

baptismal anniversaries

Well, you came to the service, you experienced what a Baptismal Anniversary is all about, and now you need to find out about your own! Celebration of December anniversaries will occur on Sunday, December 13 at the 8:30, 9:50 and 11:00 service (celebration for the 5:00 will be the previous week, December 6).

Just in case you have forgotten what this is all about, here is a recap of the previous LifeLine... On the second Sunday of each month, anniversaries of baptism will be celebrated during the services. Anyone who was baptized in that month will join together at the font, light your baptism candle and celebrate your relationship in God's family.

All you need to do is contact the office at lol@lordoflifeonline.org with your baptismal month, bring your candle to church on the second Sunday of that month, and celebrate the water of love washing over you in your relationship with God. If you do not have a baptismal candle, the church will provide one for you.

Please contact the church by Wednesday, December 2 so we can get a bulletin printed with your name in it. It is in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit we are united as a family. Let us celebrate the union as a family! Please contact Vicky or Jennifer if you have any questions.

cliff's comments

Advent Mid-week Services: Advent begins on Sunday, November 29. Advent marks the start of a new Church Year. It is a season of hope, expectation and preparation. We will offer three mid-week services in observation of this season (Wednesday evenings – 7:00 until 7:30.) The first service will be on December 2. The order of worship will be Taize. Details of each service will come to you through the weekly e-mailer and the Sunday bulletins.

Christmas Eve services will follow the traditional LOL format at 4:00; 6:00; 8:00; and 11:00 pm. The 4:00 service is especially designed for families with children. Holy Communion will be celebrated at each service.

Worship and Music changes: The Congregation Council has accepted the resignation of Dr. Randall Partain, as Director of Worship and the Arts, effective on Sunday, November 22. I offer my thanks and appreciation for his years of service to Lord of Life and extend on behalf of the congregation God's blessings as he more fully enters into his passion for music composition.

I am organizing an interim Worship and Music Team that will begin on Sunday, November 29. This team includes: Pamela Tamburello, chair; Marshall Maxwell, Bonnie Adams, Pastors Cliff and Nancy. The Congregation Council has asked that this team continue to serve during the duration of the Senior Pastor Call search.

"Fear not" were the words of angels at the annunciation to Mary that she was to be the mother

by Pastor Cliff Akerman interim senior pastor

of our Lord, at the announcement of Jesus' birth to the shepherds in the fields, and to the women that came to the empty tomb. These good words are helpful to us as together we move through an important and exciting time of transition in this congregation. Regardless of what we think, plan or wish, we need to be reminded always that our God is in control and leading us. God is telling us to "fear not" as God shows us the way through all the transitions in our lives. I share that reminder with you.

Positive signs: New members are being received at LOL. Visitors are present almost every Sunday. We have dedicated leaders, talented staff members, and multi-talented congregational members. Members and potential members are being served through the ministry of Pastor Nancy. I like to think that my years of experience are serving you well in administration and in positive sermons of application of the Gospel in our daily living. Please concentrate on all the many positives resulting from all our faithfulness in attendance, stewardship and service

The final opportunity to contribute our very best to the support of the 2009 financial program is during December. It appears it would take a miracle to completely close the gap between giving and the budget or at least the expenditures. Just two words to share with you – MIRACLES HAPPEN!

Thank you for your partnership in our Lord's mission and in our LOL ministry.
Pastor "Cliff"



Care and Share Ministries at Lord of Life

For many years, Lord of Life has provided a loving ministry during times of need within our congregation with our Care and Share groups. Some of the needs we may address through Care and Share include meals, transportation, child care, and sitting with a sick person.

All of our members have been assigned to a group based on their geographical location. When someone in your area has a need such as an illness or a death in the family, the people in your group will be contacted with the opportunity to minister to that family by bringing food or some other help.

Each group has coordinators who make the calls. For members of the congregation who

are already listed as coordinators, we would like to know whether you are willing to continue to serve.

In addition, we need new coordinators for some groups. If you would like to serve your church family in this way, please call Nancy Hauglie at 281-782-1026 or Tana Blair at 281-893-4239. By making a few phone calls, you can be a part of our expression of love and care for one another.

Look for a Care and Share display in the Fellowship Hall in the next few weeks. You will be able to sign up to be a coordinator or indicate your willingness to continue serving.

visitors appreciated

There are people in our congregation who would appreciate a visit. When you have available time, contact Pastor Nancy for the names of people who would enjoy having you come by their homes for a bit. You may find yourself even more cheered by your effort than the ones you go to see.

summer camp opportunities

register today!

Register today for summer camp at Lutherhill. Dates for camp are as follows:

Youngn's - completed 2nd-3rd grade

Dates: June 13-18

Fee: \$335

Yearlings - completed 4th-6th grade

Dates: June 13-18

Fee: \$335

They will get to do all the great camp activities that the Youngn's experience PLUS have a campout.

NOTE: 6th graders have the opportunity to attend either the Yearling or Adventurer Program, depending on the age group your camper would like to be grouped with.

You can register directly with the camp at www.lutherhill.org/summercamp.php

Opportunities are available for Camp Ebert also. For more information, contact www.crosstrails.org

educational and family events

Pastor's Bible Study

Tuesday mornings - 10:00 am

Ladies Bible Study

Wednesday mornings - 9:30 am

Children's Music Program

Wednesdays - 5:00 pm

Word on Wednesday (WOW)

Wednesdays - 6:00 pm

Confirmation/MWM

Wednesdays - 7:00 pm

Adult Confirmation

Wednesdays - 7:00 pm

Sunday School for all ages

Sunday mornings - 9:45 am

Baptism Anniversary Recognition

2nd Sunday of each Month

Chili Cook-off/Gratitude Service

Sunday, November 22 - 5:00 pm

1st Sunday in Advent

Sunday, November 29

Mid-week Advent Worship Services

Wednesday, December 2, 9, 16 - 7:00 pm

Decorate the Church & Narthex

Saturday, December 12 - 10:00 am

Come To Bethlehem

Sunday, December 13 - 9:30 - 11:30 am

Jr. & Sr. Hi Advent Retreat at Lutherhill

Friday, December 11 -

Saturday, December 12

Christmas Eve Worship Service

4:00, 6:00, 8:00 and 11:00 pm

help decorate the church saturday, december 12 10:00 am

Plans are in place to decorate the Church and Narthex at 10:00 am on Saturday, December 12. This includes the placing and decorating the tree, hanging wreaths, setting up candles and readying the hand-held candles for our beautiful Christmas Eve Services. This usually takes only a couple of hours if we get enough willing volunteers.

If you would like to be a part of this, please notify Steve and Judy Howard at 281-419-4354 or email them at sjcjhoward@sbcglobal.net. Or you can contact Treva Allen at 936-597-7065.

poinsettias

Poinsettias will again be purchased and placed around the Altar for our Christmas Eve Services. They will be purchased from Bridgewood Farms, a charitable organization providing a home and workplace for mentally challenged teens and adults. The cost of a 10" plant will be \$20.

As in the past, we will have a display in the Fellowship Hall for you to sign up. Be sure to include a designated memorial notation. You will be able to pick up your plant(s) following the 11:00 pm service Christmas Eve, or the following Sunday.

caroling, cocoa, and cookies!

Come one, come all to a fun evening of sharing the joy we feel at Christmas! Meet at the church on Sunday, December 20 at 6:30 pm and join in on singing Christmas praise. We'll sing together as a group "as a community to the community" in the neighborhood across from the church.

Sign up at the Faith Formation table so that we may reserve some cocoa and cookies for you! Please contact Vicky Roberts for more information at 281-367-7016. All are invited!

come to bethlehem is now on sunday morning sunday, december 13 9:30 – 11:30 am

"A shoot will spring forth from the stump of Jesse, and a branch out of his roots."
Isaiah 11:1.

At Christmas we celebrate the result of Isaiah's prophecy, Jesus. This year "Come to Bethlehem" will focus around this prophecy and celebrate using the Jesse Tree. Be involved in activities involving the Jesse Tree, pay your taxes to the Census taker with some Divinity coins from Lutheran World Relief, visit the animals of the stable (including our friend Clyde the Camel), and make sure you watch out for the Roman soldiers and other Biblical characters. Join us for this beloved family activity. All people big and small are welcome to enjoy the celebration!

Please note the time change for this event from the afternoon to Sunday morning.

This event is successful due to the people who volunteer their time. Please contact Vicky Roberts at 281-367-7016 ext.117 for information on how you can help.

children's involvement with advent and christmas eve

Due to the transitions this year, a Christmas Pageant will not be held. However, your child has the opportunity to participate in our December 6 worship and our 4:00 Christmas Eve worship service. If you are interested in having your child participate in the December 6 worship, please have them attend the Wednesday night music practices on November 18 and December 2.

Please watch bulletins and e-mailers for more information concerning Christmas Eve.

sunday school calendar

There will be no children/youth Sunday School on Sunday, November 29 due to the Thanksgiving weekend. Classes will resume the following week.

On December 13, families are welcome to tour the Come to Bethlehem activities in lieu of children and youth Sunday School. Classes will end for the semester on Sunday, December 20. The winter/spring semester will begin January 10.

When You Thought No One Was Looking

A staff member received a phone call one Sunday from a man whose sister (living in the area) was in need of help. She was having surgery and was alone as her husband was serving in the military in Iraq. Pastor Nancy and our hospital visitation staff immediately took her under their wing and visited and kept in touch with her, making sure she was all right. She is out of the hospital now, and came to one of our church services recently to personally thank Pastor Nancy and all those who cared for and saw her through a very rough time. Her husband was so touched by this gesture of kindness, that he is now volunteering his time with the Chaplain of his unit. Now this, friends, is what it's really all about...people caring for each other.

fellowship opportunities

Men's Ministry The Men's Breakfast meets the 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month at 7:30 am.

BUNCO meets the 1st Tuesday of every month at 7:00 pm. Contact Beth Kuper for more information.

Lunch Bunch meets the 1st Wednesday of each month at local restaurants.

Senior Sages meets the 1st Thursday of each month. Join us on December 3

prayer opportunities

Prayer Ministry Did you know that nearly everyday those who are on the LOL prayer list are lifted up by a member of Lord of Life's Prayer Ministry team? Please sign up if you are interested in joining.

hospital visitation ministry

If you know you are going to be hospitalized, please let the church know so you will receive a visit from one of our pastors and or a church member. Please email Jeanne Lawson if you are interested in joining this ministry. nickelwoman@aol.com.

opportunities to serve

Be an Office Angel: Do you have a morning or afternoon free during the week? Consider volunteering your time in the office answering phones and greeting guests as they come in. Contact Kathy Greer for more information 281-367-7016 or kgreer@lordoflifeonline.org.

Sound Room Volunteers: We provide audio support for all of the Sunday services plus many other scheduled events. Experience is not necessary - we will train you! Contact Gary Williamson at 281 376-4120 or email at gwmnbw@yahoo.com.

Acolytes: All 2nd through 6th graders are welcome to participate in this program. Contact Becky Havill at 281-681-1732 or rshavill@att.net if you are interested.

Worship Assistants/Deacons: Contact Elizabeth McPherson at 281-298-2845 or rivershark@yahoo.com if you would like to be a Communion Assistant or Deacon at the 8:30 or 11:00 am services.

outreach ministry

Hug-a-bears workshop meets the fourth Thursday, of each month at 9:30 am in the Resource Room upstairs. Help us make bears to warm the hearts of patients at Woodlands Memorial Hospital and Community Clinic.

Rachel's Remnants meets the 2nd and 3rd Thursday of each month. Join us as we tie beautiful quilts for Lutheran World Relief. Contact RuthAnn Wietstruck at 281-367-2150.

Knitting Group meets the 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month at 10:00 am. Please join us.

Prayers & Squares meets the 2nd Thursday of each month from 7:00 to 8:30 pm upstairs in the Resource Room.

nursery workers needed

We are in need of someone willing to work part-time for our nursery. This is a paid position. Times are weekdays, evenings and Sundays. If you are interested in finding out more about how you can work with our youngest Lutherans call Debbie Fraga @ 936-321-1787 or 936-203=2648.

meaningful christmas gifts

Are you looking for a valuable, meaningful gift for the children, teens, and adults on your Christmas list? Have you ever considered a small investment in the ELCA Mission Investment Fund?

Investments for children under 16, MissionFuture4Kidz, require only a \$50 initial investment. Our investments for older teens and adults (MissionPlus or MissionTermSelect) require only a \$100 investment. Your loved one will own the investment and earn interest on it, even

while the investment is helping ELCA congregations build, renovate or expand their facilities.

And guess what? Even parents and grandparents, aunts and uncles might enjoy a meaningful investment like that! For more information on gifts that support mission and the ones we love, visit the Fund's website at www.elca.org/mif, or contact Pastor Carol E. Spencer at Carol.Spencer@elca.org, 817.927.3239, or call (toll free) 1.877.886.3522.

kids of the kingdom

November was a great month at KOK. We collected coins to purchase an animal from God's Global Barnyard and canned goods to donate to Interfaith's Food Bank during our Thanksgiving Chapel.

In December we will be celebrating the birth of our Savior. Our special Christmas chapel will include collecting gifts for babies. We will donate these to the Pregnancy Assistance Center. We will also rejoice the birth of baby Jesus by singing for the Senior Sages during their Christmas party.

May God bless all of you this during this special holiday season.

2009 giving as of november 15:

Budget:	\$1,002,355
Expenses To Date:	\$ 898,033
Receipts To Date:	\$ 820,200
Average Attendance:	422



outreach ministry

Christmas gifts sign-ups are in progress! Opportunities are:

- (1) Adopt-a-Family and Adopt-a-Senior gifts through Interfaith;
- (2) International Seafarers (boxes filled with simple toiletries, etc.);
- (3) Global Barnyard (An ELCA program similar to Heifer International (but a much higher percentage of gifts get to the poor families). Again, this is buying an animal made easy (no feeding crating, etc.!!) for a poor family across the globe. A simple gift. 1 goat is LIFE-CHANGING! And, a family who receives this wonderful gift, in turn, may well "gift" a neighbor with a kid (not a child!) to help them. What an incredible gift to give and so easy!!

This year, a simple commemorative ornament will be given for each donation (a larger ornament, designed by Colleen Bourgeois, will be given for gifts of \$25 or more). This is to hang on the tree to remember giving an amazing gift, as we have been given at Christmas with Christ's birth.

Gebert Mission Fund gifts given are:

Peru (ILEP synod) towards salary for our sister church, Filadefia, (Rev. Adida Perez total yearly salary is \$4,000)	\$ 1,500
Lutheran World Relief	\$ 500
The Hinderlies (missionaries in Kenya)	\$ 2,000
Montgomery County Youth Services	\$ 2,500
Bethlehem Luth. Church-New Orleans*	\$ 1,000
Resurrection Lutheran Church*	\$ 500
Houston Internatioal Seafarers	\$ 500
The Korean Luth. Church*	\$ 500
Home for Hope (shelter for victims of Human trafficking)	\$ 500
Silver Linings (A Spirit of Joy! ministry that works with disabled children)	<u>\$ 500</u>
	\$10,000

* These organizations were lifted up to us, by Rev. Kerry Nelson, Director of Evangelical Ministry for the synod. He has a close connection with theses churches.

Building Fund gifts:

Community Clinic	\$ 1,000
Lutheran Soc. Services-Krause Children's Home	<u>\$ 1,000</u>
	\$ 2,000

How blessed we are to be able to give to others!!

our family

Your cards, calls, prayers, and expressions of sympathy during the illness and death of my mother were greatly appreciated.

Lanette Jackson

Tree of Life Lutheran Church in Conroe would like our help for their pastor's family. Pastor Chris Lake and his wife, Katherine are facing the open-heart surgery on their 6 year old son Ben, scheduled November 29. They are asking for our prayers inviting us to a Prayer Service on Tuesday, November 24 at 7:00 pm. Contact Diana Stigleman for more information 936-756-5416.

A LoveShare account has been established to help the family offset the considerable out-of-pocket expense. If you care to contribute, please contact the church or make a check out to Tree of Life with a LoveShare notation on your check. Any amount you can share will be a blessing and lighten a serious burden.

Global Market Fair Trade Sale

Saturday, December 5 from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm and Sunday, December 6 from 9:00 am - 4:00 pm will be held here at Lord of Life. This IS a ministry! It is NOT a fund raiser. The purpose is to get money to the indigent farmers and artisans who then proudly can support their families. In addition, 7.5% of the value of all the handcrafts sold is given to Lutheran World Relief, an amazing organization that is helps greatly with disaster relief. This is good on so many levels. And, you get to shop for unique items!!

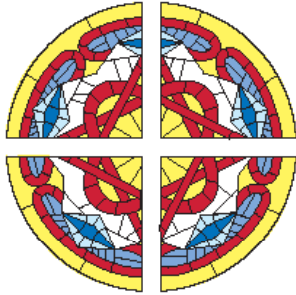


"Not by charity or by sympathy, but through hard work and integrity we shall strive for our dignity."

Lord of Life Lutheran Church
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The Woodlands TX 77381
www.lordoflifeonline.org

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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Lord of Life Lutheran Church

281-367-7016

Fax 281-363-4716

www.lordoflifeonline.org

lol@lordoflifeonline.org

Kids of the Kingdom Preschool

281-298-9901

*We invite you to join us for
worship on Sundays*

8:30 am	Contemporary Liturgical
9:45 am	Sunday School
9:50 am	New Life Worship
11:00 am	Traditional Worship
5:00 pm	Evening Worship

Your Church Staff

Rev. Cliff Akerman

Interim Senior Pastor

Rev. Nancy Simpson

Associate Pastor

Randy Partain

Director of Music & The Arts

Lanette Jackson

Director of Finance

Kathy Greer

Office Manager

Beth Goetting

Director of Ministry in Daily Life

Vicky Roberts

Director of Christian Growth

Jennifer Seaks

Director of Teen Life

Anne Swetich

Director of Outreach Ministries

Debbie Fraga

Nursery Coordinator

Randa Martin

Preschool Director

Brad Fludgate

Building Superintendent

Rev. CharlesKindsvatter

Rev. Don Gebert

Pastors Emeriti