

Lord of Life Lutheran Church—ELCA

Lifelines



LET US
GIVE
THANKS

The Monthly Newsletter for

November 2023

Lord of Life Council Meeting Minutes—November 8th, 2023

In attendance: Nancy Hellekson, Norm Lyon, Ben Hegel, Candy Wehrle, Janyce Luebke, Brad Johnson, Vicar Amber, Pastor Becky, Brenda Johnson.

Absent: Al Olson, Stacey Biberdorf, and Joe Hauge.

Candy Wehrle, council vice president, called the meeting to order, Janyce opened with a devotion and prayer.

Minutes of the September meeting were reviewed, Nancy made first motion to accept, Norm seconded, motion carried.

Treasurer's report: Joe had provided a summary and updated budget sheet. August and September income was not good. For the first time this year, we find ourselves in the negative. We need about \$8,900 per month in order to pay our bills. Also, please be aware that we will be paying our annual insurance premium this month of a bit over \$5,000. If things gain strength this fall, we can bounce back. However, these months that are a couple thousand dollars short of what our monthly expenses really hurt us. It's tough to make it back up.

Council discussed and decided it would be appropriate to communicate the situation to the congregation with an entry in the church bulletin next Sunday Oct 15th. Ben made first motion to accept the treasurer's report, Janyce seconded, motion carried.

Council president report: No report

Vicar's report: Amber shared that Laurie Lapel had asked if it would be possible to live stream Sunday services, or record them somehow so she could view it. This became a topic for new business. As part of Amber seminar training, she will have an interview in Sioux Falls this month for endorsement in the South Dakota Synod. She will be leading a worship service at Calvary on Oct 21st.

Education committee: Plan is to continue the puppet ministry intermittently, with first program likely around Thanksgiving time. Classes are going well, teaching and discussing traditional bible stories.

Property committee: new basketball court backboards have arrived and will be installed in good time. The work on re-siding the bell tower is being planned for next spring as the cost is estimated to be over \$7500. The council will be considering ways to fund this project between now and then.

Family Fellowship and Social Outreach: Lutherfest will be on November 5th, we'll get the German potato salad from the Alpine Inn in Hill City. Plans are coming together.

Finance and Stewardship: decision made to put a simple announcement in the bulletin next week to let congregation know the financial shortfalls we are seeing in weekly plate offering which is leading to inability to pay the bills, and on top of this a \$5000 insurance payment is coming due. Also, decision to place the contribution box shaped like the church building out in narthex to allow the congregation to begin a collection for the bell tower re-siding project next spring.

Music and Worship/Alter Guild: meeting will take place next Monday to discuss services and music through Advent and Christmas season.

Ministry Site Committee: The 2-person committee continues to meet with Amber.

No Old Business other than what's already been discussed.

New Business: Janyce will consider best way to provide live stream of the Sunday services and do this next Sunday, likely using Facebook Live. Pastor Becky explained her new role with the South Dakota Synod called Western Dakota's Ministry, serving 5 rural churches. Details are being worked through, including the effect of this on her service to Lord of Life as Vicar Amber's mentor.

Next meeting will be Sunday, November 12th.

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

*Respectfully submitted by
Brad Johnson, Council Secretary*

From Vicar Amber



Hello dear church!

As we begin the holiday season, let's start with some advice from the Psalmist in Psalm 9:1

“I will give thanks to you, Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.”

God's love, presence, inspiration, and influence are the reasons we have what we do. To honor what God has first given us, we are invited to pray daily, with a spirit of thankfulness. Whether you've encountered every bump on the road today or had a good day filled with blessings, I invite you to thank God for His love and blessings.

It is with this attitude of gratitude that I write to you. I am grateful to be your Vicar and am excited to watch as our church grows and learns together. I am very much looking forward to LutherFest when we can all come together as a church family, for the benefit of fellowship, fun, and funds raised for our bell tower repair. I am thankful for all of you and your generous donations! I recognize these donations monetarily, in your church presence, and when you bring your own gifts of the Spirit.

I am grateful for our Sunday school teachers and musicians who provide a variety of ways to worship and praise the Lord, with their own time and talents. Their dedication, hard work and give each of us invaluable gifts. I am thankful for Pastor Becky and Pastor Dwayne for bringing their own talents of sharing the Gospel with us. I am thankful for all those that volunteer to help our church property and services provide a welcome place to all those who enter and run smoothly.

I am thankful for our church council, my site committee, and Brenda! Behind the scenes all these people live out their care for the church with prayer, consideration and thoughtfulness. As a congregation, we get the holy privilege of welcoming others and looking towards the future with hope. I am proud and grateful to be your vicar. Like a mama sharing the accolades of my kids, I beam with pride as I boast about you. Thank you for being willing to grow and change with me, as I continue my seminary studies.

Remain faithful in your prayers of thanksgiving; it is our duty and joy to offer these prayers to God.

Thank you for your love, generosity, and faithful living!

Thanks be to our Triune God!

Vicar Amber Wichmann



Thanksgiving Beatitudes

Be thankful that you don't already have everything you desire. If you did, what would there be to look forward to?

Be thankful when you don't know something, for it gives you the opportunity to learn.

Be thankful for the difficult times. During those times you grow.

Be thankful for your limitations, because they give you opportunities for improvement.

Be thankful for each new challenge, because it will build your strength and character.

Be thankful for your mistakes. They will teach you valuable lessons.

Be thankful when you're tired and weary, because it means you've made a difference.

—Author unknown



Financial Report for Lord of Life Lutheran Church 2023

	Income	Expenses
Jan-23	\$7,518.00	\$6,069.81
Feb-23	\$7,199.00	\$6,573.92
Mar-23	\$10,125.00	\$8,396.62
Apr-23	\$14,334.60	\$7,946.29
May-23	\$11,841.50	\$11,090.73
Jun-23	\$7,591.00	\$10,003.55
Jul-23	\$8,598.00	\$8,771.70
Aug-23	\$5,953.82	\$7,266.84
Sept-23	\$6,189.50	\$8,994.80
Total	\$79,350.42	\$80,005.38
Amount Behind 2023	(\$654.96)	

September 2023	
<i>CHECKING ACCOUNT</i>	\$20,574.43
<i>SAVINGS ACCOUNT - 0.01%</i>	\$20,423.16
<i>MEMORIAL SAVINGS ACCOUNT - 0.01%</i>	\$2,145.81
<i>MEMORIAL ACCOUNT CD (12-month) - 0.15%</i>	\$3,431.99
TOTAL FIRST INTERSTATE BANK	\$46,575.39





For the month of November, we will donate to **Church Response Food Pantry**. The following items are needed to help provide sides for a Thanksgiving dinner. Please bring your donations to the church by Sunday, November 19th.

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Instant Potatoes | Canned Gravy |
| Canned Yams | Marshmallows |
| Stuffing Mix | Cranberry Sauce |
| Canned vegetables | Evaporated Milk |
| Cornbread Mix | Canned Pumpkin |
- Graham cracker crust**

*Prayer
Shawl Ministry*



If you have someone in your life who needs some extra comfort and prayers, please take a Prayer Shawl from the display in the narthex to give to them. Everyone is welcome to do so at anytime.

Update on the Church Financial Situation

A couple weeks ago the Church Council shared the status recently of our ability to pay the bills of the church. Primary source of the operating budget is the collection taken weekly through plate offering, automated bank withdrawals some people have set up, mailings of giving, and special gifts. The weekly bulletin routinely shows the offering total from past recent weeks. We need to maintain an average of \$2,225 per week as a minimum. Everyone is grateful that God, through our congregation and friends of Lord of Life, always comes through to make ends meet. Thank you to everyone for consistently contributing in a variety of ways to make Lord of Life such a special place for worship and fellowship.

“Personal Care Kits” Ministry

REVISED LIST



Please remember to donate the following items for this ongoing ministry sponsored by Lutheran World Relief.

- Dark Colored Bath Towel
- Large Wide-toothed Comb
- Nail Clipper

All these items are rolled up in the towel and sent to a Lutheran World Relief warehouse to then be delivered to people who are survivors of disasters all over the world. Please help keep this ministry going.

Thank you!

We are pleased to announce the return of

LUTHERFEST

We will have a German style meal with an auction.

So mark you calendars for **Sunday, November 5th** and plan on having a fun evening at the church. *Dinner starts at 4:30pm and Auction starts at 5:30pm.*

Needed for Auction

- ◆ Handmade/Handcrafted items
- ◆ Homemade canned goods
- ◆ Homemade treats and baked items
- ◆ Gift baskets (*various new items or themed baskets*)



* ***No rummage sale items please.***

UPDATE: *The church has been informed that Martin Luther is in Rapid City and we could possibly see him that evening.*

* Proceeds will go towards improvements to our church bell tower.

Please sign-up to attend the meal in the hallway by office. Thank You.



REFLECTIONS

by Dennis Green



A PROPHECY OF OLD

Once upon a time long ago,
In a land that many people would come to know.
A revelation was given to a woman named Mary,
That the Son of God she would carry.

Her husband Joseph took them away,
So their taxes they could pay.
They had to travel to a distant land,
Guided, I'm sure, by God's own hand.

When they reached their destination,
They were confronted with a situation.
A stable was the only place to stay,
So Jesus was born in a bed of hay.

It was a wondrous night to behold,
The stars were bright and bold!
Wise men from afar, brought him Frankincense, myrrh and gold,
And so was fulfilled the Prophecy of old!

Dennis Green November 1999



On Sunday, November 5th,
Daylight Savings Time for
2022 comes to an end.
At 2:00 a.m. Sunday morning,
turn your clocks back 1 hour.



THERE WILL BE A CHURCH COUNCIL
MEETING ON **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12TH**
RIGHT AFTER CHURCH.

Everyone is invited to come and sit in.

Lord of Life Coffee House



When we have a "Praise and Worship Sunday",
we have our LOL Coffeehouse set up so you can
get a yummy cup of gourmet coffee to go along
with your worship experience.

We use the money that we receive from coffee
sales to fund various projects at church such as:
shipping costs for LWR Personal Care Kits,
supplies for coffeehouse, food for various
picnics/dinners and printing of business cards.
Thank you for supporting the LOL Coffeehouse!!



Taking Off Pounds Sensibly meets Saturday mornings
at 8:00 to 8:15 for weigh in and 8:15 to 8:45 for
meetings. All meetings take place at Lord of Life
Church. Low cost and high support!

The first meeting is free. For more information,
please contact Shelly Labine @ 484-0354.



Pictures from Sunday School and Children's Time during Worship.





Pictures from our Worship Service October 22nd





November

BIRTHDAYS

1	Sandy Jones	14	Elaine Semancik
3	Dolores Schreter	17	Sarah Thormahlen
12	Cruz Slaba	18	Stephanie Curtis
13	Rachel Dirk	22	Sue Lyon
14	Brenda Johnson	23	Max Biberdorf

Praying
FOR You

Our Military
Laurie Lepel
Jim McCoy
Chris Speirs
Wayne Wasserburger
Terry (*Father of Jill Surrell*)

Samantha (*Cousin of Roger Soucy*)

Mark (*Friend of Brenda Johnson*)

Anita (*Friend of Candy Wehrle*)

The Family of Loren Christensen (*friend of Jeff Glanzer*)

Nikki Moir and Family (*friends of Joe & Shirley Hauge*)

Lenny (*Friend of Bruce & Terri Hegel*)

Suzann (*Friend of Bruce & Terri Hegel*)

Glenyce (*Friend of Bruce & Terri Hegel*)

Sarah Bolton (*Friend of Brenda Johnson*)

The Family of Mylis Husby (*Aunt of Shirley Hauge*)





Calendar of Events for Lord of Life Church November 2023

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			1	2	3	4
						8:00 am TOPS
5 <i>Daylight Savings Ends</i> 9:15 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service 4:30 pm Lutherfest Dinner 5:30 pm Lutherfest Auction	6	7	8	9	10	11 8:00 am TOPS  VETERANS DAY
12 9:15 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service 11:00 am Council Meeting	13	14	15	16	17	18 8:00 am TOPS
19 9:15 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service	20 Newsletter Deadline	21	22	23 	24	25 8:00 am TOPS
26 9:15 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service	27	28	29	30		



Serving in November



Date	Usher and Greeter	Acolyte	Reader	Communion Assistant
10:00 a.m. Worship				
Nov 5	Tom Woodden Carl Hellekson	Kurt Luebke	Brad Johnson	Janyce Luebke
Nov 12	Ben & Nicole Hegel	Emma Hellekson	Leah Luebke	
Nov 19	Bruce & Virginia Conlee	Danika Wichmann	Shirley Hauge	Roger Soucy
Nov 26	Jeff & Jen Schumacher	Wilson Hunzeker	Jen Schumacher	

If you are unable to make your assignment, please call someone to trade dates and let the office know. Thank you!



Lord of Life Lutheran Church
2000 Lancer Drive
Rapid City SD 57703

Amber Wichmann - Vicar
 Brenda Johnson - Secretary

Church Office 393-0700

Office Hours: M-Th 9:00 am - 1:30 pm

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This is a monthly publication of Lord of Life Lutheran Church.



LORD OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

2000 Lancer Drive
Rapid City SD 57703

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Rapid City SD
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Sunday Worship Schedule
9:15 a.m. Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Worship Service

