

# LIFELINES

of

## LORD OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Plano, Texas

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### State of the Parish

Friends in Christ,

We are in the Easter season, and besides the very Good News that Jesus is risen from the dead and has defeated death for us, we also have good news to report about our congregation. What follows is a series of subjects going on at Lord of Life over the past several months. These were also shared recently at the May Voters' meeting in my State of the Parish report.

Lent, Holy Week and Easter went well. I really liked the Lenten theme and the series (Witnesses to Christ by Rev. Dr. Reed Lessing) which provided a good framework to build on. The services -Midweek and Sundays- were well attended. In fact, our service attendance has been up by a significant amount since last year, certainly due to COVID, but it is also due to another fact that I am happy to report and that is an increase in visitors and new members.

We have added several new members and we have more good prospects that, Lord willing, will also soon become members. This is simply a blessing from God. We have not done some new program or project to attract people, but our recent growth has been a combination of people moving into the area, simple life changes wherein people have decided to get back to church, or the most time-tested method of all: the invitation of a friend to join them at church.

Financially, we are also in good shape and it is only getting better. You may recall how recently, we had people speak to the congregation after the services in an attempt to educate the congregation about the remaining debt on the building. We thought that by merely sharing with people the numbers and reminding them how paying off our debt sooner will save the church money, some folks might respond by helping to reduce our debt. Boy was that proven to be right! The response to this education has been wonderful. The number of people who contribute to the building fund has increased significantly and in a matter of months, these extra gifts along with our regular payments, have reduced our debt by more than \$25,000 (from \$148,208 to \$121,778). Thank you so much to all who have and will continue to help with this. Finishing off our debt will help to ensure we are on a strong financial footing for years to come and free us up to use our resources toward ministry.

Another positive phenomenon happening at Lord of Life is that new leaders are stepping up to serve. Charles Hacker, a longtime member of Lord of Life, was elected to serve as our new president, and we also have other much newer members who have agreed to serve on boards and the council. We have a healthy mix of ages and experience which is a very good situation. This is especially so, in light of the fact that this last year we said goodbye to some real pillars of our congregation, folks who contributed a great deal of time and effort over the years. I am thinking especially of Al Manning and Shirley Sparks. As one faithful generation passes away, it is reassuring to see another continue the work of the Kingdom.



Along those same lines, we had two significant retirements recently. Our Music Director, Vicki Frinsko, retired at the end of February and then Lynda Abbott, the head of our Altar Guild, decided Easter Sunday would be her last day. Both Vicki and Lynda are irreplaceable. Yet, we are working to find ways to fill in the gaps left by the retirement of both.

The search is ongoing for a Director of Music. I had spoken with people and received some recommendations, but nothing has panned out so far. We have several options we are considering and fortunately, we have been blessed with a deep bench, that is, we have a lot of people who can cover the organ duties on Sunday mornings. Because of this, we do not have to rush and take the first person who comes along, but we can take our time and find the right person who will be a good fit at Lord of Life.

Likewise, with the altar guild, we have several ladies who are willing to step up and cover the work that needs to be done. Lynda contributed an enormous amount of time and effort for more than 10 years. It is unlikely one single person will be willing to contribute that same amount of time, however, by the combined work of several people, I am confident all the work will be done. The guild will be meeting in a month or two to reassess how the work is going and what needs to change as we move forward. Until then, any questions or concerns about anything pertaining to the altar and paraments, etc. should be directed to me. Along those lines, since so much is changing already, if you have any suggestions for change in the future regarding these matters, please let me know. One such suggestion I have received already has been to change the wine we use for Holy Communion. Do you have any thoughts on this? Again, just let me know.

Overall, I am happy to announce that God has truly blessed Lord of Life with growth and that all is going well. Lord willing, this time of prosperity will allow us all to serve faithfully and continue to proclaim the hope we have in Christ, the hope that binds us together and will unite us for eternity.

Blessings in Christ,  
PrS

## prepare for worship in may

### May 1: Third Sunday of Easter

Texts: Acts 9:1-22; Rev. 5:(1-7) 8-14; John 21:1-14 (15-19)

Hymn of the Day: "With High Delight Let Us Unite," 483

### May 8: Fourth Sunday of Easter

Texts: Acts 20:17-35; Rev. 7:9-17; John 10:22-30

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

### May 15: Fifth Sunday of Easter

Texts: Acts 11:1-18; Rev. 21:1-7; John 16:12-22 or John 13:31-35

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

### May 22: Sixth Sunday of Easter

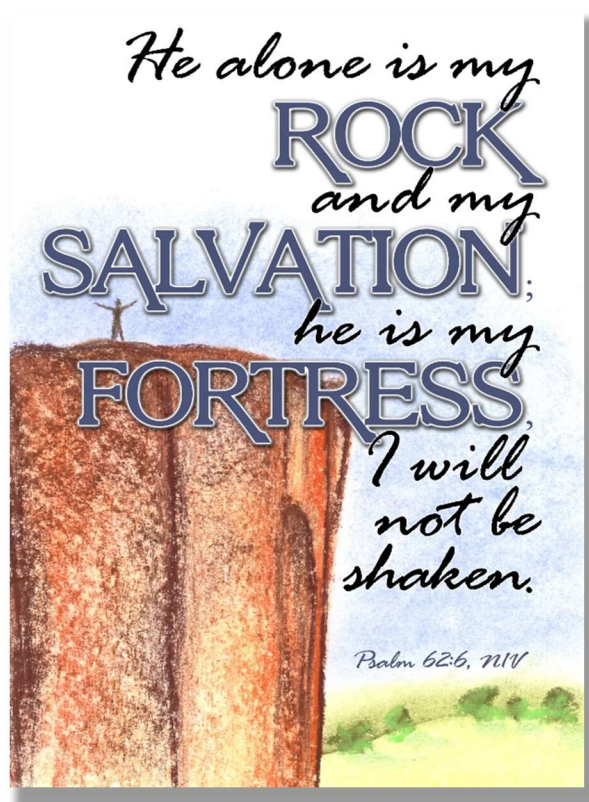
Texts: Acts 16:9-15; Rev. 21:9-14, 21-27; John 16:23-33 or John 5:1-9

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

### May 29: Seventh Sunday of Easter

Texts: Acts 1:12-26; Rev. 22:1-6 (7-11) 12-20; John 17:20-26

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

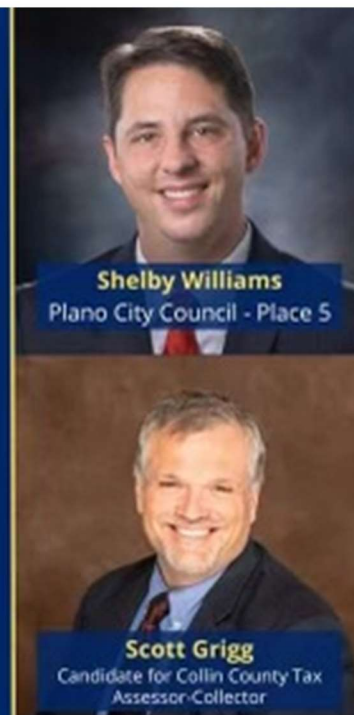


# PROPERTY TAX 101

How Property Taxes Work  
&  
How to Protest Your Appraisal



Thursday, May 5th, 6:30 PM  
Lord of Life Lutheran Church  
3601 W 15th St, Plano, TX 75075



Save the date!

*Take me out to the ballgame!*

Frisco Rough Riders Game vs Tulsa Drillers (LA Dodgers affiliate)

**Friday September 9, 2022 6:35pm game, \$20 per ticket** includes premium seating, \$10 concessions credit and fireworks. (Dallas Stars Night)

Parking is not included — \$5 – \$10 depending upon where you park. See the sign-up sheet in the Narthex.



## THIRD TIME'S THE CHARM!

After a couple of starts and stops in attempting to lead the Estate Planning & Wills presentation, Susan Periquet will lead us in a discussion of this important topic on Saturday, May 21 at 9AM in the Fellowship Hall. Due to two family illnesses, Susan was unable to lead our previous meetings but will be prepared to greet all of us with important planning steps to take to protect our families and estates. Susan has been a great asset to many families at Lord of Life and she looks forward to meeting each of you interested in drafting a will, creating a trust or guardianship and assuring you that the loose ends of your personal business are tidy. Come meet Susan and enjoy some early morning refreshments with friends.



# Teen Times



Thank you to those who have participated in the first two IMPACT fundraising dinners. The first took place on March 12 which carried the theme of "grilled," and the second took place on April 22 with an Italian themed dinner. Both of the parties were a big success, and the participants as well

as the cooks and families of the youth who hosted the dinners, enjoyed some great food with great company. These fundraisers for the youth ministry, or any fundraiser for that matter, are an integral part of the ministry itself for several reasons. Not only do the funds raised go toward youth events like Higher Things, field trips, or special conferences, it is also a way for the youth to be involved within the ministry of the church and to have a sense of ownership in their youth group. They have an opportunity to meet and interact with other church members that they may not normally associate with. There are also benefits from these particular fundraisers to the dinner participants as well. It is a way for veteran members at Lord of Life to get to know some of the new members who are attending the events. There are two more dinners planned; one on May 21 and one on June 10. We are looking forward to serving some good food and enjoying good company with our church family and friends!



## Congregation work day; Saturday, May 14, 9am - 1pm

Calling all able-bodied members to join each other to tackle a few outside projects on the church grounds in need of attention. Projects including but not limited to hedge trimming, tree pruning, laying sod, cleaning landscape beds, building new walk ramps, irrigation upgrades, and others will be on the list. You may bring any of your own tools that you are comfortable using for any of the projects items listed. Gas-powered or electric hedge trimmers (with extra extension cords,) cordless drills, power saws, and garden pruning tools are requested. Shovels, rakes, and the like are provided. Lunch will also be served. Contact Scott Peters with any questions.

## Lord of Life Small Groups

### EPIC PARENTING

- † For 30ish couples with kids
- † For info contact Ben Scarth  
[BenjaminScarth@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto:speters@planolutheran.com)
- † Usually meet one Sun. a month at 5:30 PM

### GOOD NEWS CARE GROUP

- † For info contact Mike Kunschke at (847) 951-6974
- † Usually meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of each month at 6:30 PM for Bible study

### MIXED BLESSINGS

- † For info contact Fred and Ruth Bernhardt at (972) 398-0771
- † Will meet Sat., May 14 at 3:00 PM

### COLLEGE GROUP

- † For students in college or recent grads
- † For info contact Pastor Shaltanis at [PastorShaltanis@yahoo.com](mailto:PastorShaltanis@yahoo.com)
- † Usually meet after the late service for lunch and Bible study



- 2 Ambrose Shaltanis
- 6 Fred Bernhardt
- 8 Hunter Starr
- 8 Mike & Cheryl Scaglione (29)
- 10 Laurie George
- 11 Larry Dibbern
- 12 Pat Greer
- 12 Dave Senter
- 14 Elisabeth Bennett
- 15 Alyson Wood
- 16 Suzanne Gabriel
- 16 Abby George
- 16 David Messinger
- 17 Paula Bunger
- 17 Max Tyler
- 20 Charis Bennett
- 22 Nicholas Moudy
- 22 Jon & Tammi Chumbley (29)
- 23 Greg & Audrey Kostrzewa (35)
- 25 Ashley Moudy
- 25 Mark Plagens
- 25 Tom & Georgianna Womack (58)
- 26 Greg & Beverly Moudy (26)
- 27 Madeleine Barnes
- 27 Trent Barnes
- 27 Audrey Kostrzewa
- 28 June Edelmann
- 28 Dave & Gail Senter (45)
- 29 Cindy Carter
- 29 Paul & Susan Grabow (40)
- 31 Charlie Abbott
- 31 Duffy Carter
- 31 Vicki Frinsko

**Lord of Life Lutheran Church  
Summarized Statement of Activity  
3 Months Ending March 31, 2022**

	Y-T-D Operating Funds	Y-T-D Budget	Variance	Jan-Dec 2022 Budget
<b>Contributions</b>				
Regular Offerings	142,152	142,902	(750)	560,692
Other	33	0	33	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>142,185</b>	<b>142,902</b>	<b>(717)</b>	<b>560,692</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
Benevolences	9,951	10,003	(52)	39,248
Elders	102,152	96,576	5,576	386,297
Education	194	250	(56)	1,000
Outreach	36	150	(114)	600
Office Expenses	2,519	2,935	(416)	12,090
Utilities	8,592	8,760	(168)	33,415
Property Maintenance	2,513	4,810	(2,297)	34,440
Stewardship	0	0	0	350
Family Ministries	528	625	(97)	5,290
Youth Board	2,165	2,400	(235)	6,100
Children's Ministry	273	1,550	(1,277)	6,700
Admin Council	789	650	139	2,600
Total Operating Expense	129,712	128,709	1,003	528,131
Mortgage Payment	28,449	7,740	20,709	30,960
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>158,161</b>	<b>136,449</b>	<b>21,711</b>	<b>559,091</b>
<b>Surplus or (Deficit)</b>	<b>(15,975)</b>	<b>6,453</b>	<b>(22,429)</b>	<b>1,601</b>
<b>Other Information:</b>				
Operating Fund Balance	\$104,935			
Restricted Funds Balance	\$125,262			
Building Loan Balance	\$129,645			