

# The Love Letter

Volume 46

December 2016

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*Jon Novak*

### LOL Brass Director

*Brian Lund*

### Worship Schedule

Sunday, 9 & 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School, 9:15 a.m.

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

## A Look Ahead

**Dec. 10**—Cookie Tins and Project Linus

**Dec. 11**—Children's Christmas Program

**Dec. 17**—Service Event at Restored Hope with Youth

**Dec. 24**—Christmas Eve Services at 4:30 p.m. and 11 p.m.

**Dec. 25**—Christmas Day Worship Service at 10 a.m.

**Jan. 1**—New Year's Day Worship Service at 10 a.m.



# MERRY CHRISTMAS

## Table of Contents

|                               |                       |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| From the Interim Pastor.....2 | Mission.....10        |
| Call Process.....2            | Church Council.....11 |
| Monthly Calendar.....3        | Men's News.....13     |
| Worship.....4                 | Women of Love.....13  |
| Nurture.....6                 | In Our Prayers.....14 |
| Youth.....6                   | Love Notes .....14    |

*Submit articles for The Love Letter in the Love Letter mailbox at church or by email at [loveletter@lord-of-love.org](mailto:loveletter@lord-of-love.org).*

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

## FROM THE INTERIM PASTOR

Friends at Lord of Love,

The joy of anticipation is something I find missing as our nation approaches and prepares to celebrate Christmas. Some would blame this lack of joy on the secularization of our culture. Not being able to have Christmas programs in our public schools and having to acknowledge other religious holidays besides Christian ones are seen as two of the chief signs of this change. Frustration replaces joy when this becomes the focus.

Others lay the fault at the feet of the commercialization and consumerization of Christmas. Gift buying, elaborate decorations, parties, travel and whatever else they can spend money on becomes the focus of the holiday season, because we are told that spending is good for our economy and thus our nation. The joy of anticipation has been replaced by the dread of the credit card bills arriving in the new year.

Meanwhile, here at Lord of Love we not only have our traditional Advent services with the Holden Evening Prayer Service to increase



our anticipation of the joy and peace of Christmas, but also, our joy is multiplied by the anticipation of meeting our prospective pastor at a soup supper on **Wednesday, Dec. 7, at 5:30 p.m.** She (I cannot give her name until she has informed her congregation that she is involved in the call process) will then give the message during the Advent service.

May your Advent and Christmas seasons be filled with the joy of anticipating both the birth of the Christ child and the leadership of a newly called pastor as well as the peace of experiencing "God with us."

Peace and Joy,  
Pastor Glenn

## CALL PROCESS UPDATE

Earlier in November, after an interview process, the call committee unanimously recommended a pastoral candidate for consideration by the church council.

After meeting with the candidate, the church council also unanimously voted to move forward with inviting the candidate to meet the congregation and conduct a worship service (see above).

Council president Brian Walther has called a special congregational meeting for **Sunday, Dec. 18** following second service. At that time, the congregation will vote on whether to call the candidate and to approve the compensation package.

Thanks be to God for his faithfulness throughout this process. Please keep the candidate and her family in your prayers.



# MONTHLY CALENDAR

## December 2016

| Sunday   | Monday                           | Tuesday                                       | Wednesday   | Thursday   | Friday   | Saturday   |
|--|----------------------------------|---|---|--|--|--|
|  |                                  |   |   | <b>1</b><br>12:00pm Prayer Group<br>7:00pm Boy Scouts  | <b>2</b><br>8:00am Crane Coffee<br>9:30am Al Anon Mtg.<br>7:30pm AA Meeting  | <b>3</b><br>7:00am Men's Breakfast Ministry  |
| <b>4</b><br>8:00am Worship & Communion<br>9:15am S S<br>10:30am Worship & Communion<br>1:30pm Piano Recital<br>5:00pm Bell Choir                                     | <b>5</b><br>8:00pm AA & Al Anon  | <b>6</b><br>7:00pm Vision & Coordination Mtg  | <b>7</b><br>5:30pm Confirmation<br>5:30pm Brass<br>5:30pm Luther Kids<br>7:00pm Youth Group<br>7:00pm Advent Service<br>7:45pm Choir                                      | <b>8</b><br>12:00pm Prayer Group<br>7:00pm Boy Scouts  | <b>9</b><br>9:30am Al Anon Mtg.<br>7:30pm AA Meeting                         | <b>10</b><br>7:00am Men's Breakfast Ministry<br>9:00am Goodie Tin Prep & Project Linus<br>10:30am Eagle Scout Project Prep - Aaron Edwards |
| <b>11</b><br>8:00am Worship & Communion<br>9:15am S S<br>10:30am Sunday School Program<br>Worship & Communion<br>1:00pm District 18 AA Ping Mtg<br>5:00pm Bell Choir | <b>12</b><br>8:00pm AA & Al Anon | <b>13</b>                                     | <b>14</b><br>12:00pm Aged to Perfection Lunch<br>5:30pm Brass<br>5:30pm Luther Kids<br>5:30pm Confirmation<br>7:00pm Advent Service<br>7:00pm Youth Group<br>7:45pm Choir | <b>15</b><br>12:00pm Prayer Group<br>7:00pm Boy Scouts | <b>16</b><br>8:00am Crane Coffee<br>9:30am Al Anon Mtg.<br>7:30pm AA Meeting | <b>17</b><br>7:00am Men's Breakfast Ministry<br>2:00pm Piano Recital<br>4:00pm Youth holiday lock-in<br>4:00pm Novak Recital               |
| <b>18</b><br>8:00am Worship & Communion<br>9:15am Sunday School<br>10:30am Worship & Communion<br>5:00pm Bell Choir  | <b>19</b><br>8:00pm AA & Al Anon | <b>20</b><br>7:00pm Church Council Mtg.       | <b>21</b><br>5:30pm Brass<br>5:30pm Luther Kids<br>5:30pm Confirmation<br>7:00pm Advent Service<br>7:00pm Youth Group<br>7:45pm Choir                                     | <b>22</b><br>12:00pm Prayer Group<br>7:00pm Boy Scouts | <b>23</b><br>9:30am Al Anon Mtg.<br>7:30pm AA Meeting                        | <b>24</b><br>7:00am Men's Breakfast Ministry<br>4:30pm Christmas Eve Family Worship<br>11:00pm Candlelight Worship                         |
| <b>25</b><br>10:00am Worship & Communion   | <b>26</b><br>8:00pm AA & Al Anon | <b>27</b><br>7:00pm Roanoke Neighborhood Mtg. | <b>28</b>   | <b>29</b>  | <b>30</b><br>8:00am Crane Coffee<br>9:30am Al Anon Mtg.<br>7:30pm AA Meeting | <b>31</b><br>7:00am Men's Breakfast Ministry   |

# WORSHIP SERVANTS

## Lord of Love's Worship Servants

|                          | Dec. 4   | Dec. 11   | Dec. 18  | Dec. 25<br>10:00 a.m.<br>Only |
|--------------------------|--|---|--|-------------------------------|
| <b>Greeter(s)</b>        |  |   |  |                               |
| 8:00 a.m.                | Harry Naasz &<br>Brandon Zalesky                             | Sarge & Shirley<br>Schuchard                    | Mike & Christie<br>Klos  | Volunteers                    |
| 10:30 a.m.               | Ron & Nadine<br>Salak  | Mike & Christie<br>Klos                         | Lynda McGraw &<br>Charise Adams                                |                               |
| <b>Liturgist</b>         |  |   |  |                               |
| 8:00 a.m.                | Shawn Lorenzen   | Brian Lund                                      | Judy Egr   | Shawn Lorenzen                |
| 10:30 a.m.               | Rex Quadhamer  | Tom Olson                                       | Ashley<br>Vandeventer  |                               |
| <b>Communion Servers</b> |  |   |  |                               |
| 8:00 a.m.                | Brandon Zalesky,<br>Matt & Lisa<br>Willard, Joan Witt        | Deb Lund, Joe &<br>Jackie Combes,<br>Pat Brewer | Dave Egr, Jim &<br>Jeri Morgan,<br>Shari Garder                | Volunteers                    |
| 10:30 a.m.               | Deb Quadhamer,<br>Paul & Ann Kroll                           | Beth Olson, Rieff<br>family                     | Lori Vandeventer,<br>Charise Adams,<br>Dave & Susan<br>Lueders |                               |
| <b>Altar Care</b>        |  |   |  |                               |
| 8:00 a.m.                | Angie Meyer  | Dale & Karen<br>Finck                           | Brewer Family  | Ed & Marjorie<br>Keiser       |
| 10:30 a.m.               | Diana Haye,<br>Marcia Roads                                  | Karen Armitage,<br>Gwen Edwards                 | Rosie Avalos   |                               |
|                          |  |   |  |                               |
| 8:00 a.m.                | Kenn Garder, Matt Garder, Craig Pennell, Paul Christenson    |   |  |                               |
| 10:30 a.m.               | Rett Messerschmidt, Rob Anderson, Paul Barnett, John Edwards |   |  |                               |
| <b>Nursery</b>           |  |   |  |                               |
| 10:30 a.m.               |  |   |  |                               |
| <b>CD Recording</b>      |  |   |  |                               |
| 10:30 a.m.               | Pat Brewer   | Paul Christenson                                | Dave Lueders   | Paul Murphy                   |



# WORSHIP

## Advent

Our midweek Advent services that began Wednesday, Nov. 30 continue **Dec. 7, 14, and 21 at 7 p.m.** Join us as we use the Holden Evening Prayer to help us quiet our minds and wait for the coming of Jesus.

Our theme this year will focus on hope, using the words of the hymn "Lord of all Hopefulness" for a guide.



## Christmas and New Year's Services

On **Dec. 24**, we celebrate the birth of Christ at two different services. The first one is at **4:30 p.m.** The candlelight service is at **11 p.m.** (with gathering music beginning at 10:30). Please join us for a Christmas celebration.

This year, Christmas Day and New Year's Day are on Sundays, so we will have **one service on those days, at 10 a.m.** Join us Christmas Day for a service of readings and more carols, but this time, you choose the music. So if you missed your favorite the night before, come and make a request on Christmas Day.

New Year's Day will be a traditional Sunday service, as we continue celebrating the season of Christmas.

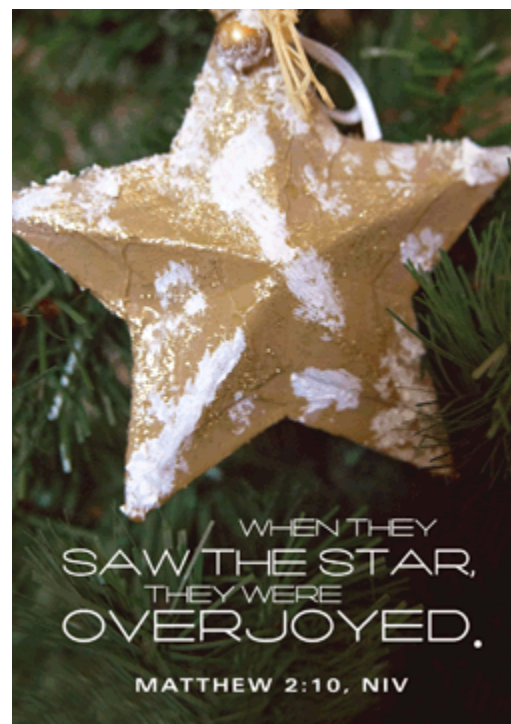
## December Worship Notes

**Dec. 4: Second Sunday in Advent—**John the Baptist stands in the thick of our Advent preparation. He calls us to repent and make a new beginning. As the darkness increases, we turn toward the light of Christ's coming.

**Dec. 11: Third Sunday in Advent—**Joyful expectation marks this Sunday. Isaiah says the desert shall rejoice and blossom. Jesus points to signs of God's reign. We open our eyes and ears to the wonders of Christ's advent among us.

**Dec. 18: Fourth Sunday in Advent—**Isaiah prophesies that a young woman will bear a son and call him Emmanuel. Matthew's Gospel gives the account of the annunciation and birth of the one named Emmanuel.

**Dec. 25: Christmas Day—**We continue the celebration. There will be one service at a.m. Worshippers will pick the hymns.



## NURTURE

### Caroling

Please join us for a potluck chili lunch in the fellowship hall following the Sunday school program on **Sunday, Dec. 11 at 11:30 a.m.** Bring some chili to put in the roaster, and/or something that goes with chili.

We'll get organized and head out to carol by 12:15 p.m. All are welcome to join the choir in bringing song to folks who need some Christmas cheer. We should be back to the church by 3 p.m. Contact Deb Lund if you have questions



### Sunday School Christmas Program

The Christmas Program will be **Sunday, Dec. 11 at the 10:30 a.m. service.** The program, *The Unfriendly Beasts*, will tell of how the animals in the stable went from being unfriendly and unwelcoming to friendly and welcoming, one night long ago.

Our dress rehearsal will be **Saturday, Dec. 10 from 9–11 a.m.** in the sanctuary and narthex.

### Sunday School and Activity Schedules

There will be no Sunday School on Christmas Day or New Year's Day, due to the single service.

Luther Kids will continue to meet at 5:30 p.m. through Advent. All youth and children's Wednesday activities will **break on Dec. 28 and Jan. 4.** We will **resume on January 11** with Luther Kids at 5:30, Confirmation at 5:45, and Youth Group at 7 p.m.



## YOUTH

### Youth Activity Schedule

**Confirmation** will continue to meet at 5:45 through Advent and will serve as ushers during the Advent service at 7 p.m.

**Youth Group** is encouraged to attend Advent service together at 7 p.m. Then we can hang out together after until 8 p.m.,

catching up on the week's events and planning our upcoming service event and lock-in.

Confirmation and Youth Group will **break on Dec. 28 and Jan. 4**, resuming on **Jan. 11.**

# YOUTH

## Holiday Festivities for Restored Hope

Mark your calendars to volunteer with us on **Saturday, Dec. 17 at 4 p.m.**

The youth will be returning to Restored Hope, a housing sanctuary for single mothers and their children who are in abusive environments, which provides resources and tools to introduce them back into a healthy community. We will be bringing "Seasons Greetings" with cookies for decorating, crafts to be made, baking, and the Greatest Story of Hope to be shared—The Story of Jesus and his Birth.



We have the potential for 13 children and their mothers at Restored Hope to participate in the event. This can be quality time they share to create memories and hear of the hope that can be found in faith. We have one teenager that loves to bake if we have someone who would like to bake with her.

All supplies for activities will be provided. Please plan to share in this event with our youth group and share your love with others. We will meet at Restored Hope at 3:50 p.m and be ready to start our event at 4 p.m., lasting until 5:30.

Questions? Contact Heather Christensen at [heather@lord-of-love.org](mailto:heather@lord-of-love.org)

## Jingle Bell Youth Lock-In

After serving in our community at Restored Hope on Dec. 17, we will return to Lord of Love for a Jingle Bell Holiday themed Youth Lock-In (at approximately 6 p.m.)!

Bring your festive spirit, a wrapped ornament for exchanging, a holiday snack to share, and your sleeping bag! We will worship together at 8 a.m.

Volunteers to help with decorations, games, food, etc. would be greatly appreciated!! Contact Heather at [heather@lord-of-love.org](mailto:heather@lord-of-love.org) or on her cell phone.



**Next Lock-In for Youth is Jan. 28-Jan. 29: "Chopped Challenge II".** The first Chopped Challenge was such a success four years ago, we are bringing it back. Brush up on your technique and check out a few episodes on *The Food Network*.

**\*\*Judges for this event will be required. Any Volunteers?? Adults? Parents?**

## Middle School Gathering

Don't forget: The Middle School Gathering for 6-8th grade is on **Jan. 14-15** in Grand Island. Lori Vandeventer and Heather Christensen will be road tripping with the middle schoolers to this event!





# YOUTH

## 2017 Youth Mission Trip: New Orleans!

We are excited to announce that this summer we will be partnering with Kaleo Missions ([www.kaleomissions.org](http://www.kaleomissions.org)) and traveling to NOLA to experience a diverse culture and community that is still in such need of services. We will have the opportunity to interact with the community and assist in programming for children or clean-up and repair on facilities that are still struggling to come back from natural disasters.



We will have time for devotion and reflection and engage with others from our own community. We will be sharing this experience with our brothers and sisters at Kountze Memorial Lutheran Youth Group and look forward to traveling, working and growing in faith together.

Our trip will be **July 15-23, 2017**. We will be travelling by charter bus. Registration information and packets are being finalized and will be published very soon. Costs will be approximately \$700 per person.

Fundraising will be essential, as our hope is to raise at least half for each participant. If anyone is interested or gifted at fundraising and would like to help rally support for this event and for the youth to organize events to support their participation, we would love the help!

Contact Heather Christensen at [heather@lord-of-love.org](mailto:heather@lord-of-love.org)

## LYON Assembly Recap

*By Heather Christensen*

LYON stands for "Lutheran Youth of Nebraska," an annual gathering of Lutheran youth from across the state gathering to grow in faith and take part in fellowship.

The 2016 LYON Assembly was held at Carol Joy Holling Camp near Ashland, NE, October 18-20. The road trip out wasn't long, but our youth still got in plenty of "roasting" of Miss Heather. (Does that mean they like me?)

**(continued on next)**



**Above:** Haley, Eric, Caitlyn, Owen, Heather, Julia, Britney, Lexi, Audra



# YOUTH

## LYON Assembly Recap

*(continued from previous)* Highlights this year included guest musician Peder Eide, which was great music and we really enjoyed it. His daughter Allison joined him and even sang an original song she wrote about purity. We got to meet new people and build our communication and teamwork skills on the low ropes course, which was a series of challenges that were quite fun, and sometimes hard. We also watched the movie "The Force Awakens" (Star Wars series) and had conversations about how this movie's themes tied into the LYON theme of "The Faith Awakens."

I'm so thankful that our youth participate in events like LYON and the Middle School Gathering, service events, Sunday School, mission trips and youth group. It's in these events that we find glimpses of God hanging on to us, glimpses of our faith and what we believe or what we know we can count on. It's in these times that we can question and come out stronger because of the opportunity to explore and consider. We can be validated and know who we are and who's we are. We are each a blessed and loved child of God, always and forever.



*Above: Britney climbing "stairs"*



*Above: Service project was laying sod*

# MISSION

## Mission Notes

Thanks to those who responded to God's love and faithfulness by returning a financial commitment card for 2017. To date, **65 giving units plan to give \$217,856 to Lord of Love.** Thanks be to God for this witness of gratitude and stewardship!

Instead of giving someone another gift that he/she does not need, you may want to consider giving something from the **ELCA Good Gifts** catalog in honor of that person. Your financial support provides opportunities for a better life and well-being to people throughout the world! Visit <https://community.elca.org/elcagoodgifts>



## Mission Possible Update

Remember that special offering monies from Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas will go to the Nebraska Synod for their prison ministries. Thanks for your kindness and generosity to help be the hands of Christ in Nebraska!



## NE Synod Fall Discipleship Gathering

**By Deb Lund**

Pastor Glenn, Brian Walther and I spent time with area congregational leaders and some Nebraska Synod staff to get an update on ministries and resources; and to share special highlights. We spent time individually reflecting (and drawing with crayons!) on significant faith events in our own lives, then some shared highlights with the whole group.

It is good to spend time with others from our Nebraska ELCA and be recharged to do what we can in Christ's love and service as Lord of Love Lutheran Church.



*"Here is the test to find whether your mission on Earth is finished:  
If you're alive, it isn't."*

*—Richard Bach*

# CHURCH COUNCIL

## 2016 Lord of Love Church Council

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

**Nurture:** Laurie Heavey and Susan Lueders

**Outreach:** Paula Foster and Scott Reinhardt

**Resources:** Craig Pennell and Bill Quackenbush

**Worship:** Doug Aden and Heather Hansen



## Council Meeting Report from the Secretary

The Lord of Love Church Council met on Nov. 15, 2016 and the following are some of the highlights of the meeting.

- Received a letter of recommendation for a pastoral candidate from the Call Committee and plans were made for Council members to meet the candidate within the upcoming week.
- Resources reported that seven trees were removed from the property today because of disease. The asphalt work remains on the upcoming agenda.
- Outreach reported that there will be an ad in the *Omaha World-Herald* for Christmas worship services and that they will be receiving a proposal for advertising on Omaha.com.
- Continued discussions of methods to reduce the budget deficit.
- Reminders of upcoming dates to include the January Council Retreat and the date year end reports are due.
- Next meeting will be Dec. 20, 2016 at 7 p.m.

## Giving Status

General Fund financial information for October 2016:

Actual Income - \$28,099.00

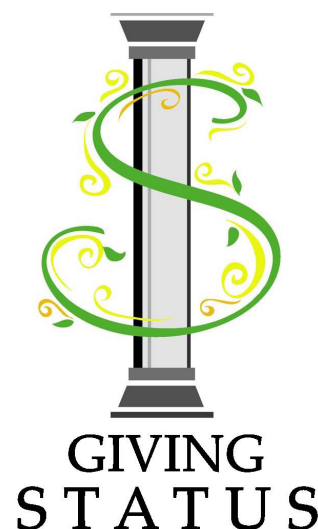
Actual Expense - \$26,502.88

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

Actual Income - \$268,572.15

Actual Expense - \$257,836.17

As of the end of September, the available cash deficit has decreased. It is (8,361.75). Weekly offerings of \$7,217 are needed to meet budgeted expenses. The weekly offering average through the end of October was \$6,008. The monthly offering average was \$26,437.30 at the end of October up from \$26,310.67 at the end of September. Thank you for your continued prayers and contributions as we move forward in 2016.





# CHURCH COUNCIL/STEWARDSHIP

## Thrivent Challenge to Eliminate Deficit

Each month, individuals in our congregation donate their Thrivent Choice dollars to Lord of Love. For several years, we have put these donations into a savings account for a rainy day or special need.

The Church Council would like to challenge the congregation to use these dollars and extra mile giving to eliminate the deficit we are experiencing. The deficit at the end of October was 8,361.75. We would love to start the new year with a zero deficit and give our new pastor a clean slate to work from.

### How this works:

For every extra mile dollar donated by the congregation, the same amount will be matched from the Thrivent Choice dollars in the savings account. This match will occur only the month of December and up to \$5,000 of Thrivent dollars. For example, if I write a check for \$100, a second \$100 will come from the savings account—pretty easy. If you choose to participate, please note on your offering envelope “Thrivent Match” so we can properly keep track of what comes in.

As always, thank you for your faithfulness. Christmas Blessings to all.

*-The Lord of Love Church Council*

## What Do You Want for Christmas

### From Heather Hansen

“What do you want for Christmas?” This is a question we ask each other often this time of year. Yet how many of us actually take a few minutes to kneel before the infant Jesus and ask Him what He wants from us?

When we kneel before the manger and ask Jesus what He wants, it is very possible that we will hear Him whisper that He wants us to share a little more of our time with Him. Maybe each of us could make a New Year’s resolution to spend more time with God:

- Go to Service more frequently.
- Find some time for prayer in the morning.
- End our day with spiritual reading.
- Say the Lord's Prayer while driving to work.

The gift of time with God could be the very best gift we could give this year, not only to Jesus but also to ourselves. It might be just what our own hearts are truly longing for.

If you find it difficult to remember to begin each day with a simple stewardship prayer – asking God how He wants you to share the gifts He has given you – let one of the three



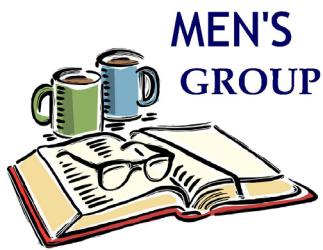
WHAT SHALL WE GIVE HIM?

wise men be your reminder. The three wise men traveled far and made great sacrifices to bring gifts to Jesus. This year, before you pack away your nativity set, select one of the wise men bearing his gift for Jesus and set this statue in a place that you will see every day – maybe on your desk, your dresser or your kitchen counter. When you see this gift bearer, let it be a reminder to ask Jesus what gifts He would like you to give for Him each day.

And if someone asks why you still have a Christmas decoration out, you can simply say that this little statue is reminding you to be a little more generous.



## MEN'S NEWS CORNER



### MEN'S GROUP

#### Men's Breakfast

The men's group meets in the fellowship hall for food, fellowship and Bible study every Saturday morning at 7 a.m.

All men are invited to join us.

## WOMEN OF LOVE

### Cookie Tins and Project Linus

On **Saturday, Dec. 10 at 9 a.m.**, you are invited to join us in the Fellowship Hall for coffee followed by the preparation of "goodie" containers for those who need some extra love this season. (Most of them will be delivered the next day by the carolers.) If you know someone who should be added to the list, please contact Deb Christenson at 402.214.5691. Please bring 2 dozen cookies for the containers.



Following that, you are invited to help make fleece blankets for "Project Linus." Their mission is to provide love, a sense of security, warmth and comfort to children who are seriously ill, traumatized or otherwise in need. You will need two pieces of coordinating fleece for each blanket, each one two yards by 60 inches. Contact Jackie Combes at 402.301.5664 for further information.

### Ladies' Soup Luncheon

Time for soup! Ladies Soup Lunch is on for **Wed. Dec. 28 at noon** at the home of Amy Kragnes, 309 S. 155th Ave. I'm running out of ideas for new-and-different, but I've got a month to do research so who knows what I'll find. Let me know if you're coming so I know how many chairs to get out. You can email [akragnes@centurylink.net](mailto:akragnes@centurylink.net), call 402.697.9165, or even just talk to Amy.

### WELCA Winter Retreat

Registration is now open for the Nebraska Women of the ELCA winter retreat.

**Saturday, Jan. 21, 2017**

8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
Grand Island



**Theme verses:** Luke 10:38-41—Jesus at the home of Mary and Martha

Registration (\$18) is **due by Jan. 1**. See the registration form inserted at the end of this newsletter for details.

### Lutheran Women of Omaha

Lutheran Women of Omaha will meet at St. Michael Lutheran Church, 13232 Blondo St. at **noon on Dec. 13**. Luncheon is \$6. The program will be the Northwest High School Choir. The free will offering will be given to the Salvation Army heating fund. Please make reservations with Ruth Manning at 402.451.0221 by Sunday, Dec. 11.



## IN OUR PRAYERS

*Leona Anderson & Scott Wells (friends of the Novaks)*  
Dick Bell  
*Connie Bennett (cousin of Karen Armitage)*  
Syd Brinkman  
*Julie Craig & Candee Brandon (friends of Dave & Lisa Rieff)*  
Olivia Griffin (daughter of Scott and Dana Griffin)  
*Sgt. Dean & Erin Hansen (Delina Wiater's son & his wife)*  
Jan Hughes (aunt of Paula Foster)  
*Julie (friend of Pat Brewer)*  
Kristen Kuhn (friend of Todd & Lisa Meyer)  
*Izzy Lightle (relative of Kim Gust)*  
Lisa Lueders (sister-in-law of Dave Lueders)  
*Debra Lund*  
Ruth Manning  
*Lisa & Todd Meyer*  
Bill Morris

*Don St. Ours (brother-in-law of Lynda McGraw)*  
Dave Piehl & Dan Piehl (brothers of Deb Lund)  
*Peggy Seck (cousin of Ann Kroll)*  
Pauline Shaffer  
*Nancy Shinrock*  
Georgene Sones (mother of Dayla Miller)  
*James Thompson (son-in-law of Lynda McGraw)*  
Brenda Thom  
*Nancy Thoman (stepmother of Ann Kroll)*  
Pam Todd  
*Ted Whitfield (former co-worker of Brian Shinrock)*  
Steve Wiitala (friend of Karen Mullen)

Caregivers and those who suffer with depression.  
Those seeking employment.

*To add a name to the In Our Prayers section, please contact the office at 402.493.2946, send an email to [marylou@lord-of-love.org](mailto:marylou@lord-of-love.org), or fill out a prayer request note available in the narthex and place it in the basket.*

## LOVE NOTES

*To my Lord of Love family:*

I am grateful for the work I have been blessed with for 25 years. Thank you so much for making my 25th Anniversary celebration at Lord of Love so memorable. I am really humbled by the outpouring of well wishes from the congregation. The quilt presented to me by the Church Council and made by Kathy Christiansen is absolutely gorgeous.

I was amazed by the attendance at the luncheon and so thankful to all those who shared part of their Sunday to help celebrate and pitch in to serve and clean-up.



What a wonderful crew!

Thanks also for the cards, kind thoughts, monetary gifts and hugs! Special thanks to Jackie Combes, who directed the event and assured me it would be OK to be celebrated.

With deep appreciation,  
*Mary Lou Gustafson*



# Diaper and Shoe Drive

Please help children in Foster Care!!

Hello, my name is Aaron Edwards. I'm doing an Eagle Scout service project. My project is a Diaper and Shoe Drive to benefit Lutheran Family Services of Nebraska's Foster Care program.

*Diapers of any and all sizes and as many as I can collect are needed. Shoes for newborns to eighteen-years-old; shoes would need to be new. Shoes are an item that all children need and having a new pair of shoes for school, church, or play makes a world of difference for the children.*

Donation boxes are located in the corner next to the donut table.

 **Lutheran Family Services**  
of Nebraska, Inc.

WOMEN OF THE E.L.C.A. WINTER RETREAT  
SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 2017

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
1515 S. Harrison St., Grand Island, NE

THEME VERSES – LUKE 10:38-41  
Jesus at the home of Mary and Martha



ACTIVITIES:

- 8:30 Registration & Coffee  
9:00 Opening Remarks  
Keynote Speaker\*  
Bible Study with  
Bishop Maas  
Skit and a LIVE BAND!  
3:00 Safe Travels

\*Keynote Speaker Dr. Heather Goertz is an occupational therapist with 20 years of experience in community and mental health in addition to having 10 children. She will share information on foster care and adoption as well as Mary & Martha.

OFFERING TO: Safe-T, the Salvation Army Safe Program

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REGISTRATION by January 17, 2017

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Home Church \_\_\_\_\_

Conference \_\_\_\_\_

Send \$18.00 fee made payable to NSW0 to:

Sandy Terry - 1461 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. Ct. - Fremont, NE 68025-5317

[sterry9415@yahoo.com](mailto:sterry9415@yahoo.com)

402-957-4480










**LORD OF LOVE WOMEN OF THE ELCA  
2017 TENTH TRIENNIAL SCHOLARSHIP FORM**

**July 13 – 16, 2017**

**Value of Scholarship is \$500.00  
At least six scholarships available\***

Applicants must meet these requirements to eligible to apply for the scholarship.

-  Must be a female.
-  Applicant must be an ACTIVE member of Lord of Love Lutheran Church.
-  Applicant must be able to pay for the rest of the trip.
-  Will be required to share a presentation with the Women of Lord of Love.
-  Applicant must fill out the application form.

Information regarding the Tenth Triennial Gathering can be found on the Women of the ELCA website, [www.welcatg.org](http://www.welcatg.org).

**Please complete all requested information before returning this scholarship application.**

**PLEASE PRINT:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone (     ) \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone (     ) \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Age Range   ☐ 20 – 29 years   ☐ 30 – 39 years   ☐ 40 – 55 years   ☐ 56+ years

**Please return by February 28, 2017 to:**

Gwen Edwards  
3402 Castile Drive  
Bellevue, NE 68123-1327

OR

Edwards Lord of Love Mailbox

For more information, call Gwen at 402.291.1087 or e-mail at [gfedwards@gmail.com](mailto:gfedwards@gmail.com)

*\*If more than six applications are received, the decision will be based on financial need.  
If scholarships are still available, then a random drawing will determine the recipients.*



# Attention First Timers!

Triennial Gathering is a Celebration of Faith and Friendship with:

Engaging Speakers  
Inspiring Preachers  
Exciting Musicians

Because your NSW Board wants to give you an opportunity to attend, we are awarding four (4) scholarships of **\$400** each to first time attendees. Applications must be postmarked by **December 1, 2016** and mailed to:

Sandy Terry, Treasurer  
1461 2nd Avenue Ct.  
Fremont, NE 68025-5317  
[sterry9415@yahoo.com](mailto:sterry9415@yahoo.com)

Scholarships will be awarded by random drawing in time for early registration. Gathering registration forms available on the NSW website and in Expressions.

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## TRIENNIAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
Church \_\_\_\_\_  
Conference \_\_\_\_\_

I do hereby certify that I have not attended past CWO Triennial Gatherings:

\_\_\_\_\_ Signature of applicant