are interested in being a part of this conversation, please let me know.

I believe that the church can be a guiding force

for the healing and reconciliation that needs to happen regarding these issues in our nation. Race and racism are such complex issues that they defy any single simple answer. What better place to have a caring conversation about these issues that throughout its history have bitterly divided our nation than in a community that trusts God's love to unite us.

I look forward to this conversation with you. Please be in touch.

God's Peace Be with You,

Pastor Glenn



THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

A Month of Sundays, from newsletternewsletter.com

"August is like the Sunday of summer," an online meme proclaims. But that means different things to different people.

If you see Sunday as the end of a week—a chance to sleep in, do "nothing," relax and play—then August might be your downtime at the end of a busy summer. If Sunday feels heavy because the onslaught of the workweek is approaching, then August may carry the dread of falling leaves and falling temperatures.



But if you view Sunday as a fresh start to the week, then August—with a new school year and new church programming around the corner—can be exciting.

And if you honor Sunday as the Sabbath, indeed "August is like the Sunday of summer." God invites us to enjoy these holy days and give thanks to him, the Creator of all seasons.

—Heidi Mann

WORSHIP

Lord of Love's Worship Servants

	August 7	August 14	August 21	August 30
Greeter(s)				
9 a.m.	Ron & Nadine Salak	Jim & Jeri Morgan	Christie Klos & Charise Adams	Roger & Angie Meyer
Liturgist				
9 a.m.	Doug Aden	Karen Mullen	Paul Murphy	Rex Quadhamer
Communion Servers				
9 a.m.	Cathy Aden, Quackenbush family	Karen & Doug Armitage, Messerschmidt family	Peg Murphy, Mike Klos, Jeri Morgan	Deb Quadhamer, Doug & Karen Armitage, Ashley Vandeventer
Altar Care				
9 a.m.	Joan Witt, Sarah Eagen	Deb Quadhamer, Judy Messerschmidt	Angie Meyer	Diana Haye & Marcia Roads
Nursery				
Ushers				
9 a.m.	Kenn Garder, Matt Garder, Craig Pennell, Paul Christenson	Kenn Garder, Matt Garder, Craig Pennell, Paul Christenson	Rett Messerschmidt, Rob Anderson, Paul Barnett, John Edwards	Rett Messerschmidt, Rob Anderson, Paul Barnett, John Edwards
CD Recording				
9 a.m.	Pat Brewer	Paul Christenson	Dave Lueders	Paul Murphy

Blessing of the Backpacks

God is with you wherever you go – even to school! Students and teachers, bring your backpacks to church on **Aug. 7** for the Blessing of the Backpacks.

We return to two worship services starting Sept. 11.



MONTHLY CALENDAR

August 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 8:00pm AA & Ala Non	2 Quilters 7:00pm Vision & Coordination Mtg.	3	4 7:00pm Boy Scouts	5 7:30pm AA Meeting	6 7:00am Men's Breakfast Ministry
7 Blessing of the Backpacks 9:00am Worship & Communion 10:00am Summer Breakfast	8 8:00pm AA & Ala Non	9	10	11 7:00pm Boy Scouts	12 7:30pm AA Meeting	13 7:00am Men's Breakfast Ministry
14 9:00am Worship & Communion 10:00am Summer Breakfast	15 8:00pm AA & Ala Non	16 9:00am Quilters 7:00pm Church Council Mtg.	17	18 7:00pm Boy Scouts	19 7:30pm AA Meeting	20 7:00am Men's Breakfast Ministry
21 9:00am Worship & Communion 10:00am Summer Breakfast	22 8:00pm AA & Ala Non	23	24	25 7:00pm Boy Scouts	26 7:30pm AA Meeting	27 Belter wedding 7:00am Men's Breakfast Ministry
28 9:00am Worship & Communion 10:00am Summer Breakfast 1:00pm District 18 AA 2:00pm Lund 40th Anniversary Open House	29 8:00pm AA & Ala Non	30	31			

Summer Breakfasts

Summer Breakfast will continue until Aug. 28. Thanks to everyone who has served or signed up to serve. On our last Sunday, everyone will have an opportunity to bring a dish to share.

Save the Date: Kick-Off Sunday

Kick-Off Sunday will be Sept. 11 when we will return to two worship services. We will enjoy a potluck dinner after second service at 11:45. Please plan to bring a favorite dish or two to share. Beverages will be provided.



Luther Kids Volunteer Needed

A volunteer is needed for Luther Kids for Wednesday nights. If you have a passion for elementary students and sharing faith, friendship and fun, we'd love to have you volunteer to coordinate our Luther Kids program.



Programming will run **September through May**, 6-7 p.m. on Wednesdays. Contact Heather Christensen at heather@lord-of-love.org for more information or to volunteer.

Anniversary Celebration Volunteers

The Nurture Committee is seeking a group of people to put their heads together and share their gifts to plan and coordinate Lord of Love's 45th Anniversary Celebration.



The planning process needs to begin soon, as the celebration will take place in June 2017. If you are interested or have any questions, please call Susan Lueders at 402.571.4252 or 402.707.3753.

Aged to Perfection Luncheon

There are a few changes to the Aged to Perfection Luncheon we need to let you know about. There will be **no luncheon in August**. Susan and Jackie will be on vacation for two of the weeks, so we decided to give you a month off.

As of September, the luncheon will move to the 2nd Wednesday of the month. For the rest of the year, the dates are:

- Sept. 14
- Oct. 12
- Nov. 9
- Dec. 14

We hope to continue to see the "regulars" and maybe pick up some new faces with the new day.



OUTREACH

"Stuff a Truck" with Heartland Hope Mission

Through "Stuff a Truck" events, Heartland Hope Mission is trying to help feed 5,000 people in Omaha who need assistance.

For the Stuff-A-Truck event on **Aug. 18-21** at HyVee (108th and Fort), Lord of Love will supply four people for each shift. Someone from Heartland Hope will also be at each shift:

- **Thursday, Aug. 18**, 5:30 to 8 p.m.
- **Friday, Aug. 19**, 4:30 to 7 p.m.
- **Saturday, Aug. 20**, 10:30 to 1 p.m. and from 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- **Sunday, Aug. 21**, 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.

The volunteers will hand out HyVee grocery sacks for the customers to bring to the cashier's and pay either \$5 or \$10 to help feed people in Omaha who are experiencing issues with getting enough food. HyVee will use the money to pay for food during Thanksgiving to bring to Heartland Hope Mission for distribution.

Consider signing up for a shift on the signup sheet in the narthex.



Machame Lutheran Hospital Funds Update

At right is a picture of Elisha Akyoo, age 10. She suffered a displaced supra-condylar fracture of her left humerus, which was treated by surgery with three K-wires at Machame Lutheran Hospital in Tanzania. She has done well and recently had the plaster cast and stitches removed.

Elisha's father (below, with Elisha and her orthopedic surgeon Dr. John Lyimo), was only able to pay about \$20 for the procedure, so the rest (about \$140) came from Lord of Love's

contribution to the Machame Orthopedic Patients Poor Person Fund. The Endowment Committee sent \$1000 designated for the hospital last year. Bob Kasworm, our missionary to Tanzania, expressed gratitude for the gift.



MISSION

Mission Possible Update

The proceeds from Lord of Love's summer breakfast monies will go to the ELCA Lutheran Disaster Response, particularly to assist victims of spring and summer storms.



Thanks so much to everyone who prepared and served breakfasts, and to all who gave generously to enjoy the breakfasts and help those in need.

Garden Update

Gardeners regularly meet on Monday and Thursday mornings to weed, water and harvest produce at the Lord of Love Community Garden. As of this writing, summer squash, onions, green beans and beets are being taken twice a week to Project Hope. The sweetcorn looks great and will be harvested in the coming weeks.

Some of the gardeners have been weeding beds on the west side of the church. Others have worked hard to weed and put new plants in the John Young Memorial Prayer Garden, on the far eastern part of Lord of Love's property.

Thanks be to God for the faithful, hard work and the nutritious fruits of this labor by such dedicated servants!

John Young was a member at Lord of Love who died a motorcycle accident. His wife Kathleen was a member at St. Pius X Catholic Church. As an accountant, John helped with the annual audit of Lord of Love's books.

Lutheran Disaster Response

West Virginia is experiencing the worst flooding in more than a century. At least 23 people have been confirmed dead, hundreds of homes are severely damaged or destroyed, and thousands of people are without power. Flash flooding caused little time to prepare or escape the rising waters.



With the threat of heavy rain still in the forecast, additional flooding and damage may occur.

Our response:

Through congregations, synods and disaster-affiliate organizations, Lutheran Disaster Response is working to assist those who have been affected by the flooding. Lutheran Disaster Response's network, including our coordinators in West Virginia and neighboring Ohio, have come together to address the needs of survivors. We know this will be a long road to recovery, and we will be there to accompany those impacted through every phase of this disaster. Your gifts are needed to launch effective recovery efforts.

What you can do:

Pray

Continue to pray for the people affected by flooding. May God's healing presence give them peace and hope in their time of need. *(continued on next page)*

MISSION

Give

Gifts to West Virginia Flooding will be used to assist those directly impacted by the flooding until the response is complete.

Connect

- Sign up for Lutheran Disaster Response [alerts](#).
- Check the Lutheran Disaster Response [blog](#).

Text and photos from elca.org



CHURCH COUNCIL

2016 Lord of Love Church Council

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

Nurture: Laurie Heavey and Susan Lueders

Outreach: Paula Foster and Scott Reinhardt

Resources: Craig Pennell and Bill Quackenbush

Worship: Doug Aden and Heather Hansen



July Council Meeting Minutes, from Kathy Christensen

The Lord of Love Church Council met on July 19, 2016. The following are some of the highlights of the meeting.

- Review of financials by the Treasurer show that finances are approximately \$2000 down from previous month.
- Outreach noted that they will be offering different church groups the opportunity to volunteer at a "Stuff the Truck" event in August.
- Discussed the upcoming 2017 Budget planning for the August council meeting.
- Next meeting will be August 16 at 7 p.m.



CHURCH COUNCIL/STEWARDSHIP

Giving Status

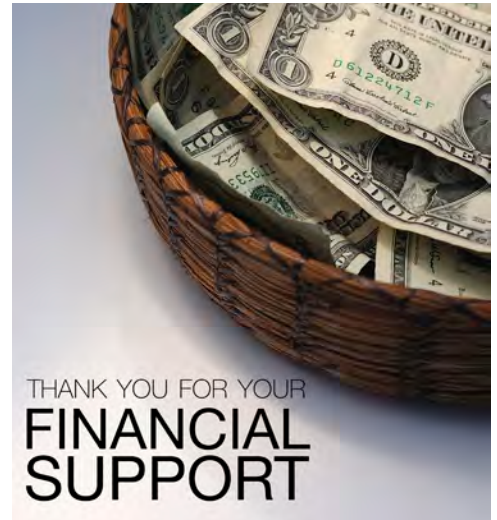
General Fund financial information for June 2016:

Actual Income - \$24,420.00
Actual Expense - \$26,430.48

Year-To-Date as of the end of June:

Actual Income - \$161,279.15
Actual Expense - \$163,815.40

As of the end of June, the available cash deficit has increased. It is (15,324.67). Weekly offerings of \$7,217 are needed to meet budgeted expenses. The weekly offering average through the end of June was \$6,092. The monthly offering average was \$26,399.83 at the end of June, down from \$26,833.60 at the end of May. Thank you for your continued prayers and contributions as we move forward in 2016.



Stewardship: Helping Youth Understand the Importance of Giving

As I was thinking of what to write on Stewardship this month, I came across this article [published by the archdiocese of St. Louis]. We can all help our youth understand the importance of giving to the church.
-Heather Hansen

Do Your Children See You Give?

Every parent wants to raise children who share and give generously. When our children someday meet God face-to-face, we want to know that they will hear Jesus say to them the same words the master said to those who used their talents wisely: "Well done, my good and faithful servant...Come, share your master's joy." (Matthew 25:21)

However, raising a generous child is a challenge in a society that constantly teaches children to want more and more things for themselves.



One of the key factors in teaching children to be generous is to let them see you giving. After all, children mimic what they see.

Today many donations to the parish Offertory may be made electronically, monthly, quarterly, or via mail. Thus, children may never actually see their parents give. A child who never sees a parent place an envelope in the Offertory could grow up thinking, "My parents never gave any support to the Church. Why should I?"

Therefore, talk with your children about the charitable gifts the family makes. If you would like to increase your giving, you might even ask your kids about ways the family budget could be adjusted so that there is more to share with God. Their suggestions might surprise you! (*continued, next*)

STEWARDSHIP

Using an Allowance To Teach Stewardship

We all know that money can't buy happiness. Wealthy people can be just as unhappy as poorer people. Rather, happiness comes from being content with what we have and feeling like we are making a difference.



We can put our children on the path to a happy and successful life by teaching them how to use and manage money so that it brings them contentment, fills their needs and allows them to help others.

Financial experts suggest that children should be taught to divide their allowance into three or four sections:

- to spend
- to save
- to invest
- to donate

Spending covers basic needs and wants. Saving teaches patience and planning. Investing looks to the future. For children, this might mean future educational needs. Donating gives kids satisfaction by allowing them to be a part of something important, like the Offertory.

Our Lord tells us, "Much will be required of the person entrusted with much and even more will be demanded of the person entrusted with more." (Luke 12:48) Children who learn to give away a portion of their financial blessings not only follow the Lord's command, but they discover that sharing part of their money can be satisfying.

MEN'S NEWS CORNER

Men's Softball

As of mid-July, the men's softball team has one win and seven losses, but the games have been close and competitive. We have four games remaining due to rainouts:

- Aug. 1, 6:30 p.m. at Kelley 8
- Aug. 8, 6:30 p.m. at Kelley 8
- Aug. 15, at 8:30 p.m. at Kelley 5

Kelley field is located at 125th and Fort. Field 5 and 8 are along the entrance road with field 8 located the closest to Fort street.

Men's Breakfast

All men are invited to join other Lord of Love men for breakfast, fellowship and study every Saturday morning at 7 a.m. in the fellowship hall.



WOMEN OF LOVE

Half-Day "Gather" Bible Study Retreat

All women are invited to the mini-retreat on **Saturday, Aug. 13** at the home of Deb Lund, 4720 N. 136 St. The morning starts at 8:45 a.m. with freshly baked cinnamon and caramel rolls, and ends with a salad luncheon at noon, so please bring a salad to share.

We will go through the three summer Gather magazine Bible studies, one per hour, so come for as much or as little of the morning as you can. The summer bible studies are free at <http://www.womenoftheelca.org/gather-magazine-pages-49.php>

Save the Date: Night out by Candlelight

Mark your calendars for **Saturday, Nov. 5** (there is no home UNL football game). The Nurture Committee and the Women's Team will be coordinating an Adult Fellowship function, entitled "Night Out by Candlelight", in lieu of the traditional Fall Festival event.

If you are willing to help, please contact Rose Roberts at dougroberts@cox.net. More details will follow in September.



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Request from the Concannons

Paul and Julie Concannon would like to ask a favor of our Lord of Love family. We will be walking 50 miles over three days for Challenge Walk MS in Door County, WI from September 16-18. Letters of Inspiration can be sent to the walkers in the event either by mail or online. The letters and notes were given to us at the end of the first day of the walk when 20 miles were completed. You have no idea how much they touch the hearts of those walking and keep us going.

We'd love to hear from you during this year's Challenge Walk MS! Our church family has inspired us all along and your help once again this year will be greatly appreciated.

You can send letters via mail **by Sept. 9** to:

National Multiple Sclerosis Society-Wisconsin Chapter
Attention: Challenge Walk MS/Letter of Inspiration
1120 James Drive
Hartland, WI 53029

Or you can email us at happyinmykitchen@gmail.com, and we will send you a link so that you can send your letter via the internet.

Either way, please mention Paul and I by name and your note will be waiting for us somewhere during the walk (last year they were hanging in hand decorated envelopes from a tree at the finish line for day one) and will help keep some pep in our step and your love and prayers in our hearts.

Lund Anniversary Celebration

Help us celebrate Brian and Deb Lund's 40th anniversary on the big day: **Sunday, Aug. 28**, with a dessert reception at Lord of Love from 2-4 p.m. Brian and Deb request your presence, but no presents, please.



-Andy & Josh Lund and Rebecca Sheridan

IN OUR PRAYERS AND LOVE NOTES

Rodney Allely
Antoinette Anania (cousin of Deb Lund)
Leona Anderson & Scott Wells (friends of the Novaks)
Dick Bell
Connie Bennett (cousin of Karen Armitage)
Syd Brinkman
Patricia Connolly (friend of the Thoms)
Elizabeth (student of Carol Novak)
Sgt. Dean & Erin Hansen (Delina Wiater's son & his wife)
Jan Hughes (aunt of Paula Foster)
Kristen Kuhn (friend of Todd & Lisa Meyer);
Izzy Lightle (relative of Kim Gust)
Lisa Lueders (sister-in-law of Dave Lueders)
Bill Morris
Vi Neu (stepmother of Carol Novak)

Don St. Ours (brother-in-law of Lynda McGraw)
Cynthia Palmer (friend of Dave & Lisa Rieff)
Dave Piehl & Dan Piehl (brothers of Deb Lund)
Pauline Shaffer
Nancy Shinrock
Georgene Sones (mother of Dayla Miller)
Brenda Thom
Nancy Thoman (stepmother of Ann Kroll)
Pam Todd
Nancy Shinrock
Georgene Sones (mother of Dayla Miller)
Ted Whitfield (former co-worker of Brian Shinrock)
Steve Wiitala, (friend of Karen Mullen)
Caregivers and those who suffer with depression

Those Who are Deployed

Steve Slone



.....
: 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. :
.....

LOVE NOTES

Dear Lord of Love Family,

I want to thank you for your continuous support of our children's and youth ministries. Taking the time to volunteer, to cook, to pray or any of 100 other things that helps these ministries is greatly appreciated. Your personal support of me is so meaningful and the gracious gift of dinner and spa day are such a treat!

I am truly blessed to be a part of the Lord of Love family. Many thanks!

Love,
Heather Christensen

Hello to all my dear Lord of Love family! You all have an open invitation to come visit.

Sandy Hall's new address:
225 E. Nebraska Ave.
Florence, AZ
85132

Love and prayers,
Sandy Hall





ADOPT A HY-VEE

Volunteer Shifts Available

Thursday 8/18 5:30- 8:00 pm	Friday 8/19 4:30 – 7:00 pm	Saturday 8/20 10:30 am -1:00 pm	Saturday 8/20 1:00- 3:30 pm	Saturday 8/20 3:30- 6:00 pm	Sunday 8/21 10:30am- 1:00 pm	Sunday 8/21 1:00- 3:30 pm	Sunday 8/21 3:30- 6:00 pm
--------------------------------------	-------------------------------------	--	--------------------------------------	--------------------------------------	---------------------------------------	------------------------------------	------------------------------------

“Thank you for helping Heartland Hope Mission feed families in need by adopting your local Hy-Vee store!”

~Chelsea Salifou, Executive Director

What does it mean to adopt a store?

By adopting a store, your church will assist our staff by securing volunteers from your congregation to serve during the shifts listed above from August 18th-21st 2016 at the store you are assigned to. We will provide banners and sign-up sheets for you.

A table-booth will be set-up inside the main entrance of HyVee and your team, along with the help of a staff member or ambassador from Heartland Hope, will give Hy-Vee shoppers entering the store an opportunity to purchase a \$5 or \$10 bag of food to help feed families in need at Heartland Hope Mission's food pantry. The volunteers will keep a tally of the amount of bags they sell and the cash donations they receive.

Contest:

The church group who brings in the most donations at their assigned store will receive a prize of a catered lunch party for all who served at Stuff A Truck as a way for our staff to thank them for their hard work.

Amanda DeVries-Volunteer Coordinator
Amanda@HeartlandHopeMission.org
 402.733.1904 x16

2016 Autumn Renewal

Fashionista's & Diva's of The Lutheran Women

Theme: "of many generations"

"Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt, you shall raise
up the foundations of many generations..." Isaiah 58:12

October 8, 2016

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

1388 North Saunders

Hastings, NE

9:00 to 3:00

Registration & Refreshments 8:15 – 8:45

Agenda Summary

Presenters for the Day – Mother-Daughter Duo's; Grandmother-Granddaughter Duo's – Style Show of Nebraska Women

- Bible Study with Pastor Patti Bryne & Daughter Courtney Peeler
- Lutheran Women Style Show (comedy)
- LFS Representative
- Triennial Presentation
- Monetary Offering – ½ to Lutheran Family Services Refugee Services; ½ to Churchwide Organization
- Tangible Offering – Open Table Ecumenical Program of Hastings to feed the hungry
 - Non-perishable single serving items, ready to eat; chips cookies, juice boxes
 - Pop top or plastic containers canned fruit, pudding, vegetables
 - Granola or other bars
 - Canned meat
 - Plastic spoons, napkins, lunch sacks
 - Peanut butter & jelly to make sandwiches
 - Cash to purchase bread for sandwiches

Registration cost \$18

Please mail Registration Form by October 1, 2016

.....
Registration Form

Name _____

Address _____ City _____

Zip _____

Phone Number _____ Home Church _____

E-mail _____

Special Dietary Needs: _____

Make checks payable to NSWO; mail form and check to:

Sandy Terry, NSWO Treasurer, 1461 2nd Avenue Ct., Fremont, NE 68025-5317

Call if any questions: 402-957-4480 or sterry9415@yahoo.com

Registrations are transferable but not refundable.