

LIFELINES

of

LORD OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Plano, Texas

May 2020

Lord of Life's 30th Anniversary is May 20th

We had planned to have our founding pastor, Pastor Ric McMillian, preach and celebrate the day with one service and a special meal following. Unfortunately, it doesn't look like things will be back to normal by then and after this much time, how likely is it that people are going to enjoy large social gatherings with food? Lord willing, we will schedule something for later this year. Nevertheless, even without a special service and gathering, we can still be grateful to God for His many blessings to so many people through our congregation at Lord of Life. *

I had the privilege to speak with Pastor McMillian the other day. As many of you know, he recently recovered from Covid 19, something he picked up during a cruise through the Panama Canal. Fortunately, God answered the many prayers on his behalf and Pastor McMillian has fully recovered.

Over the years I have spoken with Pastor Ric about the founding of Lord of Life. What a different time that was and what a different place Plano was! For those of you who don't know, in the early days, Lord of Life did not operate in Plano at all. After some demographic studies and based on the location of other Lutheran Churches in the area, they had it in mind start something in the area around Frankfort and Preston Road in Dallas.

Initially, they rented space at an old police station located at 6808 Frankford Road (Frankford and Hillcrest where the Levine Academy, a Jewish School is located today.) They started sharing the space with police, but eventually the congregation rented out the whole building. It was at this facility that the congregation was chartered on May 20th 1990. Below are some pictures from that day. (Many of you will recognize a young Dave Wilde and Ben Lutek!)





prepare for worship in may

Sunday, May 3: Fourth Sunday of Easter

Texts: Acts 2:42-47; 1 Peter 2:19-25; John 10:1-10

Hymn of the Day: "The King of Love My Shepherd Is,"
709

Sunday, May 10: Fifth Sunday of Easter

Texts: Acts 6:1-9, 7:2a, 51-60; 1 Peter 2:2-10; John
14:1-14

Hymn of the Day: "At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing,"
633

Sunday, May 17: Sixth Sunday of Easter

Texts: Acts 17:16-31; 1 Peter 3:13-22; John 14:15-21

Hymn of the Day: "Dear Christians, One and All,
Rejoice," 556

Sunday, May 24: Seventh Sunday of Easter

Texts: Acts 1:12-26; 1 Peter 4:12-19, 5:6-11; John 17:1-
11

Hymn of the Day: "Christ Is the World's Redeemer,"
539

Sunday, May 31: The Day of Pentecost

Texts: Numbers 11:24-30; Acts 2:1-21; John 7:37-39

Hymn of the Day: "Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord,"
497



*Front Row: Gary Schenke, John Vysrikil, Jody Sorenson,
Janet Sawicke, Holly Wesebaum, Ben Lutek
Back Row: Marty Brinton, George Ackerson, Bill Bamsch,
Danny Townes, Dave Wilde*

In 1991 The Texas District acquired property nearby on Davenport and Frankfurt and offered it to Lord of Life. Unfortunately, the property sloped down to a swampy area and needed a lot of work to make it useable. While deciding how to proceed with that property, the current property on 15th Street came available. The current buildings did not exist, but there was a church on the property. It was a small mission congregation that never quite took off.

Nevertheless, the sellers were eager to see the land purchased by another Christian church, in fact, they stipulated this and also dropped the price down to a bargain so a church could afford the 5 acres we now have.

According to the service folder for that day, the list of charter members (see picture) includes at least three current members and many other people, some of you will recognize. While the history of the building and different locations is interesting, the real story of Lord of Life or any congregation is the story of God working among His people to create and strengthen faith in order to bring them to Himself. That story of Lord of Life continues to this day and for it, we are truly grateful. Because of the current pandemic, we may not get to celebrate these blessings as we had hoped, but we will still acknowledge the Lord's goodness in providing for us a place to thank and praise Him and a place where He is at work and also fellow people whom He has called and who are our brothers and sisters and fellow workers in His Kingdom.

PrS

LORD OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH
Dallas, Texas
CHARTER MEMBERSHIP

George & Doris Ackerson, Brian,
Kevin, Jennifer
Robert & Cathy Anderson,
Brooke, Drew, Lauren
Tom & Karen Ashburn, Carmen,
Michelle
W. W. "Bill" & Joyce Bamsch
Craig & Karen Boswell
Martin & Cynthia Brinton, Jennifer
Andrews
Gloria Bunker
Bureeda Bruner
Kevin & Mary Campbell, Aaron
Mark & Darla Crull, Ashley,
Lindsey
Keith & Carla Detrie, Angie, Jace,
Alysia
Tim & Marcia Eldredge, Emily
Stan & Kim Foster, Corinne,
Erica, Trent, Laura
David & Linda Furgerson,
Christopher, Noah
Ron & Gina Gates, Brittany
Mark & Ellen Grimes
Kevin & Susan Groppe
Wesley Hand
Don & Ramona Harris
John & Marty Herzog, Scott,
Adam
Joanne Keeney
Brian Lingle
Ben & Laura Lutek, Kristin
Janet Maisel
Keith & Brenda Bamsch, Jeremy,
Erica Rogers

Ruben & Bette Martin, Sarah
Ken & Marta McClure, Ryan
Rev. Ric & Leslie McMillian,
Tiffany, Eric, Jonathan, Jill
Patricia Morenz
Jane Nienhueser
Terry & Melanie O'Bier, Terry
Terry & Jill Patz, Kyle, Eric,
Melissa
Dave Power
Janet Sawicki, Kristi
Gary & Sharon Schenke,
Michelle, Jonathan
Jodi Sorenson
Jeff Sorenson
Terry & Kathy Steglich Smith,
Matthew
Jannie Spetter, Cassandra,
Brittany O'Bier
Greg & Joan Stephenson, Lisa,
Justin
Danny & Sheryl Townes, Stefanie,
Caleb
Albert VanDerKroon
Kim Van Wart
John & Annette Vystroil, Chris,
Scott
Paul & Holly Wesebaum, Hilary,
Catherine
Janice Whirley, Mary, Elizabeth
Dave Wiener & Anna Dolak
David & Kathy Wilde, Michael
Karen Yuhaus

CHARTER & ORGANIZATION
CELEBRATION



LORD OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Dallas, Texas

May 20, 1990

Change in Worship Service Times: Governor Abbott announced a relaxing of the shutdown beginning May 1st. How are people going to react? Will people come back to church in a flood, or will it be more of a trickle? Trying to figure out how people are going to act is anyone's guess. What we want to provide an environment where people can safely practice social distancing at church and not be afraid to come to worship. So, we will be watching the first two Sundays in May to get an indication of where we will go from there. Watch for an email announcing a likely change in service times.

Online Bible Class –Sunday, 1:00 PM As of now, regular Sunday morning Bible Class still seems a little far off. So, things are in the works to have Pastor Shaltanis lead an online Bible class after lunch on Sundays. All members are invited to participate. The topic will be the book of Colossians. Details about how to log on and participate will be sent in a forthcoming email.

What a blessing and a joy to have assistance during the Holy Week preparation for the Good Friday and Easter services. The willingness and acts of kindness were absolutely amazing. With great pride, I am extending a huge thank you to each, Pastor Joel Shaltanis, his children, Ambrose, Magdalena, Athan and Sebastian; Greg and Beverly Moudy, their daughter, Caitlyn; Mike Kunschke; Dave Peters; Scott Peters; Shelia Farmer and Tony Hernandez.

Christ is Risen Indeed!

*Lynda Abbott
Altar Guild Chairman*



Teen Times

Assurance in a Time of Uncertainty

This year we experienced Easter Sunday like none of us have ever done before. In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, most of us are choosing to shelter-in-place to avoid the risk of being infected by the coronavirus. We would normally celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus by all gathering together with family and friends at a packed worship service to hear the good news of the Easter story, sing joyful hymns accompanied by several musicians and the choir, followed by a huge Easter morning brunch with lots of great breakfast casseroles and dozens of donuts!

Then it would be gathering with family to eat a huge Easter meal later in the day, maybe an Easter egg hunt for the little kids, and probably a few family games together. There are various Easter traditions that families have enjoyed for many years, but this year it was different. Many of us stayed at home, watching worship services online and wishing we could be together as a congregation praising and thanking God for loving us through Jesus' death and resurrection. But for now, we must work our way through the unknowns of this current global crisis and trust that God is working out His plan and that His will be done.

Jesus disciples were also in a similar situation as recorded in John chapter 20; 19-20

"On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you!' After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord."

His disciples were sheltering-in-place, so to speak, in fear; not from a pandemic, but from those who opposed Jesus and knew that the disciples were followers of him. They were afraid of the unknown, their friend and teacher was dead (or so they thought), now what were they going to do? But Jesus himself appeared and the first words he offered them were, "peace be with you." Jesus offers that peace to us as well, even now in the midst of uncertainty.

There are some young adults at Lord of Life that will be facing something this month that very few people, or anyone for that matter, have ever experienced. Six high school seniors will be finishing their high school careers with no graduation ceremonies, high school proms, celebrating with friends, or other activities that are usually associated with high school graduation festivities. Nonetheless, even with all of the uncertainty, we should recognize them and wish them well on the next chapter of their lives. They are:

Stephen Belcher

Sam Carter

Caroline Loewecke

Nick Moudy

Ambrose Shaltanis

Stephanie Tabor

The immediate future may be somewhat uncertain for them, but we can be assured that Jesus would say to them the same thing he said to the disciples, "peace be with you!"

For now, we hope and pray that they will stay safe and be comforted knowing that God has this in control. We should also look forward to the day when we will all be back together to enjoy worshipping God, studying His Word, and really appreciating the friendships we have through Christ Jesus.

Until next time, God Bless.

Scott Peters

Lord of Life Small Groups

EMPTY NESTERS' CARE GROUP

- > For info contact Mike and Sandra Paradise at (972) 424-2951 or itsparadise.inplano@verizon.net
- > Usually meet one Sat. a month at 2:30 PM

EPIC PARENTING

- > For 30ish couples with kids
- > For info contact Ben Scarth BenjaminScarth@yahoo.com
- > Usually meet one Sunday a month in the afternoon or evening

FRUITS OF THE VINE CARE GROUP

- > For info contact Scott Peters at 972-898-3351 cell or speters@planolutheran.com
- > Usually meet one Sun. a month at 5:30 PM

GOOD NEWS CARE GROUP

- > For info contact Chris Oltmann at (972) 727-6330 or Mike Kunschke at (847) 951-6974
- > Usually meet the 2nd Sat. of each month at 6:30 PM for Bible study

MIXED BLESSINGS

- > For info contact Fred and Ruth Bernhardt at (972) 398-0771
- > Usually meet one Sat. a month at 6:30 PM

TWENTY SOMETHINGS

- > For couples and singles in their twenties
- > For info contact Pastor Shaltanis at PastorShaltanis@yahoo.com
- > The group is currently in transition, but has usually met on Sundays after late service

MAY Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 2 Ambrose Shaltanis
- 3 Gene & Pat Montalbo (25)
- 6 Fred Bernhardt
- 8 Mike & Cheryl Scaglione (27)
- 10 Laurie George
- 12 Pat Greer
- 12 Dave Senter
- 14 Elisabeth Bennett
- 15 Alyson Wood
- 16 Suzanne Gabriel
- 16 Abby George
- 16 Sebastian Heffner
- 16 David Messinger
- 17 Paula Bunger
- 17 Max Tyler
- 18 Cari Reinert
- 19 Jason Sowers
- 20 Charis Bennett
- 22 Nicholas Moudy
- 22 Jon & Tammi Chumbley (27)
- 23 Greg & Audrey Kostrzewa (33)
- 25 Ashley Moudy
- 25 Mark Plagens
- 25 Tom & Georgianna Womack (56)
- 26 Stephen & Rebecca LaPlante (13)
- 26 Greg & Beverly Moudy (24)
- 27 Trent Barnes
- 27 Audrey Kostrzewa
- 28 June Edelmann
- 28 Dave & Gail Senter (43)
- 29 Cindy Carter
- 29 Paul & Susan Grabow (38)
- 31 Charlie Abbott
- 31 Duffy Carter
- 31 Vicki Frinsko

SUMMARIZED STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

3 Months Ending March 2020

| | Y-T-D Operating Funds | Y-T-D Budget | Variance | Jan-Dec 2020 Budget |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Contributions | | | | |
| Regular Offerings | 125,790 | 142,733 | (16,943) | 586,549 |
| Other | 334 | 0 | 334 | 0 |
| Total Income | 126,123 | 142,733 | (16,610) | 586,549 |
| Expenses | | | | |
| Operating Expenses | 116,407 | 137,875 | (21,468) | 552,379 |
| Mortgage Payment | 8,523 | 8,523 | 0 | 34,092 |
| Total Expenses | 124,930 | 146,398 | (21,468) | 586,471 |
| Surplus or (Deficit) | 1,193 | (3,665) | 4,858 | 78 |
| Other Information: | | | | |
| Operating Fund Balance | \$90,010 | | | |
| Restricted Funds Balance | \$136,826 | | | |
| Building Loan Balance | \$220,936 | | | |