



The Love Letter

Volume 43

June 2014

Lord of Love Office

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

Lord of Love Staff

Pastor

Brad Meyer
pastorbrad@lord-of-love.org

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

Jon Novak

LOL Brass Director

Brian Lund

Bell Choir Director

Heidi Meyer

Worship Schedule

Sun. 8:00 a.m. Worship Service
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

Summer is here and Father's Day is coming up! All dads are invited by the women's ministry team to a breakfast on **June 15 at 9 a.m.** Happy Father's Day!

It may be summer vacation for some, but Lord of Love still needs you! **Greeters, summer musicians and summer breakfast cooks** are needed. See the Worship and Nurture sections for details.

What would summer be without vacation Bible School? You can register your child now for a week of fun **July 21-25**. See page 7 for more.

Ladies, note a few changes in the regular schedule for bible study and meetings in June and plan to attend the general meeting of LOL's unit of the Women of the ELCA on **June 8**. See page 15 for all the details.

Are you craving peanuts and cracker jacks? That's because the Omaha Stormchasers 2014 Lutheran Night is coming up on **June 23**. Sign up for tickets at a special rate on the sign-up sheet in the narthex.



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Shelter in the Storm, by Pastor Brad Meyer

If you live in Nebraska, or any other state in "Tornado Alley," you are going to spend some time in the basement with fear and anxiety surrounding you.

In the most recent Mother's Day storm we were not home but rather 70 miles away celebrating the day with my family. As the weather channel beeped away on the television, we watched the storm crawling toward Omaha and the surrounding areas. I'm not sure which was worse, wondering what we might find when we got home or being huddled in the basement at home waiting for something to happen.

No matter where you are, one cannot help but worry about what might take place or what may be lost in the midst of a storm. Those who lose their possessions most frequently say, "We are happy that no one was hurt." "Possessions can be replaced, lives cannot."

As we traveled back to Omaha on Mother's Day, we found nothing out of place except a couple of missing laundry baskets that had been protecting some newly planted flowers from the possibility of hail. (If you find two white laundry baskets in your yard – they're ours!) We were thankful – yet prayed for those who suffered damage to their homes and the disruption to their lives.

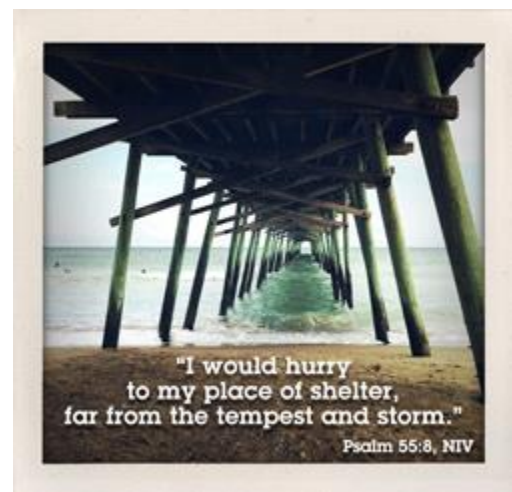
Our Christian faith reassures us that even amidst the storms of life – no matter if it is a physical, emotional, or spiritual storm – Christ is with us.

Henri Nouwen wrote that being a follower of Jesus means, "Our struggles and pains (*storms of life*) become different struggles and pain. The reason for this is that we are no longer living our struggles and pains alone." If it be a physical storm or any other storm in our lives, Jesus promises to walk it with us. "...we live it in companionship with the one who understands us fully – our guide, fellow traveler, the one in whom we can trust our whole life."

If you see a storm approaching – in whatever form it takes – remember to rely on the one who walks with you, and on those who physically surround you as your church family – because there is no reason to walk it alone.

Peace,

Pastor Brad



MONTHLY CALENDAR

June 2014						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:00am Worship & Communion 9:00am Summer Breakfast 10:30am Worship & Communion 12:00pm Gust Shower	2 6:00pm Gather Bible Study @ Village Inn Oakview 8:00pm AA & AI Anon	3 9:00am Quilters 7:00pm Vision & Coordination Mtg.	4	5 7:00pm Boy Scouts	6 8:00am Crane Coffee Fellowship 7:30pm AA Meeting	7 7:00am Men's Breakfast Ministry 9:00am Lueders Shower
8 8:00am Worship & Communion 9:00am Summer Breakfast 10:30am Worship & Communion	9 8:00pm AA & AI Anon	10	11 6:00pm W/ELCA Ministry Team	12 7:00pm Boy Scouts	13 7:30pm AA Meeting	14 Youth leave for Mission Trip 7:00am Men's Breakfast Ministry
15 8:00am Worship & Communion 9:00am Summer Breakfast 10:30am Worship & Communion	16 8:00pm AA & AI Anon	17 9:00am Quilters 7:00pm Church Council Mtg.	18	19 7:00pm Boy Scouts	20 8:00am Crane Coffee Fellowship 7:30pm AA Meeting	21 Youth return from Mission Trip 7:00am Men's Breakfast Ministry
22 8:00am Worship & Communion 9:00am Summer Breakfast 10:30am Worship & Communion	23 8:00pm AA & AI Anon	24	25	26 7:00pm Boy Scouts	27 6:30pm Novak Recital 7:30pm AA Meeting	28 7:00am Men's Breakfast Ministry 10:00am Novak Recital
29 8:00am Worship & Communion 9:00am Summer Breakfast 10:30am Worship & Communion 1:00pm District 18 AA Planning Mtg.	30 8:00pm AA & AI Anon					

SPECIAL NOTE

Greetings!

Some of you may be wondering just who your new Love Letter editor is. I am a brand-new member and, admittedly, also tend to be on the quiet side at first. But I am so excited to be part of this church family and to have the privilege of serving as your newsletter editor. In time I hope to meet everyone!

I moved to Omaha last June when my husband Travis accepted a faculty position at the University of Nebraska-Omaha in the English department. We met in graduate school in Lincoln and then moved to Alabama for almost two years while Travis finished his dissertation and looked for a faculty position. Praise God that he found one, and I also found a job at Creighton University in the Office of Marketing and Communications!



Charise Adams

My educational background includes a B.A. in English from the University of Wyoming and an M.A. in English from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. We have a beloved dog and cat and in our spare time like to go for bike rides and, of course, read.

Thank you for welcoming me into the Lord of Love community! On that note, see below for how you can help welcome new folks as a greeter. ☺

WORSHIP

Thank You, Greeters!

We have all had to do it: walk into a strange place, not knowing anyone. At Lord of Love, we have always been a welcoming community offering hospitality to strangers. For the last several years we have assigned members as greeters for each service to strengthen that hospitality. We so appreciate the assistance and caring of all who have served as Greeters for Lord of Love and continued the tradition of welcoming others as Christ has welcomed all of us!

If you have not been assigned to be a Greeter and would like to be one, please contact Kathy Christiansen at sharonkc@cox.net or 402. 493.0385.

"I was a stranger and you welcomed me."

Matthew 25:35b



Musicians Needed

Do you have musical talents that you can share during worship this summer? If so, select a Sunday and sign up! The sign-up sheet for summer music is on the bulletin board in the narthex.



Lord of Love's Worship Servants

	June 1	June 8	June 15	June 22	June 29
Greeter(s)					
8 a.m.	Jesse & Pat Brewer	Harry Naasz Gary Ramsay	Brian & Deb Lund	Carolyn Tessin	Woody & Mardi Fiske
10:30 a.m.	Paul & Ann Kroll	Debra Gillespie Sandy Hall	Dave & Susan Lueders	Doug & Karen Armitage	Anne Yarger Brenda Mac
Liturgist					
8 a.m.	Matt Garder	Heather Christensen	Ron Thom	Shawn Lorenzen	Paul Christenson
10:30 a.m.	Claudia Rowen	Tom Olson	Ruth Manning	Dave Rieff	Ashley Vandeventer
Communion Servers					
8 a.m.	Garder family	Christensen family	Tessin family	Jim & Jeri Morgan	Brian & Connie Walther
10:30 a.m.	Vandeventer family	Olson family	Edwards family	Rieff family	Bill & Nicole Quackenbush
Altar Care					
8 a.m.	Cathy Aden Sue Dieter	Connie Walther Lisa Meyer	Janet Guthrie Nancy Shinrock	Wayne & Joan Witt	Deb Christenson Angie Meyer
10:30 a.m.	Nicole Quackenbush EJ Shaner	Karen Anderson Mardi Fiske	Paul & Ann Kroll	Deb Quadhamer Judy Messerschmidt	Diana Haye Marcia Roads
Ushers					
8 a.m.	Joe Combes, Jason Combes, Josh Combes, Dale & Karen Finck				
10:30 a.m.	Dave Lueders, Adam Lueders, Lynnette Nore, Chris Boarts				
Nursery Care					
10:30 a.m.	Anne Yarger		Lisa Rieff	Ashley Meier	Pat Brewer
CD Recording					
10:30 a.m.	Pat Brewer	Paul Christenson	Dave Lueders	Paul Murphy	Jesse Brewer



Attention All Cooks!

Summer Breakfasts will begin on June 1st. The sign-up sheets are both on the Narthex Bulletin Board under "Fellowship" and in the Fellowship Hall by the kitchen.



The process is very easy! Prepare the food and we will enjoy one another's company, between services. Last year, there were 60-75 people at each breakfast. Anything you would like to make is great! The congregation puts in a free will offering. The cook then takes out the money used for the food, while the rest goes to Lutheran Family Services for their Play Therapy program.

Fall Festival

Mark your calendar! The 2014 Fall Festival has been set for **Saturday, October 11** (no Husker home game)! The theme is "**Abundant Harvest.**" Jackie Combes has agreed to head up the planning committee but she will need volunteers – prepare to say "yes"!

Watch the upcoming issues of the Love Letter for more information." The ministry team determined that the profits from the Fall Festival will be divided equally between Siena Francis House, Lutheran Campus Ministry, LOL's Women of the ELCA operating budget and Women on a Mission.



Stormchasers Lutheran Night

2014 Lutheran Night tickets are now available for the **Monday, June 23** game between the Omaha Storm Chasers and the El Paso Chihuahuas. It will be the third annual Lutheran Night at Werner Park.

The special ticket rate is \$5.50 for reserved box tickets when reserved by Lord of Love by June 20. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex.

Let's help reach 1,000 or more Lutherans at Werner Park this year!



Vacation Bible School – SonTreasure Island!

We're excited about Vacation Bible School Monday coming up July 21 - Friday, July 25. Dinner will be at 5:30 with VBS from 6 - 8 p.m.

Get ready for a week of treasure-hunting adventure in the Caribbean Islands! Through their adventures, children will discover that **God's Love Is Giving, God's Love Is Kind, God's Love Is Caring, God's Love Is Forgiving and God's Love Is Forever!** We will have lively songs, hilarious skits, creative crafts, exciting games, Bible stories and tasty snacks—all of the things that make Vacation Bible School so much fun for children. On top of that, we will be helping children learn about God's amazing love.

Call us today at 402-493-2946 for registration information.
Send questions to Heather at heather@lord-of-love.org.



SonTreasure Island can be an inspirational and educational adventure for your entire family. Parents are invited to join in on Family Night, Friday, July 25 at 6 p.m.

To volunteer as a small group leader, help with registration or be a general helper, contact Heather Christensen at heather@lord-of-love.org.

Junior Choir by Jane Hawkins

Thank you for your beautiful music during 2013-2014. It was a blessing. Have a safe summer

Below - The Lord of Love Junior Choir performed at the God's Daughters luncheon on April 27.



Youth Mission Work Trip to Hamilton, Ohio

Road trip! We are counting down the days to loading up 14 people in a van and driving more than 700 miles across the country! I keep reminding myself how incredibly blessed I am to be a part of this journey with our amazing youth and pastor.

And then, I remember...that's 14 different tastes in music, 14 bags, pillows, and favorite snacks, 14 asking if we are there yet or when we are stopping, and 28 feet that hopefully aren't sweating or smelly! Did I say I keep reminding myself how blessed I am?

But seriously, I am excited that the families of Lord of Love have entrusted us with their youth, and the youth are excited about this opportunity to go out into the world and serve others, to trust each other, and to experience God's love. This experience is sure to bring us closer together as God works in our lives!

June 14 we will head out to Hamilton, Ohio (just outside of Cincinnati) and we will return on June 21 to share our adventures with you. We will work on homes of those in need, we will worship together and discover how God helps us not only to repair another's home, but to repair our lives.

Our Lord of Love family has been incredibly supportive of this initiative and we are so thankful for that!

Please pray for safe travels, pray for the community of Hamilton, pray for all those that we encounter on this journey, pray for our youth's hearts to be touched and their lives to be transformed, pray for what's on your heart for us



Youth Mission Work Trip

If you have any items from the list below that you'd like to donate, repurpose, or reuse, bring them to the Narthex by **Friday, June 12.**

- ☐ Paint rollers, Paint roller extension handle, paint brushes, paint tray, painters tape, drop clothes and other painting supplies
- ☐ Hammers, screw drivers
- ☐ Safety goggles, Work gloves, N-95 disposable mask
- ☐ Tool pouch, bag or bucket
- ☐ Spray bottle
- ☐ Tape measure, Utility knife, Chalk line and chalk
- ☐ Chisel, Caulking gun
- ☐ Level, Square
- ☐ Extension cord, Ground fault interrupter
- ☐ Spade shovel, Post hole digger
- ☐ 1 box of rags
- ☐ At least 1 wrench/socket set
- ☐ 16-ft or longer extension ladder
- ☐ 8-ft stepladder
- ☐ Electric drill and bits
- ☐ First-aid kit (1 per vehicle)
- ☐ Duct tape

**Pray for Able, Alexis, Carley, Chris, Cody, Emily, Kevin, Kyle,
Leah, Luke, Sam, Pastor Brad, Rolie, and Ms. Heather
on their trip!**

Christian Education

Sunday School, Confirmation, and Luther Kids has ended for the year and we are most grateful for the volunteers that committed their time to provide a faith filled learning environment for our congregation and young people. Many thanks to you for taking the time to make a difference. We appreciate you:

Lori Vandeventer, Ashley Vandeventer, Allison Vandeventer, Claudia Rowen, Karen Armitage, Laurie Heavey, Nicole Quackenbush, Katie Messerschmidt, Ashley Meier, Tom Olson, Beth Olson, Nick Olson, Brian Lund, Deb Lund, Doug Armitage, Chris Rich, Rex Quadhammer, Paula Foster, Judy Messerschmidt, Ruth Manning, Harry Naasz, Pastor Brad, and our Wednesday night Nourishment Ministry of VanArsdale and Lorenzen. Thank you all!



Thanks for a
Great Year!

OUTREACH

Community Garden

Thanks to everyone who helped prepare the soil and plant the garden crops in recent weeks. The potatoes did get hit by some frost, but will survive.

The plan is to meet on Mondays and Thursdays at 9 a.m to weed and water as needed; then harvest on those days later in the season. But, of course, weeding can be done at any time, so feel free to get out there when you can! Talk to one of the gardeners if you would like to help or have any questions: Doug Aden, Dawn Burton, Dale Finck, Deb Lund, Jeri Morgan, Gary Ramsay, and Doug Roberts.

Sow for yourselves
righteousness,
reap the fruit
of unfailing
love ...

Hosea 10:12, NIV



Mission Possible

Each summer, the Mission Possible Committee selects an organization to support with the proceeds from Summer Breakfasts. This year, the committee selected Lutheran Family Services (LFS) Children's program to support Play Therapy. Play therapy is a therapeutic method to help young children share feelings and communicate in a non-threatening manner.

When you go to breakfast, and think about summer being a time for play, please give generously to support LFS in this most important work.



Syria: ELCA Joins Call to End the Violence

Citing the 140,000 people killed, including 11,000 children, since the war in Syria began in 2011, ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth A. Eaton has joined U.S. religious leaders in asking the U.S. to develop a “robust” strategy for a political solution to help end the warfare and to protect the rights of the citizens of Syria. See www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/blogs/NewsBlog/37.

Namibia: Aid Helps Buy Food During Drought

One of the worst droughts in more than 25 years is causing malnutrition, disease and deaths in Namibia, especially among children. Lutheran Disaster Response is providing cash grants to families to help them survive until crops can be harvested. See www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/blogs/ELCALutheranDisasterResponse/249.



Uganda: Village Health Team Fights Malaria

"We used to bury so many people due to malaria, especially children," says Onyait Michael. But, thanks to the training and support Onyait and his fellow health care volunteers in Katakwi have received through the ELCA Malaria Campaign, that tide is turning. See www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/blogs/ELCAMalariaCampaign/220.

South Africa: Helping Girls Be All They Can Be

Abby Henderson, an ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission participant, is making a difference. Through her work with the WOW Movement and the Proudly Female program in Bellville South, where violence against women is a problem, she is helping South African girls realize they are valued and deserve an education. See www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/blogs/HandInHand/422.

Visit <http://www.elca.org/News-and-Events/> for more global ELCA mission news.

Stewardship of Creation by Pastor Brad

*"In wisdom you made them all, the earth is full of your creatures.
There is the sea, vast and spacious, teeming with creatures beyond
number - living things both large and small... When you send your Spirit,
they are created and you renew the earth."
Psalm 104:25,30*

Most often when we think of "Stewardship" we think first that the church is asking for money – again! But, Steward is a biblical term that refers to a manager who is responsible for the goods and property of another. A steward is not therefore an owner, but one who has a responsibility to an owner to treat property with care and respect. Stewardship is a term that refers to the responsibility of a steward to manage wisely.

God has blessed us as being a part of **creation** and also requires of us to be good stewards of what we've been made a part. Humans have been given dominion over the earth. Too often, however that is interpreted to mean that we have a right to dominate and exploit creation for our own wants and needs, neglecting to treat all of creation with care and respect.

The second creation story (Gen 2:5-15) clarifies the concept of environmental stewardship. From David Rhoads, *The Stewardship of Creation, A Theological Reflection*:



"In this story, God put Adam and Eve in the garden in order 'to till and to keep' the land. However, the words translated as 'till' and 'keep' may be misleading. The Hebrew word for 'till' is a word used to depict the service that a slave gives to a master. And the Hebrew word for 'keep' means to preserve for future generations. Hence, the mandate 'to serve and to preserve' the land places human beings not in a hierarchical position over creation but in a position of service to it."

Just like Adam and Eve, we have been mandated to serve the creation in which we are a part. That means to respect one another as God's creation, to care for the earth and all that it provides by being mindful of how we treat it. Making conscious decisions to care for creation may involve sacrifice on our part as we seek to live a simpler and cleaner lifestyle, but through it we show kindness toward the wellbeing of land, sea, and air.

Rather than making this practice a sacrifice, let's look at it as showing gratitude to God for all that surrounds us to help make us stewards of creation with hope and joy!



RESOURCES

Will Our Children be Generous? Part Two by Rex Quadhamer

There are no guarantees that generous parents will raise generous children. Even parents who intentionally practice and teach faithful stewardship habits cannot be assured that their children will be equally motivated to be good stewards as adults. However, there are things parents can do to influence their children's attitudes and actions as co-stewards of the household.

- 1) Take your children shopping for people they will never meet---other children, new mothers, elderly people, people who have special needs. Donate the items they select to local organizations that serve that special population. Talk with your children about why these people may need additional support.
- 2) Read or watch age-appropriate stories about generous people with your children. Then talk about the story together. For example, Zach Bonner, age seven at the time, founded the Little Red Wagon Foundation in 2005 with the help of his mother. When asked about why he wanted to spend so much effort helping children living in poverty he said, "These kids don't have a home, they don't have a safe place to sleep at night. They're out on the streets not because they want to be, but because it's out of their control." He started by pulling his own little red wagon through his Florida neighborhood to collect items to help people who'd suffered from the hurricanes that plagued Florida in 2004.

There will be more to come in next month's Love Letter!

CHURCH COUNCIL

2014 Lord of Love Church Council

Executive Committee: Brian Walther, President; Kenn Garder, Vice-President; Judy Messerschmidt, Secretary; Lisa Meyer, Treasurer

Nurture: Paula Foster, Lisa Willard

Outreach: Karen Anderson, Mardi Fiske

Resources: Paul Concannon, Rex Quadhamer

Worship: Kathy Christiansen, Joan Witt



Our Giving Status

General Fund financial information for April 2014:

- Actual Income - \$23,198.95
- Actual Expenses - \$28,159.48

General Fund financial information year to date through April 2014:

- Actual Income - \$102,000.70
- Actual Expenses - \$110,305.88

Our Giving Status, Continued

During April there were enough funds available to pay out the 2013 mission funds of \$4,028.00 to Lutheran Family Services. Although YTD actual giving to budgeted expenses remains at a significant deficit, we are thankful to have paid out these past due funds.

We are now entering the summer months where offerings are often lower due to time off, vacations, etc. Please be mindful that the church continues to have regular monthly expenses.

Simply Giving is an easy way to continue to support Lord of Love even if you are unable to attend worship. It's easy to sign up with no cost to you. Please contact Mary Lou or Lisa Meyer if you are interested.



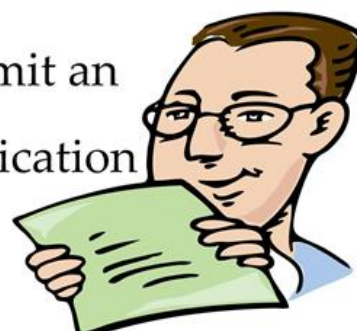
Endowment Committee Looking at Needs

The Endowment Committee will be looking at special needs and missions that need funding. This committee does not help with the general operating budget items of the Church, but with special missions, projects or one-time awards.

In 2013, the Endowment Committee distributed \$4800 to various missions. ELCA Disaster Relief, NLOM Western Town, the Oaks Indian Mission, the Lakota Lutheran Center, and the Intentional Interim Pastor Scholarship each received \$500. Martha Mkombo, a student in Tanzania, received \$2,300 toward her education.

These special missions can apply for funds by completing an application obtained from the church office and then returning it to the Endowment Committee before 11:59 p.m. on **Nov. 1, 2014, one month earlier than last year.**

Submit an
Application



Although the Endowment Committee invests the fund to enable it to grow, the Endowment Committee needs additional funding so that more can be done. Consider James 2:15-17, *"Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to him 'Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed,' but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if not accompanied by action, is dead."*

Remembering the Lord of Love Endowment Fund in your estate plan is an easy way to supplement the fund and assure that your fruits on earth are extended beyond your life time. Lord of Love will take contributions to the Endowment Fund at any time by putting a check in the collection plate stipulating that the amount goes to the Endowment Fund (please make it a check solely for the Endowment Fund).

2014 Lutheran Men in Mission National Gathering: July 18–20

It's NOT too late! Don't miss the opportunity to share Christian fellowship with other men from Lord of Love, and with other men from around the country and the world. Assembling in Nashville in 2014, this triennial gathering is a men's bonding and spiritually rewarding event, allowing your faith to grow and your spirit to soar.

Men from Lord of Love- your registration fee will be paid by LOL's Men's Breakfast Ministry. Let's hear from you so we can have your input in deciding how/when to travel.

Contact any member of LOL's Men's Breakfast Ministry for local information. Log on to lutheranmeninmission.org for additional national updates and reservation information.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS / SAVE THE DATE



www.lutheranmeninmission.org - (800) 638-3522 ext. 2566

Saturday Morning Men's Meeting

Attention all men- start your weekend off right! Join us on Saturday mornings by sharing a locally prepared breakfast, followed by a scripture based study held in Lord of Love's fellowship hall and kitchen. Breakfast is served at 7 a.m., followed by a biblical study, and our closing prayer is around 8 AM.



This is time for good fellowship and spiritual strengthening. The only thing missing is you! And you will always find a seat at our table.

Baptismal Box Build–(BBB)

The time has arrived! After weeks (months) of planning (procrastination) the men of Lord of Love will gather and build our next set of Baptismal Boxes.

Baptismal boxes are given to all newly baptized in celebration of their baptism. **All men** are invited to take part in this fellowship event. We plan to gather at Tom and Beth Olson's home- 15855 Western Ave, Omaha, Friday, June 6. We will start at 6 p.m. with brats/burgers and beverages.

The completion and follow-up is Saturday morning, June 7, at 9 a.m.- following Men's Breakfast. RSVP to Tom Olson, Paul Christenson, or Ron Thom.



Dads Eat Free!

The women's ministry team is hosting breakfast on Father's Day, June 15 between services.

Everyone is invited, but in appreciation to the dads, they will be our guests that morning. Join us in the Fellowship Hall at 9 a.m.



General Meeting

The spring general meeting of LOL's unit of Women of the ELCA will be held at the rear of the Fellowship Hall at 9:15 on Sunday, June 8.



All women are invited to attend as we review our actions from the first half of the year, look at the remaining schedule for the year, and answer any questions. This is your opportunity to bring any discussion/business items before the group. So pick up your breakfast plate and join us!

Nebraska Women of the ELCA Newsletter

The Nebraska Synodical Women of the ELCA newsletter, *Expressions*, is posted monthly on their website: <http://www.nebraskasynod.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/May2014.pdf>. The May issue is now available.

Secret Angels

We hope you are having a good time serving as a secret angel as well as being on the receiving end!

Just a reminder to check the small table in the alcove next to the doughnut table in the narthex to see if something has your name on it! Remember as we're going into the busy summer season to continue praying and encouraging your secret angel.

Prayer Shawls

Prayer shawls have begun to trickle in and we presented some to our high school grads on May 18. Please continue to support this ministry. Prayer shawl brochures are available at the Information Center in the narthex with some suggested patterns. Also, we are looking for donations of yarn (place them in the basket at the Information Center). Help yourself to the yarn to make your prayer shawls.

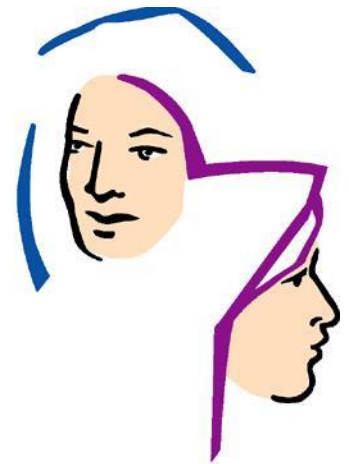


Summer Gather Bible Study: Of Many Generations – Mary, Elizabeth and Lydia

"Of Many Generations," is a three-session Bible study that looks at biblical women from several generations. This study will be presented at Women of the ELCA Ninth Triennial Gathering in Charlotte, NC in July by the author, Dr. Diane Jacobson. Dr. Jacobson is professor emeritus of Old Testament at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, MN, where she taught from 1982-2010.

We are women of "of many generations," many ages, many places, and many experiences. We have a calling to come, learn, and serve together, as well as to rebuild, repair, and restore not only our own relationships, but also the world around us. To do this we look to Scripture for stories that take us into this calling.

"I can think of no better stories than the two we will read together this summer. In the first session, we will look at the remarkable meeting of two generations of women in Mary and Elizabeth," wrote the author of the study, Dr. Diane Jacobson. "We will look at their stories and come to know them. Then in the next session we will explore Mary's song that she sings in response both to Elizabeth's greeting and to all that has happened to her. "In the final session, we will turn to the story of Lydia that also explores a gathering of women that raises up the foundation of many generations." *(From the Women of the ELCA website)*



The summer studies will be available for download.

The June study is at

http://www.womenoftheelca.org/filebin/pdf/gather2013/GoodCompany_BS_Session1_2013.pdf

Please note: Only the Monday evening Bible study group will meet at the regular time this summer. They will meet at the Village Inn, 3304 S.143rd Place 6 p.m. on Monday, June 2. On Saturday, Aug. 9 all women are invited to attend a half-day retreat at the home of Deb Lund. If you would like to lead one of the three sessions, please contact Deb at 402.493.3721.

Lutheran Women of Omaha

Lutheran Women of Omaha will meet June 10, 2014 at noon for lunch and a program. Both the program and monetary project is At Ease, a program of Lutheran Family Services.

Please make your reservation with Ruth Manning by Friday, June 6 at 402.451.0221 or cranecoffeechick@gmail.com.

Ladies Coffee Fellowship

All women are invited to the coffee fellowship at Crane Coffee, 77th and Cass Streets, on Fridays, June 6 and 20 at 8 a.m.

Teachers, now that you're on summer break, please come and join us!



News from Triennial Gathering Planners

It's not too late to register for the Ninth Triennial Gathering of the Women of the ELCA in Charlotte, N.C. The gathering will held on July 24-27, following the convention on July 22-24. Further information and registration forms are available at <http://www.welcatg.org/>



Gwen Edwards, a member of the CWO board, and Ruth Manning will be attending both the convention and gathering. Gwen is up for re-election for a second 3-year term. If you cannot attend, please remember the presenters and participants in your prayers.

Women's Ministry Team

What is the women's ministry team? This is a group of women who have been elected to direct women's ministry at Lord of Love. Officially we are part of Lord of Love's W/ELCA unit, the Nebraska Synodical Women's Organization and the Church-Wide Women's Organization of the ELCA. W/ELCA gather in over 7,000 locations in the U.S. and the Caribbean for service, study, advocacy, fellowship and more. In Nebraska we meet annually in January for a winter retreat in Grand Island, and alternate the NSWO convention and Autumn Renewal in September.



Women's Ministry Team

Locally, we meet annually for the Spring Gathering of the Metro East conference. On the national level we meet for a Triennial Convention and Gathering. This year we will be in Charlotte, NC in July.

LOL's calendar year runs from January-December. As we plan programs and events for your participation, we focus on the Mission and Purpose Statement of Women of the ELCA: *As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society, and the world.* Copies of our 2014 program schedule are available at the Information Center.

Our Ministry Team meets at 6 p.m. in the Mary Room on the second Wednesday of each month (unless otherwise announced). We hold two general meetings a year. Our next general meeting is June 8 (details on page 16). Due to the general meeting, there will be no separate ministry team meeting in June.

As a member of the Evangelical Lutheran church, you are a member of the Women of the ELCA. We invite you to participate in our "Gather" Bible studies as well as the other programs and events we sponsor.

WOMEN OF LOVE

2014–15 Gather Bible Study

A new life partner, a new child, a new job, a new home: most of us recognize how our lives are changed by these experiences. In Transforming Life and Faith, we will consider how our lives and our faith journeys are transformed by the events we experience and the people we meet in both the Old and New Testaments and especially in Acts of the Apostles, we will read about people who have life-changing experiences: Paul on the road to Damascus, Moses in the wilderness of Midian, Lydia praying by a river in Macedonia, an Ethiopian man traveling from Jerusalem to Gaza.

We will watch them turn to and with God as their minds, hearts, and daily lives are altered. And we will reflect on the ways we too, have been and will be transformed and called by God to serve God's mission in the world.

The author of this study, Carol Schersten LaHurd is a lifelong teacher: Red Cross swimming lessons, high school English, parish education, and for the past 30 years, biblical studies, Islam, and interfaith relations in colleges, seminaries, the church, and the wider community. After earning degrees from Augustana College (Illinois) and the University of Chicago, she received a Ph.D. in New Testament from the University of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. She is author of "Luke's Vision: The People of God," the 1998 Bible study for Lutheran Women Today (now Gather).

June Dates to Remember

June 2	6 p.m.	Gather Bible Study, Village Inn, 3304 S.143rd Pl.
June 3	9 a.m. – 12 p.m.	Quilters, Fellowship Hall
June 4	6 p.m.	NO Gather Bible Study
June 6	8 a.m.	Crane Coffee Fellowship
June 8	9:15 a.m.	LOL Women's General Meeting
June 11	6 p.m.	NO Ministry Team
June 15	9 a.m.	Free Breakfast for Dads
June 17	9 a.m. – 12 p.m.	Quilters, Fellowship Hall
June 20	8 a.m.	Crane Coffee Fellowship

Looking Ahead



July 22-24: 9th Triennial Convention of the Women of the ELCA
July 24-27: 9th Triennial Gathering of the Women of the ELCA, Charlotte, NC
Sept. 13: NSWOL Autumn Renewal, St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, Lincoln.
October 3-4: Women of Faith Conference, Lincoln, NE
October 11: Lord of Love Fall Festival, "Abundant Harvest"

IN OUR PRAYERS & LOVE NOTES

In Our Prayers

Antoinette Anania (cousin of Deb Lund)
Chris Beckman (friend of Jane Gehringer)
Dick Bell
Connie Bennett (cousin of Karen Armitage)
Patricia Connolly (friend of the Thom's)
Jan Davis-Hughes (aunt of Paula Foster)
Claire Foral (friend of Dave & Lisa Rieff)
Ed Gehringer
Mike Gillotte (neighbor of the Pickens)
Ken Gustafson (husband of Mary Lou)
Cheryl Jones (friend of Nancy Shinrock)
Verna Kragnes (sister of Amy Kragnes)
Matt Kreikimeier (friend of Brenda Mac)
Glenna Lee
Lisa Lueders (sister-in-law of Dave Lueders)
Marj & Jim Mahler and Sue, Terry & Keith
(mother, brother and friends of Jane Hawkins)
Jennifer & John Mather (friends of the Lueders)
Charles Meyer (father of Pr. Brad)
Debbie Michalak (former co-worker of Jackie Combes)
Ken Lineweaver (Aaron Edward's Papa)
Dawn Neumann

Brenda Nobles (friend of Gwen Edwards)
Don St. Ours (brother-in-law of Lynda McGraw)
Karen Pickens;
David Pippin (nephew of Lynda McGraw)
Chuck Santori
Isaac Schroeder
Jill Sheridan (sister-in-law of Rebecca Lund Sheridan)
Diane Sullivan & Alice VanHoosen (friends of the Egrs)
Scott Swigert & Jeanna Steppuhn (nephew & niece of the Shinrocks)
Brenda Thom
Roslynn Thom (sister of Ron Thom)
Bill Wallway (uncle of Kenn Garder)
Ted Whitfield (former co-worker of Brian Shinrock)
Al Weibusch

Those deployed around the world:
Matt Lueders; Veronica Barnes and her fiancé Jake Harmon

Caregivers and those who suffer with depression

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

Love Notes from Joan Witt

Thank you to everyone who contributed before, during and after the God's Daughters luncheon on April 27. Sandy Hall and Debbie Gillespie decorated each table with a flowering plant, colorful napkins and pastel table cloths. At each place setting as a memento, there were small lipstick purses or coin purses that Deb C. had obtained. Sandy and Debbie also organized the luncheon set up and kitchen clean up with the help of Lynette Nore and Ann Yarger.

Thank you to everyone for bringing such a variety of salads, desserts and homemade rolls for a delicious luncheon. Table grace in song was led by Deb Lund and there was more beautiful music by Jane Hawkins, Alicia Rodriguez, Autumn Meier and Claudia Rowen.

Beth Olson read selected verses from the Bible. An inspirational devotion with personal insights was shared by Judy Messerschmidt. Lynda McGraw and Joan Witt donated some prizes for the "What's your Pursedentity" questions. One of the highlights of the event was the collection of 54 purses and bags as well as a basket full of purse contents that were delivered to the Siena Francis House by Brenda Mac. I am sure the women and girls receiving items thank the women of Lord of Love for their donations and prayers.

The planning team, Deb Christianson, Brenda Mac, Joan Witt, and the Women's Ministry team are so grateful for everyone's participation, donations and helpfulness with the God's Daughters **Thank you!**



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

June 2	Gather Bible Study
June 6	Crane Coffee Fellowship
June 6/7	Baptismal Box Build
June 8	LOL Women's General Meeting
June 10	Lutheran Women of Omaha
June 14-21	Youth Mission Work Trip
June 20	Crane Coffee Fellowship

Save the Date

July 18-20	Men's Triennial Gathering
July 21- 25	Vacation Bible School
July 24-27	Women of the ELCA Triennial Gathering
August 9	Gather Bible study half-day retreat and potluck luncheon
October 3-4	Women of Faith conference
October 11	Fall Festival

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