

Lord of Love Office

Lord of Love Staff

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Senior Organist

Carol Novak

Associate Organist

Amy Kragnes

Chancel Choir Director and Bell Choir Director

Jon Novak

LOL Brass Director Brian Lund

Worship Schedule

Sundays 8 and 10:30 a.m. (through Memorial Day) Sunday School: 9:15 a.m. **Mission Statement:** Celebrating and sharing God's love in a welcoming community of faith, while serving others.

Looking Ahead

May 5: Habitat for Humanity build

May 9: Aged to Perfection luncheon (noon)

May 20: Pentecost Sunday

May 13: Last day of Sunday School

May 27: Summer worship schedule begins

June 6-9: Vacation Bible School



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Pentecost:

[Jesus said,] ²⁶"When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. ²⁷You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

¹²"I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you."

-John 15:26-27; 16:12-15

The above scripture captures Jesus message to his disciples before he was taken away and killed. All of the Easter Season then was a roller coaster of emotions from seeing their resurrected Lord appearing to them on several occasions, to watching him leave them once again as he ascended into heaven, leaving them to deal with this world without him. That is, until the promised advocate, the Holy Spirit, showed up at Pentecost.

On May 20, we will celebrate Pentecost. This day, the Holy Spirit empowered the disciples so greatly to share their faith and the good news of Jesus Christ with all people, that nothing could stop them from proclaiming Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior who have lived, suffered, died, and rose from the dead. Not even language barriers, as the Holy Spirit made their message to be able to be heard by all people. And now,

The day when the Spirit really started moving and shaking things up 50 days after Easter.



God's presence came to them with the most powerful truth: whoever comes to believe in Jesus will be forgiven, saved, and one day will live eternally with Him in heaven.

This Spirit-guided good news definitely powerful and transformational for all people who truly heard it then, and for those who are aware of its presence today. It seems the thing that's hardest for us to do today, is not to believe, but to feel compelled to share this good news of Jesus Christ and embracing our calling by God through the entirety of how we live into that in our daily lives. When we become aware that God is always with us, then the calling we have received by the Spirit is with us always too, and has the power to speak through us and in the different situations we find ourselves in. This makes every conversation we have with another an opportunity to share the gifts of the spirit and influence one's day, week, year or life in a positive life-giving way. Yes, we also still live in the flesh and will have our own personal battles of selfishness to work through, but it should make us aware that being a Christian is something we can't turn off and on whenever we feel like it, but rather (continued on next)

PASTOR'S PAGE

(continued from previous) is something we should be aware of as we make all our decisions, like how we answer the phone, how we treat the person in front of us (no matter how we feel about them) and how we go about doing our daily work or are also connected to how God is with us and speaking through us.

As we approach Pentecost, and people's lives are ever changing in a "summer" transitional way, may we also think about the powerful life-giving force of the Spirit that has gifted us the ability to witness

to the love of God and let the power of God to speak through our lives with love, forgiveness, honesty, compassion, joy, etc. in whatever situation we have found ourselves in.

When we pray for God's guidance, I believe it is right there with us, encouraging us and helping us to be the children of God we were created to be on earth and in heaven. May we continue to notice the Spirit at work and let it speak through us. Amen.

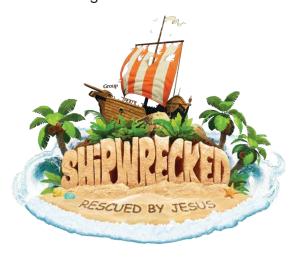
-Pastor Becky

WORSHIP & NURTURE

VBS: "Shipwrecked"!

Calling all Castways! Venture onto an uncharted island where you will learn the truth that Jesus carries you through all life's storms. We will venture **Wed.**, **June 6 through Fri.**, **June 8**, 6 to 8 p.m. with dinner at 5:30 p.m., and **Sat.**, **June 9**, 9 to 11 a.m. with lunch to follow.

Registration form are available in the Narthex or at www.lord-of-love.org. Questions? Contact Heather Christensen at heather@lord-of-love.org.



VBS Volunteers Needed!!

Share your gifts of music, guidance, crafts, science, Bible stories, and more! Contact Heather or Pastor Becky.

9 a.m. Summer Worship

We go to one service at **9 a.m. Memorial Day weekend** (May 27) through Labor Day weekend (Sept. 2), with no Sunday School.

High School Graduates

Congratulations to:

- Abel Avalos
- Courtney Martinez
- Ellie Messerschmidt
- Emily Rodriguez

On **May 6**, we will be celebrating their accomplishments and their families will be speaking words of encouragement and blessing upon each of their heads as we pray with their families for their futures.

OUTREACH

Habitat for Humanity Dates

Don't miss the first opportunity to volunteer at our Habitat for Humanity build site. The date is **May 5** anytime from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. The address is 2204 Evans St. Our direct link to sign up is tinyurl.com/elfcoalition2018. The reservation code is elf2018. By signing up online, Habitat can easily track volunteer hours.

For questions, contact Jeri Morgan: 402.415.4976 jerrylmorgan@ymail.com



FNDOWMENT FUND

Light and Darkness

Then God said, "Let there be tight"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness.

Genesis 1:3

When discussing with Bob the things that were needed for the Machame Hospital in Tanzania, he mentioned that several light bulbs had burned out which made the hallways dark and dreary and had an effect on the moral of the staff and patients. So to help bring light to the hospital the Endowment Fund made a grant of \$300 to be used for light bulbs. Since that grant was made the hospital has purchased several groups of light bulbs totaling more than 100. The are being put in empty sockets or replacing burnt out bulbs. So in a small way light is replacing darkness and the halls of the hospital are bright. The picture shows one of the purchases.





MISSION

Lord of Love Community Garden and Lenten/Easter Offerings

The garden has been tilled, and onions, turnips and potatoes have been planted! Some posts for a garden fence are in place, but more work needs to be done to keep critters out. The morning of April 30 is the next planting date—for sweetcorn, carrots, etc. Tomatoes, peppers, and squash will be planted in May. Weeding will be the focus for garden work in June.

Besides providing food for the local pantries working in the garden is a good source of fun, and fellowship. Regular work times will be Monday and Thursday mornings.

Thanks to everyone who gave so generously to the special offerings taken at the Wednesday night Lenten services, the special Easter offering, and to the soup suppers! We took in a total of \$4,905! That is awesome! \$715 goes to the ELCA Good Gifts to buy a family farm, and the remainder, \$4,190, will go to the Foodbank for the Heartland

Summer Breakfast proceeds will go to the <u>ELCA Lutheran Disaster Response</u>. The ELCA does great work getting help to those in need when disaster strikes all over the world.



Bishop Eaton issues pastoral statement on humanitarian situation in Syria

"Give God no rest" (Isaiah 62:6-7) until that day when "the wolf and the lamb shall feed together. ... They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, says the Lord" (Isaiah 65:25) (ELCA social statement, "For Peace in God's World"). In recent days we have witnessed, with additional horror, further atrocities in Syria in a conflict that has taken almost countless lives over the past seven years and displaced millions of Syrians and others. (continued on next)

MISSION

Pastoral statement on humanitarian situation in Syria, cont.

Following the April 13 air strikes conducted by the armed forces of the U.S., the U.K. and France, the president and the general secretary of the Lutheran World Federation issued <u>a statement</u>, which I encourage ELCA members to read and prayerfully consider.

Our church is responding to the needs of Syrian refugees and displaced people through the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) and International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC), in coordination with ACT Alliance (formerly Action by Churches Together). The IOCC has been assisting those in need in Syria, Lebanon and Jordan to ensure food security, establish shelter, and provide better access to water and sanitation facilities, among other activities. LWF-Jordan is working with Syrian refugees and host communities in Amman, Mafrag, Irbid and in the Zaatari refugee camp, bolstering livelihoods through cash transfers and skills training in agriculture practices and improved technologies for vegetable production in home gardens to benefit malnourished children, pregnant and lactating women, and sick people. They are also providing psychosocial support, particularly among women. We plan to continue and intensify this work.



In the face of this ongoing humanitarian crisis, our nation also needs to open its arms again to receive Syrian refugees for resettlement in the United States. We will continue to work in ecumenical partnership as we pray, advocate and work to receive refugees.

Last, but not least, our government, as part of the international community, needs to redouble its efforts to work diligently for a diplomatic resolution of this conflict. As U.N. Secretary General António Guterres said earlier this weekend, "There is no military solution to the crisis. The solution must be political."

In Christ,

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton Presiding Bishop Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

From elca.org/Resources/Presiding-Bishop-Messages

YOUTH

"Fishing for Funds" National Young Gathering Fundraiser

The National Youth Gathering is a tri-annual opportunity sponsored by the ELCA to promote the faith formation of our high school students across the country. Through days spent in interactive learning, worship, Bible study, service and fellowship, our young people grow in faith and *(continued, next)*



YOUTH

"Fishing for Funds" cont.

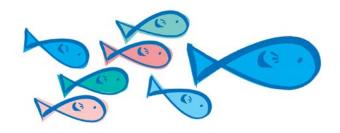
are challenged and inspired to live their faith in their daily lives. Lord of Love is blessed to have 11 youth journeying to Houston with two chaperones for the Gathering.

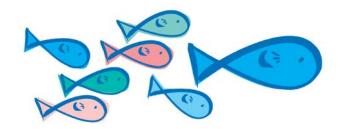
There are many things that we need to get us there. First, we need your prayers: for safety and guidance, for growth and inspiration and transformation. Second, we need a few more funds.

This event is generally double the cost of our regular mission trip events. We have done a few fundraisers and this is our last. We are "FISHING FOR FUNDS" to help offset the costs of travel, hotel, registration, etc. You will find a bulletin board in the back of the Narthex with fish on envelopes with

a \$ amount on them. Simply choose an amount, fill out the card inside, insert the card and funds into the envelope and drop into the offering plate or give to Heather Christensen. You will receive donation credit on your LoL account and you will be helping the youth attend the Gathering! You might even find a golden ticket that will have two hours of service work or cookies made by the youth for you.

If we can clear the board of fish, we will raise \$5,000. This would help to offset the cost for each participant (they are paying half) and/or leave funds in the Youth Fund for future use. We will be "fishing" **through May 13**. Thank you for your consideration, continued generosity, and support!





CHURCH COUNCIL

2018 Lord of Love Church Council

Vision and Coordination: Brian Lund, President; Don Rowen, Vice-President;

Kathy Christiansen, Secretary: Jackie Combes, Treasurer

Nurture: Chris Rich and Joan Witt

Outreach: Paula Foster and Jesse Brewer

Resources: Brandon Zalesky and Paul Christenson

Worship: Rex Quadhamer and Heather Hansen



CHURCH COUNCIL

April Council Meeting Minutes from the Secretary

- Council accepted the Preschool Board's recommendation to close the Lord of Love Preschool. Maintaining a viable enrollment with free preschool offerings from Omaha Public Schools was a major factor. Carissa was integral in getting some of her current students into OPS offerings and is to be commended. Use of the Preschool Room will be decided in the upcoming months.
- Shawn Lorenzen from the Worship Planning Ministry Team presented the plans for Pentecost Sunday (May 20) and received Council's support. Reminder to get summer activity plans to Shawn by May 13.
- Lengthy discussion about possible participation in the upcoming fall dates of Transformational Ministry. Council committees to review their 2018 goals and status.
 Vote to participate in Transformational Ministry will take place at May council meeting.
- Review and discussion of budget for the upcoming Youth Gathering Trip. Council members were encouraged to support the efforts to raise funds by the Youth group.
- New outdoor banner for Summer Worship is in the works as the current one is very faded. Also note the wonderful display of the Lord of Love mission statement in the narthex.
- Resources presented an action item to replace the remainder of the incandescent bulbs with LED bulbs. Josh Combes has volunteered his time to replace in the upcoming year. Motion passed. Paul will inquire about some of the funds from the Memorial Committee.
- Next Council Meeting will be May 15, 2018 at 7 p.m.



Giving Status from the Treasurer

General Fund financial information for March 2018:

Actual Income - \$27,127.00 Actual Expense - \$25,794.48

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

Actual Income - \$82,109.00 Actual Expense - \$81,429.85

As of the end of March, the available cash balance is \$1,690.15. Weekly offerings of \$6,927 are needed to meet budgeted expenses. The weekly offering average for the end of March was \$6,249. Thank you for your continued support.

STEWARDSHIP

Sharing our Resources, by Deb Lund



Brian and I are children of children the Great Depression. We know that some of what we do and who we are were formed as a result of our parents living on farms in the Great Plains through some very tough times in the 1930's.

Hunger was our focus for special

Lenten and Easter offerings. I do not know what it is like to be truly hungry. As a kid, I know we didn't have much, as far as material things, but since we lived on a farm with dairy cows, pigs, sheep, cattle, and a huge garden, we were never in want of good food. And, since I grew up with a father who loved to fish in the lakes not far from home, I learned one needs to take some time for fun, and so got to enjoy great tasting fish often, too.

Brian's mom's family lived on a farm right off a main highway, and in the 30's, people stopped often needing food. She talked about her mother saying, "get some more milk and eggs," "add more water to the soup," "you'll have to sleep with your sister," etc, as they often hosted others and helped

them out. She said they were blessed that they could do that, as there were many people seeking help. I know that our parents were very quick to provide food and clothing to those in need. Dad would often do planting, cultivating, and harvesting for farmers in trouble, and mom would provide some food to feed the farmers helping out. So, we witnessed many examples of generosity and thoughtfulness throughout our childhood.

Growing up with an example of helping others helps to encourage others to be generous and thoughtful. Being examples of Christ to those in our church family inspires, motivates and energizes our brothers and sisters. This is one reason it is important to attend worship regularly! Jesus commands us to witness our faith not only in our words, but in our actions. We are called to be Christ to others. Thanks be to God that we have the opportunity to do that!

The Stewardship Committee also reminds the congregation of current Project Hope food pantry needs:

- Creamed soups
- Dressings and marinades
- Brownie and cake mixes
- Applesauce
- Dried fruit
- Small bottles of dishwashing soap
- Deodorant

MEN'S NEWS CORNER

Men's Breakfast Group

Men's Breakfast Group meets every Saturday morning at 0700. All men are welcome to attend for Christian study, fellowship and breakfast. Come and join us!

MEN'S NEWS CORNER

Men's Softball

All are invited to come and cheer on the men's softball team. We will be playing on Mondays at Kelley Softball complex (124th and Fort) on Field 5 (last one along the entrance road) or Field 4 (back left field in the back complex). During the summer, we will also go out for pizza after 6:30 p.m. games, and anyone is welcome to join us.

If interested in playing on the team or have questions, contact Don Rowen at 402.965.8977 or drowen@unomaha.edu

2018 Schedule for Men's Softball

May 7	6:30 p.m.	Kelley 5
May 14	9:30 p.m.	Kelley 4
May 21	7:30 p.m.	Kelley 5
June 4	6:30 p.m.	Kelley 4 & Pizza
June 11	8:30 p.m	Kelley 5
June 18	9:30 p.m.	Kelley 4
June 25	7:30 p.m.	Kelley 5
July 2	9:30 p.m.	Kelley 5
July 9	6:30 p.m.	Kelley 4 & Pizza





































WOMEN OF LOVE

"Gather" Bible Study

The Monday Night Gather Bible Study will not be meeting at Deb Christenson's house in May. Instead, the group will be meeting on Mon., May 7 at Rose Robert's house at 6 p.m. for a light supper and Bible study.

If you would like to join us, please talk to Rose or email her at dougroberts@cox.net. Our address is 10822 Valley St., just south of Center St. All women are invited.

Mark your calendars-- the annual Hing Hong Reunion will be held on June 4 at 6 p.m.

Crane Coffee Fellowship

Ladies of the Congregation, please note schedule change! The coffee group has decided to meet every Friday at 9 a.m. at Crane Coffee off of 77th & Cass. Whenever the spirit moves you, please join us!

Women's Team Meeting

All women of Lord of Love are invited to attend the Women's Team meeting on Wed., May 9 at 6 p.m. in the church fellowship hall. The agenda will include planning for the Father's Day Breakfast on June 17 and a discussion on the direction of the future of the Women's Team.

The team is always looking for new members. Please prayerfully consider this mission opportunity at Lord of Love. If there are any questions or concerns that need to be addressed, contact Rose Roberts.

Quilting

The Quilters will be meeting on Tuesday, May 1 and Tuesday, May 15. Goodies, coffee, and fellowship are always part of our agenda. Extra hands are always welcome and appreciated!

May 2018 10

IN OUR PRAYERS AND LOVE NOTES

Dick Bell

Connie Bennett (cousin of Karen Armitage)
Jerry Boylan (father of Saylor Boylan);

Jason Combes

Gail Conyers (wife of Kirk Conyers)

Larry Czapla

Sean Duffy (husband of Kelly)

Krysta Figga (friend of Dave & Lisa Rieff)

Babette Garder (mother of Kenn Garder) Olivia Griffin (daughter of Scott and Dana Griffin)

Ed Gúthrie

Pr. Joe Hernandez – Missionary in the Middle East (cousin of David & Chris Boarts)

David Hojnacke (neighbor of the Armitage family)

Jan Hughes (aunt of Paula Foster)

Jim Jacobson (friend of Jon & Carol Novak)

Julie (friend of Pat Brewer)

Kristen Kuhn (friend of Todd & Lisa Meyer)

Izzy Lightle (relative of Kim Gust)

Ken Lineweaver (step-dad of Gwen Edwards) Lisa Lueders (sister-in-law of Dave Lueders)

Ruth Manning

Eileen Nagle (mother-in-law of Tara Novak)

Leona Piehl (mother of Deb Lund)

Eric Quadhamer

Judy Quest (friend of Jane Gehringer)

Paul Rumbaugh

Sarge Schuchard

Peggy Seck (cousin of Ann Kroll)

Pauline Shaffer

Brian & Nancy Shinrock

Brenda Thom

Nancy Thoman (stepmother of Ann Kroll)

Alan Walther (brother of Brian Walther)

Steve Wiitala (friend of Karen Mullen)

Caregivers and those who suffer with depression.

Those seeking employment.

Those seeking to adopt.

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

Please also let the office know when a name can be removed from the list.

LOVE NOTES

Bowling for Jesus – Thank you!!!

On behalf of Women's Ministry team, I would like to thank everyone who donated to and/or participated in the Bowling for Jesus event on March 4! The response was overwhelming! There were 58 bowlers and \$745 raised for LOL's Youth Fund. The funds will go toward expenses related to the National Youth Gathering, such as scholarships, van rental, toll passes, and groceries. Thanks for supporting the youth of our congregation! - Beth Olson

Thankyou so much for all the good wishes on my retirement and a special thank you to those who attended my retirement party and brought so many donations for Project Hope. Although the weather was cold (and occasionally snowy), you warmed my heart! The Lord of Love community is a special one.

-Kathy Christiansen



SUNDAY SERVANTS

	8 a.m. Service	10:30 a.m. Service				
May 6						
Greeters	Mike and Christie Klos	Paul and Deb Christenson				
Liturgist	Heather Hansen	Paul Christenson				
Communion Servers	Hansen family	Don and Claudia Rowen				
	Mike Klos	Charise and Maykala Adams				
Altar Care	Pat & Jesse Brewer	Ann & Paul Kroll				
CD Recording		Pat Brewer				
May 13						
Greeters	Dale and Karen Finck	Rett and Judy Messerschmidt				
Liturgist	Judy Egr	Rett Messerschmidt				
Communion Servers	Dave Egr	Judy Messerschmidt				
	Dave Hild	Miguel and Rosie Avalos				
	Nathaniel and Levi Gust	Rex Quadhamer				
Altar Care	Ed & Marjorie Keiser	Rowen family				
CD Recording		Paul Christenson				
May 20						
Greeters	Woody and Mardi Fiske	Tom and Beth Olson				
Liturgist	Kenn Garder	Tom Olson				
Communion Servers	Shari Garder	Beth Olson				
	Doug Aden	Karen Armitage				
	Joe and Jackie Combes	Dave and Susan Lueders				
	Cathy Aden,	Nicole Quackenbush,				
Altar Care	Sue Dieter	Karen Anderson				
CD Recording		Dave Lueders				
May 27	9 a.m. Service					
Greeters	Doug and Cathy Aden					
Liturgist	Karen Mullen					
Communion Servers	Cathy Aden					
	Jim and Jeri Morgan					
	Pat Brewer					
Altar Care	Connie Walther, Lisa Meyer					
CD Recording	Paul Murphy					
Ushers						
8:00 Paul Dieter, Matt Willard, Dennis Hindemith, Jesse Brewer						
10:30 Brian Lund, Deb Lund, Doug Armitage						

May 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 9 a.m. Quilters 7 p.m. Vision & Coordination Mtg.	4 p.m. Confirmation 5:30 p.m. Supper 6 p.m. Brass 6 p.m. W/ELCA Gather Study 6:15 p.m. FISH 7:15 p.m. Choir	3 7 p.m. Boy Scouts	9:30 a.m. Al Anon Mtg. 7:30 p.m. AA Mtg.	Habitat Work Day 7 a.m. Men's Ministry 9 a.m. Novak Recitals
6 8 a.m. Worship & Communion 9:15 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship & Senior Blessings 11:30 a.m. Brian Shinrock 80th Birthday Party 5 p.m. Bell Rehearsal	7 6 p.m. W/ELCA @ Rose Roberts' 8 p.m. AA & Al Anon	8	9 4 p.m. Confirmation 5:30 p.m. Supper 6 p.m. W/ELCA Team Mtg. 6 p.m. Brass 6:15 p.m. FISH 7:15pm Choir	10 7 p.m. Boy Scouts 7:15 p.m. Choir 8 p.m. Nurture Mtg.	11 9:30 a.m. Al Anon Mtg. 7:15pm Choir 7:30pm AA Mtg.	12 7 a.m. Men's Ministry 1 p.m. Shinrock Shower 7:15 p.m. Choir
13 8 a.m. Worship & Communion 9:15 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship & Communion 1 p.m. District 18 AA Plng Mtg 5 p.m. Bell Rehearsal 7:15 p.m. Choir	14 6:30 p.m. Roanoke Homeowners Assoc. Mtg. 7:15 p.m. Choir 8 p.m. AA & Al Anon	Primary Election 9 a.m. Quilters 7 p.m. Church Council Mtg. 7:15 p.m. Choir	16 6 p.m. Brass 7:15 p.m. Choir	17 7 p.m. Boy Scouts	18 9:30 a.m. Al Anon Mtg. 7:30 p.m. AA Mtg.	7 a.m. Men's Ministry 4 p.m. Clemmons Piano Recital
20 8 a.m. Worship & Communion 10:30 a.m. Worship & Communion 12 p.m. Emily Rodriquez Graduation Open House	21 8 p.m. AA & Al Anon	22	23	24 7 p.m. Boy Scouts	25 9:30 a.m. Al Anon Mtg. 7:30 p.m. AA Mtg.	26 7 a.m. Men's Ministry
27 9:00am Worship & Communion	28 8 p.m. AA & Al Anon	29	30 6:45 p.m. Worship Planning	31 Synod Assembly 7 p.m. Boy Scouts		