



# The Love Letter

Volume 38

June 2010

## Lord of Love Office

Phone ..... 402.493.2946  
Fax ..... 402.493.3087  
Website ..... [www.lord-of-love.org](http://www.lord-of-love.org)

## Lord of Love Staff

Interim Pastor  
Pastor Bob Oleson  
[pastorbob@lord-of-love.org](mailto:pastorbob@lord-of-love.org)

Office Administrator,  
Prayer Chain, and  
Financial Secretary  
Mary Lou Gustafson  
[marylou@lord-of-love.org](mailto:marylou@lord-of-love.org)

Community Therapist  
Kim Mueller  
402.354.6891, Ext. 13

Missionary to Tanzania  
Bob Kasworm

Youth Director  
Adam Lueders  
402.312.1523 or  
[bravoleader@cox.net](mailto:bravoleader@cox.net)

Web Steward  
Del Gust  
[webmaster@lord-of-love.org](mailto:webmaster@lord-of-love.org)

Love Letter Editor  
Kim Gust  
[loveletter@lord-of-love.org](mailto:loveletter@lord-of-love.org)

Senior Organist  
Carol Novak

Associate Organist  
Amy Kragnes

Chancel Choir Director  
Jon Novak

Kid's Choir Director  
Claudia Rowen

LOL Brass Director  
Brian Lund

## Summer Worship Schedule

Sun. 9:00 a.m. Worship Service  
Sun. 10:00 a.m. Breakfast and Fellowship

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

Summer is here as are our summer schedule and activities! Our **summer worship schedule** began on Memorial Day weekend and will continue through Labor Day weekend (see page 3, Worship). In addition, **summer breakfasts** begin on June 6 (see page 4, Nurture).

Some of our summer activities have already begun, including **men's softball** games and work on the **community garden** and the ELF coalition's **Habitat for Humanity** house (see page 12, Men's News Corner, and pages 6 and 7, Outreach). Upcoming summer activities include **Vacation Bible School** (see page 5, Nurture).

Special activities in June are a **Habitat ReStore donation day** and a **bridal shower for Rebecca Lund** (see page 7, Outreach, and page 5, Nurture). There is also a special opportunity to help welcome visitors to Lord of Love; a **youth group from Colorado** will be stopping at our church on two weekends in June, and we're seeking hosts to greet them and provide them with snacks and breakfast (see page 5, Nurture).

For additional **men's and women's activities** this month, see details provided on the respective pages in this issue of *The Love Letter* (see page 12, Men's News Corner and pages 13 and 14, Women of Love).

Finally, enjoy vacation time with family and friends this summer, but don't take a vacation from church! See you on Sunday!

## In This Issue

Monthly Calendar .....	2	Men's News Corner .....	12
Worship .....	3	Women of Love .....	13
Nurture.....	4	Just for Kids.....	15
Outreach.....	6	In Our Prayers .....	17
Resources .....	8	Love Notes .....	17
Council Report.....	9	Mark Your Calendar .....	18
Transition/Call Process Update .....	11		

# MONTHLY CALENDAR

June 2010						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b> 9:00am Quilters 5:30pm YWCA Men's Group 7:30pm YWCA Men's Group	<b>2</b> Church reserved for Novak 6:00pm LWT Bible Study	<b>3</b> Church reserved for Novak 9:30am Text Study @ Guthrie's 7:00pm Boy Scouts	<b>4</b> Synod Assembly 7:30pm AA	<b>5</b> Synod Assembly 7:00am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study
<b>6</b> 9:00am Worship & Communion 10:00am Summer Breakfast	<b>7</b> 6:00pm LWT Bible Study @ Old Country Buffet 8:00pm AA & AI Anon	<b>8</b> 5:30pm YWCA Men's Group 7:30pm YWCA Men's Group	<b>9</b> Pr Bob vacation	<b>10</b> Pr Bob vacation 9:30am Text Study @ Guthrie's 7:00pm Boy Scouts	<b>11</b> Pr Bob vacation 8:00am LoL Ladies @ Crane Coffee 7:30pm AA	<b>12</b> Pr Bob vacation 7:00am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 8:00am Worship Planning 1:30pm Shower
<b>13</b> Pr Bob vacation 9:00am Worship & Communion 10:00am Summer Breakfast	<b>14</b> 8:00pm AA & AI Anon	<b>15</b> 9:00am Quilters 5:30pm YWCA Men's Group 7:30pm YWCA Men's Group	<b>16</b>	<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 5:00pm Hosting Youth Group from Lord of the Hills
<b>20</b> 9:00am Worship & Communion 10:00am Summer Breakfast 6:00pm VBS @ Holy Cross Lutheran	<b>21</b> 6:00pm VBS @ Holy Cross Lutheran 8:00pm AA & AI Anon	<b>22</b> 5:30pm YWCA Men's Group 6:00pm VBS @ Holy Cross Lutheran 7:30pm YWCA Men's Group	<b>23</b> 6:00pm VBS @ Holy Cross Lutheran	<b>24</b> 9:30am Text Study @ Guthrie's 6:00pm VBS @ Holy Cross Lutheran 7:00pm Boy Scouts	<b>25</b> 8:00am LoL Ladies @ Crane Coffee 7:30pm AA	<b>26</b> 7:00am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 5:00pm Hosting Youth Group from Lord of the Hills
<b>27</b> 9:00am Worship & Communion 10:00am Summer Breakfast	<b>28</b> 8:00pm AA & AI Anon	<b>29</b> 5:30pm YWCA Men's Group 7:30pm YWCA Men's Group	<b>30</b>			

## Summer Worship Schedule

Our summer worship schedule began on Memorial Day weekend (May 30, 2010) and will continue through Labor Day weekend (September 5, 2010). We will have one worship service on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. Summer breakfasts will be served in the Fellowship Hall following worship (see page 4, Nurture).



### Tape Ministry: Updates on Our Members by Karen Pickens and Rachel Novak

Time passed quickly for Rachel and me this past month; we didn't get a chance to spend time with and write the life story/stories of one of our Lord of Love family members. Hopefully, we will do that in the weeks ahead, and you can read about it in the July issue of *The Love Letter*.

We have had some wonderful visits this month, which included celebrating **Agnes Wilson's** 98<sup>th</sup> birthday at her home with Richard and Linda Wilson. Rachel, **Esther Welliver**, and I were invited to a delicious chili dinner. We all sat around the kitchen table for about three hours eating and laughing (it doesn't get much better than that!), reminiscing about past times and just enjoying being together.

Unfortunately, the day after Agnes's birthday party was not so good for **Esther**. She suffered a slight stroke while in her kitchen, and getting to a telephone was one of her more difficult journeys. She had to crawl over carpet, which resulted in a pretty bad arm injury, but she was successful in calling her son, Roger, who got her to Methodist hospital. Today, when we visited her, we met some of her nurses who have already become fond of her and are enjoying her humorous stories. It seems as if she will not be in the hospital for long. I know that she is thankful for all of your prayers.

*Continued on the next page*

### Lord of Love's Worship Servants

	June 6	June 13	June 20	June 27
<b>Greeter(s)</b>				
9:00 a.m.				
<b>Liturgist</b>				
9:00 a.m.	Gary Krause	Ruth Manning	Ron Thom	Paul Christenson
<b>Communion Servers</b>				
9:00 a.m.	Edwards family	Heather, Kyle, and Sam Christensen	Ron and Brenda Thom	Egr family
<b>Altar Care</b>				
9:00 a.m.	Mike and Christie Klos	Concannon family	Cathy Aden	Diana Haye, Marcia Roads
<b>Ushers</b>				
9:00 a.m.	Joe, Josh, and Jason Combes, Ed Guthrie, Brian Shinrock			

## WORSHIP

### Tape Ministry: Updates on Our Members, continued

---

**Anna Jensen** continues to navigate her motorized chair around Crowell Nursing home, enjoying bingo, church services, and her family and friends, both on the inside and the outside. She is already looking forward to her 103rd birthday.

**Ellen Nore, Pearl Garnaas**, and their neighbor Audrey were enjoying each other's company at dinner today when Bill and I finally found time to deliver Sunday's worship tape. Pearl keeps very busy but always finds time to listen to the Lord of Love service. She commented on much she liked the Mother's Day service, and Audrey wanted to add that Pearl is a very good neighbor. It makes me happy to see our people having friends to talk to and to cheer up their day.

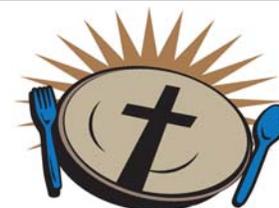
We didn't get to visit everyone last month, but hopefully that will happen this month. In closing, I have a story to tell you that I find very endearing. I do have permission to share it with you. Elaine Zink and her husband Jack were members of Our Savior's Lutheran church and still keep in contact with many of their former friends. In talking with her recently, she told me that when she shops, she takes Jack with her and finds a comfortable place for him to sit while she is shopping. You see, Jack has very little eyesight left, and it is hard for him to get around. One day, she came back to pick him up and saw him talking with another gentleman. "Elwood", she said. It happened to be Elwood Baseman, who was another member of our former church and who also cannot see. The two sat engrossed in conversation...having no idea that they were longtime friends!

## NURTURE

### Summer Breakfasts are Back!

---

Beginning on Sunday, June 6, breakfast will be served in the Fellowship Hall following our 9:00 a.m. worship service each week. Volunteers are needed to prepare and serve breakfast. You get to decide the menu! Please sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex. Then join us for fellowship on Sunday mornings this summer!



### Weekly Education Opportunities at Lord of Love

<b>Sunday</b> 9:00 a.m.    Worship Service	<b>Wednesday</b> 6:00 p.m. <i>Lutheran Woman Today</i> Bible Study @ LOL Mary Room (first Wednesday of month)
<b>Monday</b> 6:00 p.m. <i>Lutheran Woman Today</i> Bible Study @ Old Country Buffet (first Monday of month)	<b>Thursday</b> 9:30 a.m.    Text Study @ Guthries
	<b>Saturday</b> 7:00 a.m.    Men's Breakfast and Bible Study @ LOL Fellowship Hall

## Bridal Shower for Rebecca Lund

---

There will be an open house bridal shower for Rebecca Lund on Saturday, June 12 at 1:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Rebecca is registered at Target, Bed Bath & Beyond, and Honeyfund.com. Rebecca and Richard Sheridan will be married on July 24 at Luther Theological Seminary in Chicago.



## Hosts Needed for Guest Youth Group

---

In June, we are opening up our church building to the Youth Group from Lord of the Hills Lutheran Church in Centennial, Colorado. The group is traveling between their home church and Chicago, IL, for a youth mission activity. On both legs of their trip, they plan to arrive at Lord of Love on Saturday around 5:00 p.m. and then leave early on Sunday morning (likely before worship). They will be at our church on Saturday, June 19 and June 26.

We are looking for people to help greet these visitors and provide some snacks for each evening and a light breakfast before they leave on Sunday. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Mary Lou in the church office.



## Vacation Bible School is Coming June 20-24

---

Vacation Bible School is a summer tradition, and this year, Lord of Love will be partnering with our neighbors at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in offering a VBS program.

The format will be similar to previous years of songs, Bible lessons, and tons of fun! What's new is the time...evenings from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., with dinner available at 5:00 p.m.

Get involved and join in the fun! If you are 6th grade or older, volunteer to help out with the program! There are lots of opportunities, from cooking, to creating, teaching, or singing, for you to join in.

Mark your calendars, and watch for more information and registration forms coming soon!



### Vacation Bible School Coming Soon!

June 20 - 24, 2010

3 year olds - 5th grade (currently enrolled in 2009-2010)

Cost = \$10 per child

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.



Freewill Offering Kid-Friendly Family Dinner each evening @ 5:00 p.m.

**Kids and families will recognize, know, and grow in God's mighty love.....TOGETHER!**

## NURTURE

### Rebecca's Vicar (ad)Ventures Part IX by Rebecca Lund

---

In less than two months, I will be completing my internship and getting married! It will be quite the transition for me. The end of the school year for our students at WashU and SLU has helped me ease into the transition, as the good-byes have already started happening at Lutheran Campus Ministry. This week is our last graduation celebration, and then we will start some summer programming for students who will still be around, but it will not be near the amount of involvement that I had during the school year. The good-byes have been difficult.

During our trip to Guatemala, the students started calling me "Pastorita." In addition to the nickname referring to my small size, they partly gave me this title as a simple way of distinguishing Pastor Rebecca (my supervisor) from Vicar Rebecca (me). Throughout the year, Rebecca and I have had sometimes hilarious and sometimes embarrassing encounters with people in person and on the phone thinking that we are the other Rebecca. But I like being called "Pastorita" because it represents something of the journey I have gone through this year as I have transitioned from seminarian to pastor. This week, I have seen this transition more vividly because both of my supervisors have been on vacation. I have led two Bible studies, made several pastoral calls, met with a planning committee, brought communion to the sick, and prepared for Pentecost, a service that I will be presiding over all but the words of institution (which only the ordained can say). More than once this week, I thought, "I can do this!" I truly am beginning to feel like a pastor!

So while leaving Bethel and LCM will be difficult because of all of the relationships I have built with people and because of the many meaningful experiences I have had this year, I am also looking forward to the day when I will no longer be "Pastorita" but simply, "Pastor." I am proud of things that I have done that will continue next year: helping Bethel become an official Green Congregation through our new Green Team, starting an intergenerational Vacation Bible School, and monthly service days with LCM are a few. I am also grateful for the innumerable things students and congregational members have taught me; I will bring all of this valuable learning into my parishes, I am sure! And finally, as I continue forward in my ministry, I cannot believe how many times God reminds me of where I came from, especially what I received from my family and from growing up at Lord of Love. Thank you for helping shape me, so that I know whether I am Seminarian, Vicar, Pastorita, or Pastor, I am always first Rebecca, baptized child of God.

## OUTREACH

### Lord of Love Community Garden

---

Thanks to everyone who has worked thus far in getting our 2010 Community Garden growing. Things are off to a great start!

We're still looking for helpers to do some weeding, watering, and harvesting this summer, especially in June and July. Please talk to Deb Lund if you are willing and able to help out!



## OUTREACH

### Habitat for Humanity by John Florea

---



Work continues on the home we are remodeling at 3327 N. 40th Avenue. Check the Lord of Love website for weekly updates on our progress and to see what will be doing the following weekend. We are scheduled to work on Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and on Sundays from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. through June. You may also contact John Florea or Jerri Morgan for details.

Another way you can help get this home built is by supporting our **ReStore donation drive**. The ReStore is a fundraising operation run by Habitat for Humanity of Omaha at 1003 S. 24th Street. The mission of the ReStore is to help the environment and fight to end poverty housing. They do this by providing the general public with low-cost building materials and using the proceeds to help build Habitat homes in Omaha. The materials are donated and then sold at prices 50% to 70% lower than their retail value. Last year, more than 1,000 tons of materials were diverted from the landfill.

The ELF coalition has applied for a \$10,000 ReStore grant. There are several requirements that must be met in order for us to receive this grant. One of them is that we hold a ReStore donation day. Any building or home improvement related items, like those you would find at any large home improvement retailer, will be accepted as long as they are in good condition and can still be used for their intended purpose. This ReStore donation day will take place on Saturday, June 12, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Items may be dropped off in the parking lots at either of two locations: Lutheran Church of the Master, 2617 S. 114th Street (one block north of Center), or 1200 N 181 Court, Elkhorn (NW of 180th and Dodge). It may also be a good way to reduce some of the clutter in your home or garage! If you have any questions as to what is an acceptable donation, please call the ReStore for clarification at 402-934-1033.

### ELF Ice Cream Social/Fundraiser

---

The ELFs have fun as well as build! On Saturday, June 19 from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m., Underwood Hills Presbyterian Church will host an ice cream social as a fun(d)raiser for the ELF Coalition's Habitat Omaha house sponsorship. There will be ice cream and treats as well as music by the Rivertown String Band. Please come to support the ELF Coalition and enjoy ice cream and fellowship! Freewill donations will be accepted.



Underwood Hills Presbyterian Church is located at 851 N. 74th Street. From 72nd and Dodge, go north on 72nd. Turn west on Burt, and there it is at the next corner on the right. For more information, contact Anne Carroll at 553-3251 or [adcarroll@cox.net](mailto:adcarroll@cox.net). We hope to see many of you ELFs there!

### Mission Interpreter Update by Deb Lund

---

#### God's Work...Our Hands



**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

Through our mission share dollars to the Nebraska Synod and the ELCA, we do some marvelous work in spreading the gospel. Here very brief summaries from recent ELCA and Synod publications. Be sure to visit both the ELCA and the Nebraska ELCA websites to learn more.

*Continued on the next page*

# OUTREACH

## Mission Interpreter Update, continued

---

### Serving our Neighbors Outside the U.S.

Addressing AIDS in Uganda. Rebuilding homes destroyed by hurricanes on the Gulf Coast or a tsunami in Indonesia. Supporting schools in the Holy Land. Supporting new congregations in Malawi. In today's world, there are countless important ways we as a church work together with our neighbors at home and around the world.

The ELCA, through its missionaries, companion churches, and partner agencies, works every day to proclaim the love of God and make the world a better place in which to live. While we are the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, our hands reach out in partnerships across the globe. Learn about some of our programs, and be sure to visit our "Stories of Faith in Action" to see real-life examples of how we share God's boundless love with the world.

### NE Synod Assembly Offering – United Evangelical Lutheran Church in Argentina and Uruguay

This year's Synod Assembly offering will be received to support the mission work of our companion synod the United Evangelical Lutheran Church of Argentina and Uruguay.

This mission work includes strengthening existing congregations, developing new preaching points, and establishing new ministries to serve local communities. This is an exciting time for our companions in Argentina and Uruguay. It is the 20th anniversary of our companion synod relationship with the United Evangelical Lutheran Church in Argentina and Uruguay.

Lord of Love's Church Council recently approved an offering of \$500 (to come from Mission Funds) to go to this year's Synod Assembly offering.

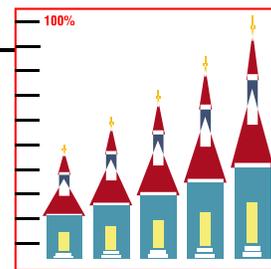
# RESOURCES

## Capital Campaign Report

---

The Capital Campaign has exceeded its goal of \$20,000 as almost \$25,000 has been given or pledged. Here is a recap of the campaign as of May 16, 2010.

Cash Received	\$19,252.00
<u>Remaining Pledges</u>	<u>5,715.00</u>
Total Amount Raised	24,967.00



When the campaign started we set a goal of having all contributions collected by June 30. Many pledges are completely paid and some contributors indicated a payment plan and are following that plan. For those of you who have pledged and not made a payment we ask that you provide the Capital Campaign Committee with a payment plan for your pledge.

Thank you to all who have contributed to the Capital Campaign.

# COUNCIL REPORT & TRANSITION/CALL PROCESS UPDATE

## May 2010 Council Report by Don Rowen, Council Vice-President

The Lord of Love council met on May 18, 2010. The minutes of this meeting are summarized as follows:

- The meeting began with a devotion presented by Harry Naasz.
- Mitch McCartney from the Nebraska Synod Office gave a presentation on the Synod's "Feed the Roots" campaign. The campaign is asking each congregation to pledge second-mile gifts over the next 3 years to support synod ministries or programs for youth and church leaders. The theme of this campaign is that an investment in individuals will Feed the Roots, Strengthen the Tree, and Grow the Forest. The campaign supports ministries such as Nebraska Lutheran Outdoor Ministries, Nebraska Lutheran Campus Ministries, and Operation IDEA, which help youth and individuals discern their call and develop into future leaders of the church. Council members thought this was something we should support. The council discussed how much to pledge and how to fund the gift, but no consensus was reached. The council decided to table the discussion until the next meeting.
- Mitch McCartney also discussed the use of Facebook by the Synod and church congregations. He thought it was a good idea for congregations to set up a Facebook group page because it provided another avenue for communication between the church and its members. He gave some recommendations on what to do and what not to do. Council members asked some further questions and discussed the topic.
- Council members discussed the current status of the call process and Congregation Profile. The Call Committee has met with Pastor Lee Griess, Assistant to the Bishop, who will be helping us through the call process. A complete version of the profile and a history of the church were presented. The council voted to approve the Congregation Profile and the history with the provision that the documents would undergo another round of review to try to eliminate any remaining grammatical errors.
- Each committee gave a report of their activities and plans. Here a few highlights:
  - Resources – The Resources committee has decided to hire a cleaning service to handle the cleaning duties formerly handled by Larry Czapl. The Resources committee is also working to develop a plan for handling the maintenance chores such as changing furnace filters that Larry also handled. The Stewardship committee is planning to visit all the church families this fall as part of their Stewardship campaign.
  - Outreach – The council approved giving a gift of \$500 at the Synod Assembly in June, which would support the development of ministries with our sister synod, the United Evangelical Lutheran Church of Argentina and Uruguay.
  - Worship – Pastor Bob is developing a different style of worship service to try this summer.
- The council reviewed financial reports. So far, giving has exceeded the projected giving and spending for the year but is still below our budgeted need. Later in the year, we are expecting to accrue some additional expenses as part of the Call Process.



### 2010 Lord of Love Church Council

Executive Committee: Brian Lund, President; Don Rowen, Vice-President; Brian Walther, Secretary; Lisa Meyer, Treasurer

Nurture: Heather Christensen, Angie Meyer

Outreach: Harry Naasz, Paul Christenson

Resources: Craig Pennell, Doug Armitage

Worship: Karen Mullen, Debra Gillespie



# COUNCIL REPORT & TRANSITION/CALL PROCESS UPDATE

## Financial Report – April 2010 by Lisa Meyer, Council Treasurer

As you review the Available Cash statement below, you will notice that there is available cash as of April 30, 2010, in the amount of \$1,950.81. This is very encouraging to have cash available even after taking into consideration the money that is owed to other funds.

Bank Balance 4/30/10		\$20,965.92
Plus Receivables:		
Major Improvement Fund	1,453.25	
Preschool	0.00	
Special Funds	0.00	
Total Receivables		\$1,453.25
Less Payables:		
Special Funds	6,160.75	
Preschool Fund	151.15	
Habitat for Humanity	1,502.00	
Withholding Taxes	1,176.59	
Endowment Fund	335.00	
Mission Funds	11,142.87	
Major Improvement	0.00	
Total Payables		20,468.36
AVAILABLE CASH AS OF 4/30/10		\$1,950.81



With regards to the Financial Information below, you will note that Year to Date we have operated at a net income position. This is due to not only offerings received being more than projected but also expenses being lower than budgeted through April. As you may recall, a budget deficit was passed at the annual meeting. Many of the large expense items budgeted—mainly Call Process expenses—have not been spent yet, so funds could be tighter once money is spent for the call process.

	Monthly Budget	Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Actual
Total Income	21,833.30	21,129.83	87,333.36	90,263.99
Total Expenses	24,130.50	20,121.88	96,522.00	89,883.29
<b>Income less Expenses</b>	<b>(\$2,297.20)</b>	<b>\$1,007.95</b>	<b>(\$9,188.64)</b>	<b>\$380.70</b>

Thank you to everyone for being faithful with your pledges so far this year. Thanks to the committee leaders as well for keeping expenses as low as possible. The available cash at the end of April is a blessing when going into the summer months when offerings are typically less. Even when we might be on vacation and may not come to church or give our offerings regularly, the church continues to have the same expenses throughout the summer. Please consider the **Simply Giving** program to keep current with your 2010 pledge, especially through the summer months. Simply Giving enrollment forms are available in the Information Center in the narthex or through the church office. Completed forms should be taken to the office or placed in the Financial Secretary mailbox.

If you receive offering envelopes rather than use the Simply Giving program, it is greatly appreciated by the counters if you use the envelopes when possible.

## COUNCIL REPORT & TRANSITION/CALL PROCESS UPDATE

From the Council President – June 2010 by Brian Lund, Council President

---

Wow! Five months of this year have zoomed by, and warmer weather has finally returned. Flowers, ornamental trees, and shrubs have been blooming. Yard work, outdoor activities, graduations, weddings, and other events of a too short summer vie for our free time. For some, summer brings a change of pace from a hectic school year with additional time for traveling, socializing, and good old relaxing.

At Lord of Love, there is also a “summer break” from some activities. But worship, fellowship, study, and service events continue. I encourage all of our members to fully participate in the life of our congregation by regularly attending worship, enjoying fellowship at summer breakfasts, serving a summer breakfast, helping with our community garden, and continuing to pray for those in need and for our Call Committee.

Lord of Love’s financial obligations continue throughout the entire year. Giving for this year has been steady, and we are fortunate to be meeting all of our obligations despite a deficit budget. **THANK YOU to everyone who is keeping current with your annual pledge** and for your second-mile giving to our capital campaign and special appeals. Your continued financial support of the congregation is needed this summer and fall. If you cannot worship regularly this summer, please make arrangements to get your financial gifts to the church office.

Ephesians 2:8-10 (NRSV) *“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.”*

In a recent discussion, I mentioned the need for an emphasis on stewardship versus fund raising. I was asked what that meant. For me, it comes down to how we respond to grace, God’s undeserved love for us. Fund raising typically has a tangible product related to a monetary outlay. My stewardship response considers that all I have comes from God, and it is right for me to give freely of those gifts. So, I respond to God’s love by giving of my time, talents, and money—those things that I have obtained through the use of God’s gifts. And, I don’t expect anything additional in return. That sometimes is the hardest part—freeing myself from the notion that my gift must or must not be used in specific ways, that someone should recognize the effort I put into service, or that I deserve some special treatment because of my involvement. Yes, it is sometimes hard to give and allow the Holy Spirit to guide those who are stewards of our gifts to use them for God’s work in our congregation, community, and beyond.

### ***Building on Faith to Serve***

At the beginning of the year, I listed some challenges for our members. One challenge is to share the marvelous gifts God has given to you. Here are some reminders about how to do that:

**Financial** – Regularly give an offering; consider giving a full tithe (10%); give second-mile gifts for our special projects and for others in need.

**Time and Talents** – Consider how you spend your time. At least one time per year, give of your time to assist with some aspect of worship, a fellowship event, a ministry team, our outreach ministry, or activities that grow your faith or build up the faith of our youth.

All of our members will be visited as part of our fall stewardship program. My hope is that we can all grow in our ability to recognize and respond to God’s love for us.

I am thankful for all the members of Lord of Love and the variety of gifts that you share. Rejoice with me in God’s freely given grace. Please continue to pray for our Congregation, and especially for our Call Committee, as we continue with the pastoral call process.

In faith and service,  
Brian Lund

## MEN'S NEWS CORNER

### Men to Serve Breakfast on June 6

---

The Men's group volunteered to serve the first Sunday morning summer breakfast on June 6. All men are welcome to help. Talk with Ron Thom or Tom Olson if you wish to help.



### Men's Card Night

---

Some men have been getting together to play cards about every month or so. At the last game on May 15, Ron Thom came out on the short end and is looking to play with some new faces. So if you are interested in joining the next card night, contact Ron Thom.



### Topeka Drag Racing Trip

---

The men's group decided not to go the Topeka Drag Races this year. Only a few men were going to be able to go because the trip would conflict with other events, such as high school graduation parties. The men's group is working to plan another fellowship event for the summer.

### Men's Softball

---

So far, the Lord of Love's men's softball team is 0-3 with 2 rainouts, but we are optimistic that we will win some games this year. Please come out and cheer on the guys! We enjoy the support of our fans!



We are playing on Monday nights at Kelley Softball complex (124th and Fort) on Field 3 (one of four fields at the north end). The times for our upcoming games are listed below. The games last about one hour. On June 7, we will go out for pizza after the game. Please join us!

Softball  
s c h e d u l e

June 7	6:30 p.m. (Go out for pizza ~7:30 p.m.)
14	9:30 p.m.
21	9:30 p.m.
28	7:30 p.m.
July 5	8:30 p.m.
12	7:30 p.m.
19	8:30 p.m.
26	6:30 p.m.

## *Lutheran Woman Today* Summer Bible Studies

---

### Monday Evening Bible Study

The Monday evening Bible Study group will meet in June and August this summer, as follows:

- June 7 – Dinner and Bible Study at Karen Armitage's home
- July – No meeting
- August 9 – Dinner at Hong Hing

### Wednesday Evening Bible Study

The Wednesday evening Bible Study group will not meet during June, July, and August. Instead, join them for a mini-retreat/summer Bible study! Invite your friends!

When – Morning of Saturday, August 14

Where – Deb Lund's home: 4720 N 136 Street

Deb will serve coffee, juice, and homemade cinnamon and caramel rolls at 8:45 a.m. The Bible Study will start at 9:00 a.m. Bring a salad to share for lunch after the study is over.

### 2010 Summer Bible Study: Pray Always

The summer study, "Pray Always," is written by the Rev. Gladys Moore, an ordained pastor in the ELCA. It is a three-session Bible study that explores the following three aspects of prayer:

- Session One: *Persistence* (Luke 18:1-8)
- Session Two: *Waiting with Patience and Hope* (Isaiah 40:28-31)
- Session Three: *Power* (Ephesians 3:14-21)

The studies are available online at <http://www.elca.org/Growing-In-Faith/Ministry/Women-of-the-ELCA/Lutheran-Woman-Today/Bible-study/Summer-studies.aspx>.

### Project Hope and "Meet the Challenge"

---

As always, thank you for your generosity to Project Hope! **The needs for June are canned vegetables, baby food, and baked beans.** In addition, the following personal care items are always appreciated: bar soap, bathroom tissue, can openers, conditioner, deodorant, diapers, dish soap, feminine hygiene products, hair products (combs, brushes), Kleenex, laundry soap, mouthwash (without alcohol), razors, shaving cream, toothbrushes, and toothpaste. Please place items in the containers under the Information Center in the Narthex.

The Feinstein challenge concluded at the end of April. Project Hope's goal was to collect 60,000 items, and the final total was 48,500 items. For more information, including volunteer opportunities, check out the Project Hope website at [www.projecthopeomaha.org](http://www.projecthopeomaha.org).

### Coffee Fellowship

---

All women are invited to join the Lord's Laughing Ladies! We meet at 8:00 a.m. for fellowship at Crane Coffee, 77<sup>th</sup> and Cass, on June 11 and 25.



### Prayer by Mother Teresa

---

Make us worthy, Lord, to serve others throughout the world who live and die in poverty or hunger.

Give them through our hands, this day their daily bread, and by our understanding love, give peace and joy.

## Saved to Serve – Put your Faith into Action at Camp Carol Joy Holling

---

Since 1998, the Nebraska Synodical Women's Organization has committed to provide at least two Saved to Serve opportunities every year through partnership with ELCA-supported institutions and agencies. The second of two events for 2010 will be at Camp Carol Joy Holling on July 30-August 1. Help spruce up the camp and make it sparkle for visitors at the Quilt Auction!

Registration is \$39 and should be sent to Treasurer Nancy Johnson, 12777 A Street, Omaha, NE 68144. The registration deadline is June 30. Contact Gwen Edwards or Nancy Johnson (nancy.johnson5@cox.net) for more information.

## Responding to Disasters

---

Lutheran World Relief has acted to help people in many locations around the world. People who must flee their homes quickly often do not have time to pack essential items. Health Kits can help refugees maintain personal hygiene while living in exile. Items may also contribute to a new start for those who can return home.

To enable continuous response, supplies need to be available. You can help by donating the following supplies for Health Kits:

- Hand towels, dark color recommended
- Washcloths, dark color recommended
- Bath-sized bars of soap (4 to 5 oz.), any brand, in original wrappers
- Adult-sized toothbrushes, in original packaging
- Sturdy combs
- Metal nail files or clippers with file attached (no cardboard emery boards)
- Band-Aids, preferably ½ to ¾ inch



Put your donations in the marked container under the Information Center in the narthex. A truck will be picking up the kits, and we will continue to collect items until the truck comes to Nebraska.

## Calendar of Events

---

### June

1	9:00 a.m.	Quilters, Fellowship Hall
7	6:00 p.m.	LWT Bible Study, Karen Armitage's home
11	8:00 a.m.	Coffee Fellowship, Crane Coffee, 77th and Cass
15	9:00 a.m.	Quilters, Fellowship Hall
25	8:00 a.m.	Coffee Fellowship, Crane Coffee, 77th and Cass

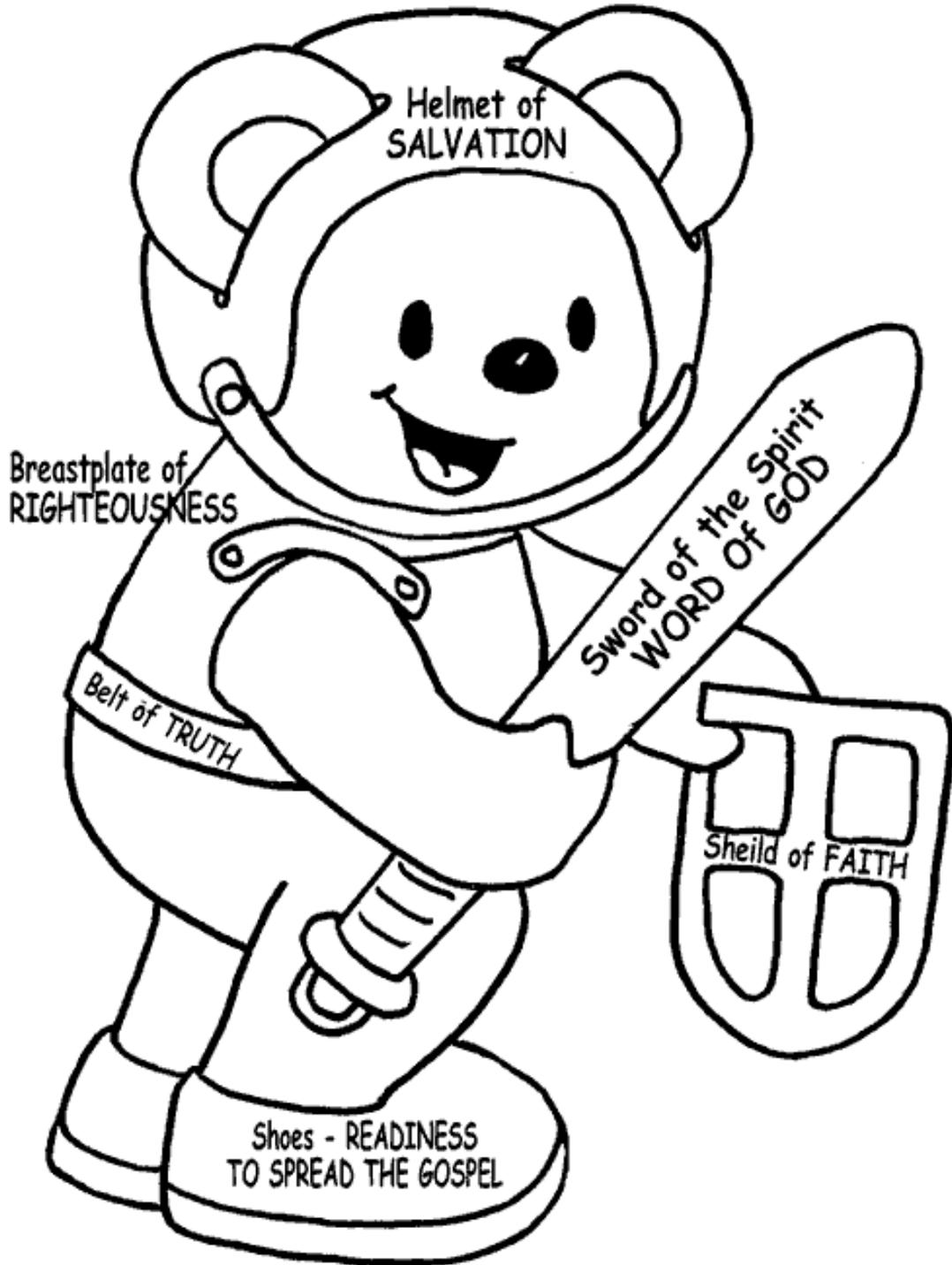
### Coming Soon

July 30-August 1, 2010	Saved to Serve event, Camp Carol Joy Holling
August 14, 2010	LWT Bible Study Mini-retreat, Deb Lund's home
September 25, 2010	Autumn Renewal, Bethlehem Lutheran, Wahoo, NE
July 12-14, 2011	W/ELCA Triennial Convention, Spokane, WA
July 14-17, 2011	W/ELCA Triennial Gathering, Spokane, WA

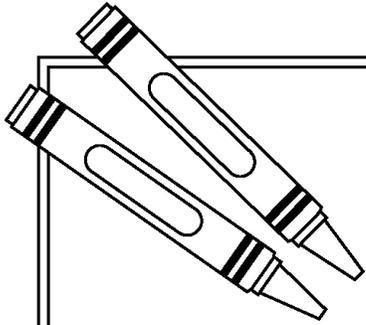


Women of the ELCA 

# Put on The Whole Armor of God



© Copyright Bible Kids Fun Zone

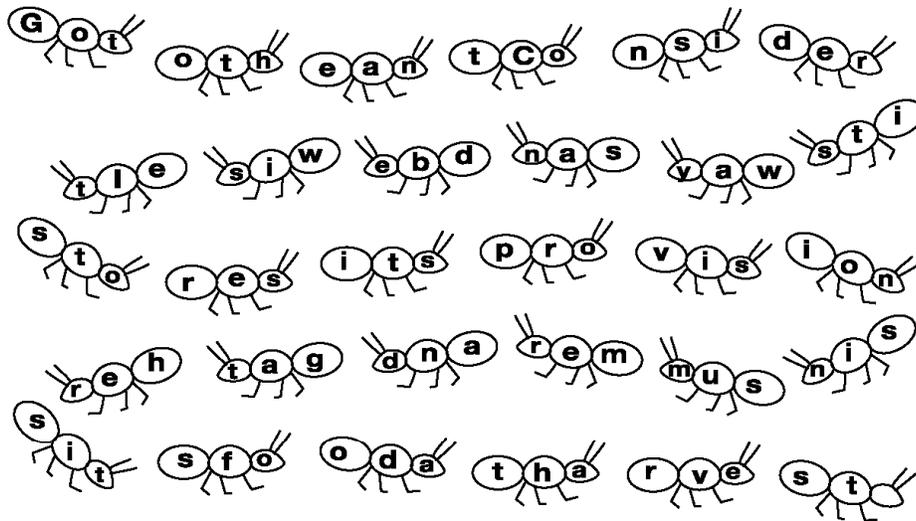


# Just for KIDS

## Do Good Works Unto the Lord!

The Bible tells us that ants are good workers and we can learn from them. Make a list of things you can do this summer to keep busy like the ants. You can help your family, your neighbors, your friends and your church. Get your friends together to think of projects you can do as a group.

*Fill in the blanks below with the letters from the ants. Follow the ants back and forth, and write the letters in the order they appear.*



----- ...  
-----  
----- !  
-----  
-----  
-----  
-----

*Proverbs 6:6-8, NIV*

## IN OUR PRAYERS & LOVE NOTES

### In Our Prayers

Catherine  
Avery Akeman (friend of Kim Gust)  
Dick Bell  
Ryan Bolen (nephew of Sandy Hall)  
Katie Brink (friend of the VenHuizens)  
Miranda Brown (friend of the Shinrocks)  
Portia Bruning (cousin of Shirley Schuchard)  
Ann Christiansen  
Jan Davis (aunt of Paula Foster)  
Laura and Jeremy DeWitt  
Colin Farbotka (nephew of Tom and Beth Olson)  
Patty George (friend of the Rieffs)  
Machelle Gross (niece of Lynda McGraw)  
Jim and Norma Gunter  
Gary Hall (brother of Claude Hall)  
Amber Hartin (granddaughter of the Shinrocks)  
Matthew Hayek (nephew of Sandy Hall)  
Marj Holbrook (mother of Judy Messerschmidt)  
Cathy Johnson (friend of Marilyn Thomsen)  
Bob Kasworm and his ministry in Tanzania  
Ken Kellogg (father of Karen Armitage)  
Paula Lawhead (at seminary)  
Carl Lueders (uncle of Dave Lueders)  
Irene Lund (aunt of Brian Lund)  
Rebecca Lund (at seminary)  
Brenda Mac  
Abbie Mahler (niece of Jane Hawkins)  
Bob McKnight (grandfather of Ann Kroll)  
Merlin Meyer (father of Todd Meyer)

Pastor Elibariki Mtui and all the saints of TPC Lutheran  
Parish, Tanzania  
Harry Naasz  
Clarence (Swede) Nelson (brother of Pauline Shaffer)  
Lloyd Neve (LOL Brass member)  
Michael O'Toole (nephew of Mary Lou Gustafson)  
Johanna Olson (niece of Tom and Beth Olson)  
Joe Policky (grandfather of Tamra Johnston)  
Bill and Bev Pugh (former members)  
Berniece Reitan  
Angel Restivo (friend of Marilyn Thomsen)  
Don St. Ours (brother-in-law of Lynda McGraw)  
Evelyn Sacridier  
Brenda Thom  
Nancy Thoman (stepmom of Ann Kroll)  
Joey Thompson (friend of the Murphys)  
Brody Vermilyea (grandson of Brian and Nancy  
Shinrock)  
Rachel Wapelhorst (niece of Brenda Mac)  
Agnes Wilson  
Julie Wolf

Lord of Love Call Committee  
Children waiting to be adopted and parents 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

Thank you to all who came to Wednesday night suppers. I enjoyed the fellowship and look forward to the fall.

Thank you again,  
Heather and family

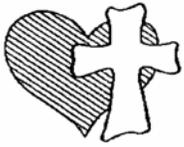


Dear Friends at Lord of Love,

Thank you for the beautiful service, monetary gift, and reception on May 16. I really enjoyed being part of the Lord of Love family that day.

I have truly enjoyed getting to know so many of you and working at Lord of Love for the past 12 years. The people of Lord of Love will always stay near to my heart.

God Bless,  
Larry Czapla  
aka, Practitioner of Custodial Arts



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

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
 OMAHA, NE  
 PERMIT NO. 368

**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**

- June 4-5 Nebraska Synod Assembly
- June 6 Summer Breakfasts begin
- June 7 Men’s Softball Game and pizza
- June 12 Habitat ReStore Donation Day at Lutheran Church of the Master for ELF Coalition
- June 19 ELF Coalition ice cream social/fundraiser at Underwood Hills Presbyterian Church

**This Month, continued**

- June 20-24 Vacation Bible School at Holy Cross Lutheran Church

**Upcoming Events**

- July 6 Youth Group trip to Worlds of Fun in Kansas City
- August 14 Women’s Mini-retreat/Summer Bible Study



*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.*