



# The Love Letter

Volume 40

October 2012

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Jon Novak

### Kid's Choir Director

Claudia Rowen

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Brian Lund

### Bell Choir Director

Heidi Meyer

## Worship Schedule

Sun. 8:00 a.m. Worship Service  
Sun. 9:15 a.m. Sunday School  
Sun. 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

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

## A Look Ahead

Fall is in the air, as evidenced by cooler weather and our fall activities at Lord of Love. You are encouraged to participate in the life of our church through the activities highlighted in this issue of *The Love Letter*.

On Saturday, October 6, all women are invited to the annual **fall day retreat**, "Oh the Places You'll Go," which includes a potluck salad luncheon and a brief LOL Women of Love general meeting (see page 13, Women of Love).

Then Sunday, October 7, is **Celebration of Faith Sunday**. All members are encouraged to complete and return financial commitment cards for 2013, and a light lunch will be provided following the 10:30 a.m. worship service (see page 4, Worship, and page 10, Resources).

October 14 is **Thankoffering Sunday**, when women bring forward the offerings they have been setting aside throughout the year as they give thanks to God for the blessings they have received (see page 4, Worship, and page 14, Women of Love).

Also on October 14 is the **Omaha CROP walk**, held each year to raise funds to end hunger. This and ongoing service opportunities at the **Lutheran Pantry** are just two of the ways that we can serve in our community (see page 10, Resources).

Be sure to read these and the many other articles in this issue of *The Love Letter* and find a way to get involved!



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### Reformation Day by Pastor Brad

October welcomes the onset of cool mornings, changing colors of the leaves, pumpkins, and Halloween—but for Lutherans, it also commemorates Reformation Day! Reformation Day marks Martin Luther's public declaration of how the Church might be more than a set of rules and regulations and instead be a place for the spiritual renewal of our souls as we are showered by God's grace.



Martin Luther struggled with the church's teaching that he earned his forgiveness of sin and justification before God through his works as a monk. Instead, he found a greater and deeper understanding that God's grace is what justifies us. In celebration of and in response to the gift of grace, we are then called to live lives of love and perform acts of service.

Martin Luther wanted people to know about the love of Jesus Christ as seen through our actions. Luther said, "Should anyone knock at my heart and say, 'Who lives here?' I should reply, 'Not Martin Luther, but the Lord Jesus Christ.'"

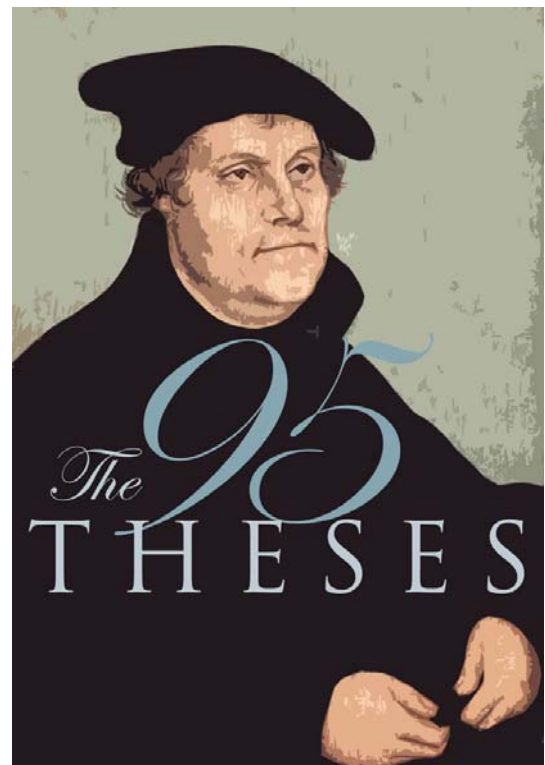


This is our prayer as well. Our desire should be that anyone who may look upon our hearts would see the heart of Christ.

My greatest pleasure is to see others inside and outside of the church perform great acts of love—not seeking recognition or fame, but rather in response to God's love for them.

As we commemorate Reformation Day, may our hearts be reformed, renewed, and washed again by God's grace so that Christ is the one living in our hearts.

Peace,  
Pastor Brad



# MONTHLY CALENDAR

October 2012						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> 6:00pm "Gather" Bible Study @ Old Country Buffet 8:00pm AA & AI Anon	<b>2</b> 9:00am Quilters 6:00pm Resources Comte Mtg. 7:00pm Vision & Coordination	<b>3</b> 5:00pm Confirmation 5:30pm Supper 5:30pm Luther Kids 6:00pm "Gather" Bible Study 6:00pm Brass 7:15pm Chancel Choir	<b>4</b> 9:30am Text Study @ Guthrie's 7:00pm Boy Scouts	<b>5</b> 7:30pm AA	<b>6</b> W/ELCA Fall Retreat @ VenHuizen's 7:00am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study
<b>7</b> 8:00am Worship & Communion 9:15am Education Hour 10:30am Worship & Communion 11:30am Stewardship Lunch 6:00pm & 7:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal	<b>8</b> 8:00pm AA & AI Anon	<b>9</b> 7:00pm Sunnny Slope Pool Assoc.	<b>10</b> 5:00pm Confirmation 5:30pm Supper 5:30pm Luther Kids 6:00pm Brass 6:00pm Ministry Team Mtg. 7:15pm Chancel Choir	<b>11</b> 9:30am Text Study @ Guthrie's 7:00pm Boy Scouts	<b>12</b> 8:00am Crane Coffee Fellowship 7:30pm AA	<b>13</b> 7:00am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 1:00pm Novak Recital
<b>14</b> Thankoffering Sunday 8:00am Worship & Communion 9:15am Education Hour 10:30am Worship & Communion 6:00pm & 7:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal	<b>15</b> 8:00pm AA & AI Anon	<b>16</b> 9:00am Quilters 7:00pm Church Council	<b>17</b> 5:00pm Confirmation 5:30pm Luther Kids 5:30pm Supper 6:00pm Brass 7:15pm Chancel Choir	<b>18</b> 9:30am Text Study @ Guthrie's 7:00pm Boy Scouts	<b>19</b> 7:30pm AA	<b>20</b> 7:00am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study
<b>21</b> 8:00am Worship & Communion 9:15am Education Hour 10:30am Worship & Communion 2:30pm Novak Haar Recital 6:00pm & 7:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal	<b>22</b> Theological Conference 8:00pm AA & AI Anon	<b>23</b> Theological Conference	<b>24</b> Theological Conference 5:00pm Confirmation 5:30pm Supper 5:30pm Luther Kids 6:00pm Brass 7:15pm Chancel Choir	<b>25</b> 9:30am Text Study @ Guthrie's 7:00pm Boy Scouts	<b>26</b> 8:00am Crane Coffee Fellowship 7:30pm AA	<b>27</b> 7:00am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 8:00am Fall Clean-up
<b>28</b> 8:00am Worship & Communion 9:15am Education Hour 10:30am Worship & Communion 1:00pm District 18 AA 6:00pm & 7:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal	<b>29</b> 8:00pm AA & AI Anon	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 6:00pm Brass 7:15pm Chancel Choir			

# WORSHIP

## Special Worship Services in October

October 7 is Celebration of Faith Sunday, when we complete and return financial commitment cards for Lord of Love. We will also celebrate together with a light lunch (provided) following the 10:30 a.m. worship service.

October 14 is Thankoffering Sunday, when our women bring their Thankofferings together to give thanks to God in worship and fellowship. Thankofferings go in full to support the churchwide ministries of the Women of the ELCA.

## Worship Servant Sign-up Sheets

Sign-up sheets for liturgists and communion servers are always posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Please sign up to be a Worship Servant!



The bulletin board is located near the coffee pots on Sunday mornings, so peek at the sign-up sheets as you fill your cup and fill one of the openings on the sheets as well!

### Lord of Love's Worship Servants

	October 7	October 14	October 21	October 28
<b>Greeter(s)</b>				
8:00 a.m.	Jim and Jeri Morgan	Woody and Mardi Fiske	Paul and Peg Murphy	Ed and Marjorie Keiser
10:30 a.m.	Roger and Angie Meyer	Paul and Traci Cadwallader	John and Caroline Tessin	Dawn Burton, Chelsie Drachulick
<b>Liturgist</b>				
8:00 a.m.	Doug Aden	Judy Egr	Paul Murphy	Paul Christenson
10:30 a.m.				Ruth Manning
<b>Communion Servers</b>				
8:00 a.m.	Doug and Rose Roberts	Egr family	Brewer family	Deb Lund and Combes family
10:30 a.m.	Lynda McGraw	Barb Haskins and Julia Ritonya		Dan and Ruth Manning
<b>Nursery Attendant(s)</b>				
10:30 a.m.	Anne Yarger	Sarah Horan	Lisa Rieff	Ashley Meier
<b>Altar Care</b>				
8:00 a.m.	Connie Walther, Lisa Meyer	Janet Guthrie, Nancy Shinrock	Klos family	Cathy Aden, Dayla Miller, Deb Quadhamer
10:30 a.m.	Karen Anderson, Mardi Fiske	Paul and Ann Kroll	Pauline Shaffer, Randi VenHuizen	Diana Hays, Marcia Roads
<b>Ushers</b>				
8:00 a.m.	Combes family			
10:30 a.m.	Lueders family, Brad VenHuizen, Lynnette Nore, Christopher Boarts			

## Donuts, Coffee, and Fruit?

Sunday morning donuts are in place. The suggested donation is \$1.00 for donuts or mini muffins and coffee, and \$.50 for cookies.

Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board on the wall by the donut table. Please sign up to pick up donuts at Hy-Vee at 108<sup>th</sup> and Fort Streets and/or to clean up the food and coffee afterward!

There will be a survey as to how many people would be interested in fruits in addition to the donuts. Please give your opinion. If there is a positive response, look for apples and oranges at the donut table, too.



## Congregational Potluck a Success

Thank you to all who provided food for our Kickoff Sunday Potluck and to those who set up for the meal and helped clean up after the meal. As always, the food was delicious, and we had plenty of great food to serve all who attended!

## Substitute Teachers Needed

Sunday School has been going for a few weeks now, and we appreciate all who are giving their time and talents to guide Lord of Love members and our visitors—children, youth, and adults—to enhance their faith in God. If you would like to be a substitute teacher for any age level, please contact Claudia Rowen, Lori Vandeventer, or Paula Foster.



## Affirmation of Baptism 2013

With the approval of the Church Council, beginning in May 2013, the rite of Affirmation of Baptism will be celebrated each spring rather than in the fall.

This change is being made to acknowledge the youth in this step in their faith journey in a timely manner upon completion of their confirmation instruction.



## Weekly Education Opportunities at Lord of Love

### Sunday

9:15 a.m. Sunday School (Preschool – High School) @ LOL Classrooms  
Adult Studies @ LOL Abraham, Mary, and Joseph Rooms

### Monday

6:00 p.m. *Gather* Bible Study @ Old Country Buffet (first Monday of month)

### Wednesday

5:00 p.m. Confirmation (7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grades) @ LOL Abraham Room  
6:00 p.m. Luther Kids (1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> grades) @ LOL Preschool  
6:00 p.m. *Gather* Bible Study @ LOL Mary Room (first Wednesday of month)

### Thursday

9:30 a.m. Text Study @ Guthrie's

### Saturday

7:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast and Bible Study @ LOL Fellowship Hall

## Notes of Thanks from 2012 Confirmands

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Thank you for all your kind words and support at my confirmation. Over the years at Lord of Love, many people have touched my life and helped my faith grow. I feel blessed to have Lord of Love as my church family.

Katie Messerschmidt



Thank you to my Lord of Love family for all of the cards, tokens, and the beautiful confirmation cross that you gave me for my confirmation. It will always be treasured

Christopher Boarts

Thank you to the ladies that helped in the kitchen and served the confirmation reception. It made the confirmands' day special.

Parents of the 2012 Confirmands



## Lord of Love's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration: Sharing our Memories

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

### On Being Youth Sponsors, by Gwen Edwards

I remember when we were first married.... Pr. Frank tried to talk us into being Youth Sponsors. We weren't ready. However, years later, in 1998, we were asked again and also were told not to make the decision for ninety days. Okay, they were no fools, how could we say no after spending all summer with the youth. Anyway, fast forward...

John and I were the ones to accompany the youth in 2000 to the National Youth Gathering in St. Louis. I was twenty weeks pregnant. I think every boy's mom threatened them before we left. Watch Gwen, don't let her overdo it, make sure she is drinking her water, etc., etc. One of our free afternoons, we all walked to the mall as it was still daylight and then took the tram back to the hotel. On the walk, I stepped off the curb wrong and fell. Those boys swarmed around me; John couldn't even get close to me. Nothing was hurt, only my pride.

On a side note, it was that trip where I finally had to give in and start wearing maternity clothes. John made sure to tell all the youth that morning at our "family meeting."

It was great time, and all those youth have grown into fine young adults. Thank you to them for being a part of our lives.

### Lord of Love Community Garden

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At this writing, the garden gurus have been in the final days of harvesting green beans (yes, they came back!), squash, peppers, tomatoes, and potatoes. Many, many pounds of delicious, fresh produce have gone to the Lutheran pantries at Project Hope (North Omaha) and First Lutheran Church (mid-town.) Thanks to so many of you who have supported this vital ministry with your time, expertise, and energy. We look forward to another successful season next year!

### Lord of Love T-shirts

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There is a limited number of Lord of Love T-shirts still available for \$15.00 in the church office:

- 1 Medium
- 4 Large
- 4 X-Large
- 3 XX-Large

Get one while they last!



### Mission Possible Update

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The Mission Possible Team is working with Bob Kasworm, our missionary in Tanzania, and the Lord of Love Endowment Committee to provide funds for a Tanzanian student, Martha, to attend school to become a teacher. This is a 3-year commitment. As reported in September, special offering funds from Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas will go to the Lutheran Family Services At Ease program for military families, and \$500 will be reserved from congregational mission project monies for our Youth Fund. The Mission Possible Team meets later this month to determine other programs to support for the rest of the 2012-2013 program year.

### Author to Discuss Big Bang and World Origins in Lincoln October 4-7, 2012

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Dr. Karl Giberson, internationally known science-and-religion scholar, will be speaking at Olin B Lecture Hall on the Nebraska Wesleyan University campus (St. Paul Avenue and 50<sup>th</sup> Street) in Lincoln at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 4.

Giberson's presentation is titled, "From Big Bang to Big Brain: A Creation Story for the 21st Century." The lecture, sponsored by a Scientists in Congregations grant to Lincoln's First Lutheran Church (1551 S. 70th Street), is free and open to the public.

Giberson has two new publications introduced this year. The first, *The Wonder of the Universe*, was released in February, and *Seven Glorious Days* was just made available on September 1.

A reception will follow Giberson's October 4 presentation. At 1:00 p.m. on October 5, he will facilitate a discussion at First Lutheran Church. The discussion is expected to conclude by 2:00 p.m. Scholars and all interested parties are welcome to participate in this activity as well as the First Friday Jazz program with Mac McCune that begins at 11:30 a.m. at the church.

As a part of its Science Cafe series, Giberson will lead the adult Sunday School discussion at First Lutheran on Sunday, October 7, at 9:30 a.m. The public is invited to attend. On the preceding Sunday, September 30, Dr. Dean Sieglaff, physics professor at Nebraska Wesleyan University and a leader of the Scientists in Congregations grant project at the church, will discuss Giberson's *The Wonder of the Universe* publication.

### Lutheran World Relief Ingathering



Making Lutheran World Relief (LWR) Mission Quilts provides an opportunity for Lutherans in the U.S. to answer God's call to love and serve our neighbors in need. To those that receive the quilts, they are tangible symbols of God's love and compassion.

A continued generous response from congregations in Nebraska will ensure that LWR is able to respond to the increasing needs overseas.

The 2012 Lutheran World Relief Ingathering will be held November 5-9 at various sites throughout Nebraska.

Each year LWR spends nearly \$1.7 million to operate its Quilt and Kit Ministry. Those funds, combined with the generosity of quilters and kit-makers throughout the United States, enable LWR to distribute more than \$12 million worth of Quilts and Kits annually.

Below is the approximate cost to deliver Quilts & Kits:

- One Quilt – \$2.25
- One School Kit – \$1.40
- One Personal Care Kit – \$2.65
- One Baby Care Kit – \$1.30
- One Fabric Kit – \$1.00
- One 18-Pound Carton of Soap – \$11.60

For a little more than the spare change you might have in your pocket, you can help with the cost of shipping by sending your donations to the Nebraska Synod or directly to Lutheran World Relief at:

LWR  
700 Light St.  
Baltimore, MD 21230  
Marked "Quilt & Kit Shipping Fund"



For further information, please contact Stephanie Lusienki at [stephanie@nebraskasynod.org](mailto:stephanie@nebraskasynod.org) or 402-896-5311.



**Lutheran World Relief**  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. LASTING PROMISE.



## Syria Conflict Update

### The Situation:

Since February 2011, the ongoing conflict in Syria has displaced nearly 2.5 million people. Many have left their homes to take refuge elsewhere within Syria while others are beginning to cross the borders into the neighboring countries of Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, and Iraq in search of safety and shelter. Those who have fled are finding care in refugee camps while others are staying with host families.



Many of Syria's neighbors have opened their borders to receive the refugees fleeing chaos and danger in their home country. Receiving refugees is difficult work that can stretch resources and affect political dynamics in the host countries. In these difficult times, groups already vulnerable in the region can be at even greater risk.

### ELCA Response:

Earlier this year, Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson wrote to Christian church leaders in Syria, offering support for the churches' collective call for an end to violence and his prayers for the people in the region. This reflects our continued commitment to stand with our companions in Syria as we seek ways to encourage their role in the promotion of peace and reconciliation.

ELCA Disaster Response is working with our partners in the region, both within Syria and the surrounding areas. We have already sent \$200,000 to help those who are in need. We have been at work to provide food and items such as hygiene kits, household items, bedding, and clothing. Special care and training in nutritional support for mothers is also being made available. Subsidies for rent, tuition, school fees, and classes have also been made available to help alleviate some of the economic burden faced by displaced families.



We are also at work through The Lutheran World Federation and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land, meeting the needs of Syrian refugees who have traveled to Jordan. Camp management and the provision of access to proper shelter have been the primary focus of our work.

ELCA Disaster Response has committed another \$250,000 to help support housing costs and camp management.



### Stewardship: Celebration of Faith Sunday, October 7

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Sunday, October 7, is Celebration of Faith Sunday, "Serving in Faith and Love." As a response to the bountiful blessings we receive, we will complete and return financial commitment cards for Lord of Love. We will also celebrate together with a light lunch (provided) following the second service. Please consider prayerfully your financial commitment for 2013 and respond with joy and thanksgiving!

### Service Opportunities

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#### Omaha CROP Walk

The annual CROP walk is Sunday, October 14. Lord of Love folks are encouraged to participate by walking and seeking financial gifts or by supporting with their pocketbooks those walking. **CROP Hunger Walks** are community-wide events sponsored by Church World Service and organized by local volunteers to raise funds to end hunger. Monies raised are used to assist with local hunger needs in our community.



For the Omaha CROP Walk on Sunday, October 14:

1. Meet at Lord of Love at 1:00 p.m. if carpooling is desired; or meet at 1:30 p.m. at the registration area at First Christian Church, 66<sup>th</sup> and Dodge, for those wishing to walk as a Lord of Love group. Otherwise, walkers may start as late as 2:30 p.m.
2. Organized routes are 1 mile, 2 miles, and 5 miles and begin at First Christian Church.
3. Participants need CROP envelopes, which can be obtained from Pastor Brad or Deb Lund, for donations. **The yellow copy must be turned in at registration on October 14.** Donations and all envelopes (used and unused) must be turned in to the treasurer at First Christian Church on October 14 or to Deb Lund.
4. 25% of donations for the Omaha CROP Walk go to Together, Inc. and Food Bank for the Heartland. Organizations supported by The Church World Service include Lutheran World Relief.

#### Lutheran Pantry

One ongoing service opportunity is working at the Lutheran Pantry at First Lutheran on 31<sup>st</sup> and Jackson. People are needed especially on Mondays and Tuesdays from about 12:45 to 2:30 p.m. The need is great, as 70 to 100 people have been coming in one and one-half hours on Mondays, for example. (Some of the Lord of Love garden produce has gone to this pantry this summer, too.) If interested, please give Simone Weber a call at First Lutheran, 917-992-8574.

#### Additional Service Events

We plan to organize another congregational event for service in January, most likely at Together, Inc. Stay tuned! Remember that you can check the Volunteer Opportunity Directory for other service opportunities in our community!

## RESOURCES

### The Meaning of Stewardship by Pastor Brad

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What is “Stewardship”? Other than the word that everyone avoids at church about this time of year, “stewardship is the responsible overseeing and protection of something considered worth caring for and preserving” (www.Dictionary.com).

Unfortunately, stewardship is most often associated with how much money my church is going to ask me to give, rather than how I can use the gifts that I have been given to the glory of God.

For the church, stewardship is the caring and preserving of the life that God has given us. We nurture and care for our life best by giving of our strengths, gifts, and talents in the service of God’s mission.

God invites and calls us to be a good steward of these amazing gifts:

- The gift of our life
- The gift of our generosity
- The gift of the mission to which God calls us
- The gift of hope



So rather than stewardship meaning “what I **have** to give” why not look at stewardship as “what and how I **get** to give of myself for the building up of the mission of God”? The mission of the gospel is worth preserving, and we’ve been given the privilege to share it with others.

## COUNCIL REPORT

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

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General Fund financial information for August 2012 is as follows:

- Income: \$25,695.30
- Expenses: \$25,906.33



General Fund financial information for the year to date (through August 31, 2012) is as follows:

- Income: \$197,953.12
- Expenses: \$193,490.21

Thank you for your faithfulness!!

### 2012 Lord of Love Church Council

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

Nurture: Paula Foster, Lori Vandeventer

Outreach: Jeri Morgan, Mike Klos

Resources: Doug Roberts, Rex Quadhamer

Worship: Randi VenHuizen, Pat Brewer



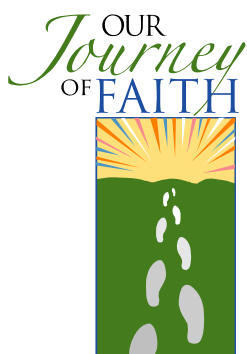
## COUNCIL REPORT

### From the Council President – October 2012 by Brian Lund, Council President

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Matthew 7:7-8 (NRSV) *Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.*

Our fall programming has started. Deb and I are getting to know some of our young people a little bit better by teaching Junior High Sunday School. We use the Faith Incubators (FINK for short) as a means of supplementing the material that Pastor Brad uses for confirmation. This school year, we plan to cover the Old Testament and New Testament. We will likely include some other subject areas as well. Our intention is to provide the basis of a strong faith life for our youth.



Adults in our congregation come from a variety of faith backgrounds. Deb and I both grew up Lutheran with grandparents and parents who fostered a strong life of faith. I grew up spending some Saturday mornings helping to clean our church building. I am not exactly sure how my dad got that assignment, but I do know that it made me comfortable being in God's house and taking an active part in the care of church property. On Saturday nights, we did our Sunday school lesson, learned our Bible verse, and then took a bath. Every Sunday, we had family devotions before breakfast. Then our family went to church and sat in the same pew, right towards the front on the pulpit side. As children, we learned about God and Jesus in Sunday school. We sang songs that reflected a joyous faith and strong hope in God's promise. How fortunate we were to have had these opportunities to hear God's Word and to receive the seeds of faith.

Some of us at Lord of Love may have a similar faith story. Others have been on a significantly different journey of faith. Regardless of how we got here, we all can share in the joy of having a loving God who forgives our sins and blesses us with His faithful promise of grace.

What are you doing to help strengthen and broaden your own faith? Do you read the Bible or a daily devotion? Do you participate in Bible study? Do you talk with others about how God is present in your life? There are opportunities for study and faith development at Lord of Love. I encourage you to seek these out and to participate so that you can grow in faith and help others to do so also.



Ephesians 3:20-21 (NRSV) *Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen.*

Thank you for your continued financial support of Lord of Love. The sharing of your time, treasures, and talents makes our ministries possible. Follow your passion to get involved in one of the ministries of Lord of Love.

Please continue to pray for Pastor Brad, for our congregation, and for our service to others. Give thanks for the many blessings we enjoy. Pray for healing for all those in need, safety for all who work on behalf of others, and wisdom for the leaders of our congregation, state, country, and world.

Blessings in faith and service,  
Brian Lund

# WOMEN OF LOVE

## Fall Day Retreat

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All women are invited to participate in the annual fall day retreat at the home of Randi VenHuizen, 17205 Seward Street, on Saturday, October 6 at 9:00 a.m. Ruth Manning and Gwen Edwards will lead the retreat, "Oh the Places You'll Go." Go on a road trip with us and participate in Bible study, fun, and fellowship. Please bring your Bibles.



We'll begin with coffee followed by a potluck salad luncheon at noon. Following lunch, we will hold a brief general meeting that includes election of 2013 Women's Ministry team members, discussion of any business items, and a worship offering. Mark your calendars and join us for this special day!

## Ladies Bazaar Road Trip

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Karen Mullen is making arrangements for women of Lord of Love to travel to Sioux Falls to attend First Lutheran Church's annual bazaar. We will leave on Friday, November 2, and will return to Omaha late in the afternoon on Saturday, November 3. There is a focus on all things Norwegian: smorgasbord with all the Norwegian delicacies, a separate Scandinavian shop, homemade lefse, etc. Also included is a churchwide rummage sale with separate rooms for antiques, sewing and needlework, purses and jewelry, homemade items, quilts, linens and doilies, and more. Hours of the bazaar are 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. This bazaar has traditionally made \$40,000 to \$50,000 for the First Lutheran Women.

Rooms have been reserved (<http://www.thegatheringplacesf.com/>) at *The Gathering Place* for Friday evening. There is a kitchen, and we will provide a continental breakfast. We plan to leave from Lord of Love at 5:00 p.m. on Friday. (Do you have a van you could drive? You will be reimbursed for gas.)

The cost is \$60 per person, and checks (made out to Lord of Love W/ELCA) must be attached to the registration form below. They must be returned to Karen Mullen's church mailbox by Sunday, October 14.

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Registration Form  
First Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls Bazaar  
November 2-3, 2012

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ (circle cell or home)

I can be ready to leave from Lord of Love at \_\_\_\_\_ p.m. (The trip will take 3 hours.)

Attach a check for \$60 (gas, lodging, and breakfast) made out to Lord of Love W/ELCA, attach to this form, and place it in Karen Mullen's church mailbox. **Registration is due Sunday, October 14.**

## Lord's Laughing Ladies

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Join us for coffee fellowship at Crane Coffee at 77<sup>th</sup> and Cass Streets at 8:00 a.m. on Fridays, October 12 and 26.



## Women of Love Ministry Team

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All women are invited to attend the Women's Ministry team that will meet in the Mary Room at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 10.

# WOMEN OF LOVE

## Gather Bible Study

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The theme for the October Bible study is “Learning the Tough Stuff” based on Mark 4:1: “Again he began to teach beside the sea. Such a very large crowd gathered around him that he got into a boat on the sea and sat there, while the whole crowd was beside the sea on the land.”

You are invited to attend one of two study groups. The Monday evening group will meet on October 1 at 6:00 p.m. at Old Country Buffet at 145<sup>th</sup> and West Center Road. The Wednesday evening group will meet on October 3 at 6:00 p.m. at Lord of Love in the Mary Room. All women are invited to attend.

## Thankoffering Service

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The annual Thankoffering Service will be held on Sunday, October 14 at 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. The Thankoffering service is one of our most important and historic traditions, rooted in our celebration of generosity, gratitude, and community. Last year, 2,713 congregational units collected Thankofferings for Women of the ELCA. Can we count you in this year? Bring your Thankoffering boxes or place a check in the basket in front of the altar. Thanks for helping our churchwide organization with its ministry.

## Advent by Candlelight

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The Wednesday evening *Gather* Bible study group is planning our *Advent by Candlelight*, which will be held on Saturday, December 1. The time and cost will be announced later.

As in the past, members will set a table with their own dishes, candles, and decorations, so now is the time to start planning! The November issue of *The Love Letter* will have complete details.

## Dates to Remember

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### October

1	6:00 p.m.	<i>Gather</i> Bible Study, Old Country Buffet, 145 <sup>th</sup> and West Center Road
2	9:00 a.m.	Quilters, Fellowship Hall
3	6:00 p.m.	<i>Gather</i> Bible study, Mary Room
6	9:00 a.m.	Day retreat at Randi VenHuizen’s followed by potluck salad luncheon and LOL Women of Love General Meeting
10	6:00 p.m.	Women’s Ministry Team Meeting, Mary Room
12	8:00 a.m.	Coffee Fellowship, Crane Coffee, 77 <sup>th</sup> and Cass
14	8 & 10:30	Thankoffering Service
16	9:00 a.m.	Quilters, Fellowship Hall
26	8:00 a.m.	Coffee Fellowship, Crane Coffee, 77 <sup>th</sup> and Cass



Women of the ELCA 

### Coming Soon

November 2-3	Road Trip to First Lutheran Church Bazaar, Sioux Falls, SD (Karen Mullen, coordinator)
December 1	Advent by Candlelight
December 8	Prepare “goodie containers” for elderly, shut-ins, & those with special needs

## IN OUR PRAYERS & LOVE NOTES

### In Our Prayers

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Diana Baker (friend of the Thoms)  
Chris Beckman (friend of Jane Gehringer)  
Dick Bell  
James Cantrell (uncle of Gwen Edwards)  
Michael Crow (friend of the Egrs)  
Claire Foral (friend of Dave and Lisa Rieff)  
Nick Gehrig (grandson of the Schuchards)  
Mike Gillotte (neighbor of Bill and Karen Pickens)  
Joel Harris (friend of Gwen Edwards)  
Jane Hawkins' brothers and nieces  
Marilyn Haworth (friend of Brenda Mac)  
Cathy Johnson (friend of Marilyn Thomsen)  
Cheryl Jones (friend of Nancy Shinrock)  
Dolores Jordan (aunt of Paula Foster)  
Jude Konvalina  
Jane Loquist (sister-in-law of Kristi Omar)  
Donna Lueders (mother of Dave Lueders)  
Lisa Lueders (sister-in-law of Dave Lueders)  
Brenda Mac  
Marj Mahler (mother of Jane Hawkins)  
Debbie Michalak (co-worker of Jackie Combes)  
Ardis Mickelson (mother of Shawn Lorenzen and Heather VanArsdale)  
John Patrick Nicholson (friend of the Novaks)  
Brenda Nobles (friend of Gwen Edwards)

David Pippin (nephew of Lynda McGraw)  
Judy Quest (friend of Jane Gehringer)  
Marilyn Sanders (aunt of Deb Lund)  
Isaac Schroeder (infant son of Clay and Kelly)  
Shirley Schuchard  
Hildur Shelton (sister of Pauline Shaffer)  
Ron and Brenda Thom  
Marilyn Thomsen  
Audrey Wapelhorst (niece of Brenda Mac)  
Ted Whitfield (former co-worker of Brian Shinrock)  
Jeff Wise (friend of the Thoms)

Those deployed around the world:

Kelvin  
Andrew Briggs  
Terry Duke  
Jesse Kinney  
Nash Oltman

Children waiting to be adopted & those seeking to adopt  
Men's servant ministry  
Stephen Ministers and their care receivers  
Those seeking employment  
Those who mourn

If you would like to add a name to the In Our Prayers section of *The Love Letter*, please contact the office at 402.493.2946, send an email to [marylou@lord-of-love.org](mailto:marylou@lord-of-love.org), or fill out a prayer request note available in the narthex and place it in the basket. **Please help keep this list current by informing us when a name can be removed.** Thanks!

### Love Notes

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Dear friends,  
Thank you so very much for your prayers, cards, visits, meals, encouragement, and driving me to appointments while I am recuperating from surgery. You are the best church family a person could have. I am blessed to know you.

Randi VenHuizen



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**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**

- October 6 Women of Love Fall Day Retreat
- October 7 Celebration of Faith Sunday
- October 14 Thankoffering service  
Omaha CROP walk
- October 27 Fall Clean-up Day

**Upcoming Events**

- November 2-3 Women of Love Road Trip to First Lutheran Church Bazaar, Sioux Falls, SD
- November 5-9 2012 Lutheran World Relief Ingathering
- December 1 Advent by Candlelight
- December 8 Prepare “goodie containers”



*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.*