

LIFELINES

of

LORD OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Plano, Texas

September 2022

Various Happenings at Lord of Life

Weekly Communion

The elders and I decided that beginning in September, Holy Communion will be offered every Sunday. This is something that people have been asking us to do for years and we have been talking about it for longer than that. The plan is to offer the Lord's Supper every Sunday throughout the festival half of the Church Year (Advent through Holy Trinity) and then have a few Sundays in the summer months that are non-communion. Because some people love the service of Matins, which is a non-communion service, we might also try and find an excuse to do Matins one Sunday in the Epiphany season in January or February. Interestingly, just as much as there are some who love Matins, there are some who can't stand it! Alas, you can't make everyone happy no matter what you do.

Offering the sacrament more frequently is the older Lutheran tradition which views worship as a time when God serves us with His Word *and* His Sacrament. But there is a very practical reason to offer it every week as well; not everyone is able to

attend every week or even every month. Some folks due to their age or health or mobility or whatever, can't be here very often and when they are here, they desire to receive Holy Communion. How sad when they get here to find that it is a non-communion Sunday and therefore it may be several weeks or months before they have another opportunity to commune. This new practice should avoid that and give everyone the opportunity to receive Holy Communion more frequently.

Building Fund

Over the past year or so, you have heard me and others make a plea to consider donating to our Building Fund. Well, the response has been overwhelming and we have very good news to report on that score. You can read more about it in an article below, but let me give you a broad summary here: our debt was \$1.2 million ten years ago when I arrived; it is now less than \$100k. Thank you to all who have contributed and continue to do so. The sooner we take care of this debt the better.

Moudy Wedding

On August 27th I was privileged to officiate a wedding for Nicholas and Lauren (Chumbley) Moudy. It was a great day and one that was rather unique for me. Usually I know either the bride or the groom, but in this case, I have watched both Nicholas and Lauren grow up before me over the last 10 years and have known both families well. What a great experience and a great couple! God's continued blessings on Nicholas and Lauren for many years to come.



Hemingway Anniversary

Nick and Lauren have a long way to go to catch up to Dick and Vera Hemingway! This September 12th the Hemingways celebrate their 75th Wedding Anniversary. Vera also turns 99 this month and Dick is 94. Congratulations and God's continued blessings to them.



Ardis Bang

As I write this on September 1, it is the afternoon of Ardis' funeral. We had a nice quaint service with about 50 guests. Ardis was a longtime member of Lord of Life and a joy to all who knew her. A lifelong Lutheran and faithful Christian, her sister said of her, that she always, "spent a lot of time with her Bible." She was a great volunteer for various things at church and a longtime member of the choir. She was also remembered for being sharply dressed everywhere she went. For a few years now Ardis has been unable to come to church, but I would visit her regularly at her home. We would talk and she would ask about everyone at church and we would pray together, read Scripture and have Communion. She was a friend and someone I will miss visiting very much.

Church Choir

Starting on Wednesday, October 12, at 6:30, the choir will begin rehearsing. The plan is to sing for Reformation Sunday and keep practicing until Christmas, singing a number of Sundays throughout. If you are at all musically inclined, please come and lend your voice.

PrS

Reducing Our Debt



In February of this year, an initiative was started to REDUCE THE DEBT on our building, since all the signs were pointing to the timing being good for this effort. At that point in the process, our indebtedness totaled \$148,208. As of August 19, our loan balance is \$91,688.

What a fantastic response! These results have come from faithful giving of our congregation, with the goal of elimination of a recurring payment of \$2,300 +/- in order to utilize our resources in ways to contribute to other goals and missions as the end result. Here are some interesting facts concerning this effort:

Note Balance 2/20/2022	\$148,208
Principal Paid since 2/20/2022	\$56,521
Note Balance 08/31/2022	\$91,688

Fund balance as of 2/20/2022	\$2,155
From Memorials	\$6,815
From regular givers	\$6,856
From new givers	\$30,100
Total given since 2/20/2022	\$43,771
Regular payments since 2/20/2022	\$13,364
Total funds available this year	\$59,289
Still in fund	(subtract) \$2,758
Principal Paid since 2/20/2022	\$56,531

Thank you for your continued stewardship of resources provided by our Lord in this effort.

In His name,

Pat Greer,
Treasurer





Lutheran World Relief

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. LASTING PROMISE.

Personal Care Kits

Lord of Life will be assembling kits on November 5th to ship out on November 12th. These kits give people around the world tools to stay healthy in life's most challenging situations. Please sign up to contribute the items needed for the kits and leave them in the LWR collection box in the narthex by October 30th.

The kits include:

- (1) light or medium weight bath-size towel (between 20" x 40" and 27" x 52") dark color recommended,
- (2or3) bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz in original wrapping,
- (1) adult size toothbrush,
- (1) sturdy comb,
- (1) pair of metal nail clippers.



Cash donations are also needed to cover shipping costs. (Make checks payable to LOL, note for LWR shipping)



Lord of Life Lutheran Church

Annual Men's Retreat

Location:

Camp All Saints

418 Stanton Way, Pottsboro, TX 75076

Website: <https://www.campallsaints.com/>

Cost: \$100

Start Date/Time:

Friday September 23, 2022

5:00 PM – 7:00 PM (*you can arrive earlier if you like, but not expected*)

If you are going to be later than 7:00 PM, please call Ben and let him know.

End Date/Time:

Saturday September 24, 2022

After Lunch (3:00 PM is the official late departure time)

Schedule:

- Friday Steak Dinner: 7:00 PM (*camp dining hall*)
 - Bible Study
 - Free time (*possible campfire*)
- Saturday Breakfast: 8:00 AM (*camp dining hall*)
 - Bible Study
 - Free time (*fishing, hiking, napping, shootin the bull...*)
 - Saturday Lunch: 12:00 PM (*camp dining hall*)
 - Go Home

What is Provided:

- Meals
- Lodging (*dormitory style cabins with bunks and showers*)

Items to Bring:

- Bible or bible app
- Personal items (clothing, toiletries, shower towel)
- Snacks, beverages, including adult beverages and tobacco products
- Flashlight
- Bed linens, pillow, or sleeping bag (*the camp no longer provides linens*)
- Camp Chair (*optional*)
- Fishing gear/bait (*optional*)
- Hiking boots (*optional*)

The festivities and activities do not officially start until dinner time on Friday.

You are welcome to arrive early to the camp to relax, explore, or maybe do a little fishing.

For additional questions contact Ben Scarth 817-521-6516.

Teen Times

This past summer our congregation had the privilege of witnessing the joyful events of two young people that have been members of our church for many years. They became engaged and began life's journey with each other in the bonds of marriage. It made it even more special that many of us at Lord of Life were able to see these two grow up through our Jr. High and Sr. High youth ministries. They were active in our youth group, being involved in worship and Bible study regularly on Sunday mornings, enjoying youth nights, participating in fundraisers, and traveling to the Higher Things Youth Conference each summer. After successful college years, they are now in the early stages of their full-time professional careers or vocation. I am very fortunate to have been a part of all these activities and see these two grow in their faith and eventually grow together as a couple. Their commitment to each other is commendable as they carried on a "long-distance relationship" for well over two years before their engagement. On August 27th, Nicholas Moudy and Lauren Chumbley made their vows to be one with the other "till death us do part."

Nicholas and Lauren are great examples of something that my wife, Jonelle and I, were taught many years ago, while growing up in our youth group together: being *equally yoked*. It is extremely important when a man and a woman make their marriage vows to each other; they should be of one mind and one heart when it comes to their faith, and even more, the foundation of that faith as a Christian. These words are found in the 6th chapter of St. Paul's second letter to the Corinthians:

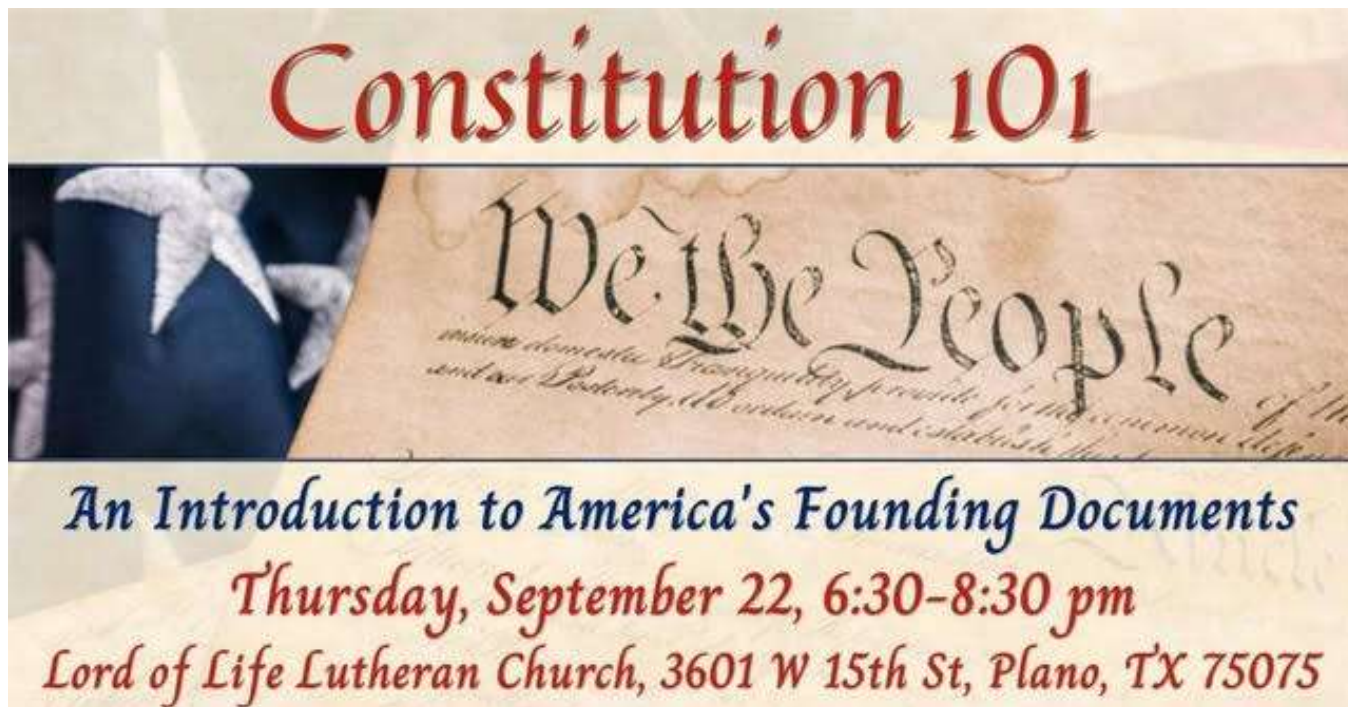
"Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness? What accord has Christ with Belial? Or what portion does a believer share with an unbeliever? What agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God," 2 Corinthians 6:14-16a

This passage can also be applied beyond the context of marriage. It is useful with all types of personal connections. It can be recognized within our own family, with friends, and perhaps a co-worker or teammate. Surrounding yourself with people that believe in God, our Heavenly Father, and Jesus as their Savior from sin, can have a positive effect on all aspects of our lives. If *one man and one woman* (note the italicized words here) are equally yoked in marriage, or be as one in their faith, it can remove all kinds of obstacles as they begin a life together as one flesh. So, whether it's just starting the dating scene, getting serious about someone you care about, talking about marriage, or making the commitment, it's best to be sure that you are grounded in the one true faith.

Our congratulations go out to Nicholas and Lauren Moudy and we wish them all the best as they begin their equally-yoked lives with Christ and each other.

Until next time, God bless!

Scott Peters

The poster features a background image of a document with the words "We the People" in large, elegant script. To the left, a portion of the American flag is visible. The title "Constitution 101" is at the top in a large, red, serif font. Below it, the subtitle "An Introduction to America's Founding Documents" is in a smaller, dark blue, serif font. The date and time "Thursday, September 22, 6:30-8:30 pm" are in a red, serif font. The location "Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 3601 W 15th St, Plano, TX 75075" is at the bottom in a red, serif font.

Constitution 101

We the People

An Introduction to America's Founding Documents

Thursday, September 22, 6:30-8:30 pm

Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 3601 W 15th St, Plano, TX 75075

This event is free to the public. Join Shelby Williams, Plano City Council, for his annual primer to the Constitution of the United States during Constitution Week. Learn what the Constitution says--and doesn't say--what it means, and what it means to YOU!

www.eventbrite.com/e/constitution-101-an-introduction-to-americas-founding-documents-tickets-407415710357



Lord of Life Small Groups

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 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
- † Will meet Sat., September 17 at 3:00 PM

COLLEGE GROUP

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

prepare for worship in september

Sept. 4: Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Texts: Deut. 30:15-20; Phil. 1-21; Luke 14:25-35

Hymn of the Day: "How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord," 853

Sept. 11: Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Texts: Ezek. 34:11-24; 1 Tim. 1:(5-11)12-17; 12:1-3; Luke 15:1-10

Hymn of the Day: "Jesus Sinners Doth Receive," 609

Sept. 18: Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Texts: Amos 8:4-7; 1 Tim. 2:1-15; Luke 16:1-15

Hymn of the Day: "See Where You May to Find a Way," 557

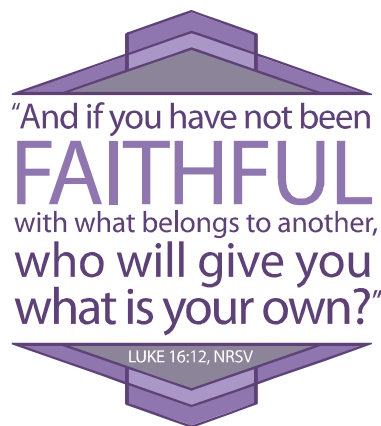
Sept. 25: Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Texts: Amos 6:1-7; 1 Tim. 3:1-13 or 1 Tim. 6:6-19; Luke 16:19-31

Hymn of the Day: "God of Grace and God of Glory," 850



- 1 Devrie Hahn
- 2 Bill Bennett
- 2 Candace Klein
- 2 Fred & Ruth Bernhardt (55)
- 3 Gail Senter
- 4 Vera Hemingway
- 6 Dave & Dee Peters (58)
- 8 Kelsey Crumrine
- 8 Myrna Schulze
- 9 Mary Ravitz
- 9 Mike & Monique Phelan (12)
- 12 Carrie Ziegelbein
- 12 Dick & Vera Hemingway (74)
- 16 Andrew Short
- 18 Ernie & Susan Gromatzky (51)
- 19 Christian Klein
- 21 Angie Buckmeier
- 21 Mike Scaglione
- 22 Mike Kunschke
- 23 Nora Parrent
- 26 Mirien Senter
- 27 Jerry Parish
- 28 James Kade
- 29 Carl Carper
- 29 David Dorak
- 30 Beverly Moudy



Lord of Life Lutheran Church
Statement of Activity
7 Months Ending July 31, 2022

	Y-T-D Operating Funds	Y-T-D Budget	Variance	Jan-Dec 2022 Budget
Contributions				
Regular Offerings	\$329,436	\$335,434	-\$5,998	\$560,692
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Income	\$329,436	\$335,434	-\$5,998	\$560,692
Expenses				
Benevolences	\$22,979	\$23,480	-\$501	\$39,248
Elders	\$222,292	\$225,344	-\$3,052	\$386,297
Education	\$297	\$550	-\$253	\$1,000
Outreach	\$94	\$350	-\$256	\$600
Office Expenses	\$8,006	\$7,015	\$991	\$12,090
Utilities	\$22,994	\$20,030	\$2,964	\$33,415
Property Maintenance	\$17,967	\$18,640	-\$673	\$34,440
Stewardship	\$0	\$350	-\$350	\$350
Family Ministries	\$1,028	\$3,370	-\$2,342	\$5,290
Youth Board	\$2,547	\$5,100	-\$2,553	\$6,100
Children's Ministry	\$594	\$4,000	-\$3,406	\$6,700
Admin Council	\$1,575	\$1,500	\$75	\$2,600
Operating Expenses	\$300,373	\$309,729	-\$9,357	\$528,131
Debt Service	\$18,060	\$18,060	\$0	\$30,960
Total Expenses	\$318,433	\$327,789	-\$9,357	\$559,091
Surplus or (Deficit)	\$11,003	\$7,645	\$3,359	\$1,601
Restricted Funds				
Income	\$7,762			
Expenses	\$1,729			
Restricted Funds Surplus/(Deficit)	\$6,033			
	Current Balance	12/31/2021	12/31/2020	12/31/2019
Other Information:				
Operating Fund Balance	\$109,363	\$104,752	\$106,625	\$94,675
Restricted Funds Balance	\$128,383	\$117,262	\$119,285	\$123,141
Building Loan (June 2027)	\$102,007	\$156,766	\$191,708	\$226,952