

LIFELINES

of LORD OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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August 2020

News and Happenings for Lord of Life

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At the end of July, a few of our families got their children together for a day of VBS. Our theme was “More than conquerors” based off Romans 8:37 which says, “We are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.” The children seemed to have a really good time singing songs, learning Scripture, doing crafts and, of course, the playground was a huge hit.



A Roman soldier even showed up to help make the point!



“No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Romans 8:37-39

Many thanks are owed to Scott Peters and Vicki Frinsko for their work in making this happen.

Speaking of, (and this is long overdue!) our Facilities and Property guy, Scott Peters, has been very active around the church keeping busy throughout the pandemic. In late March and Early April, he painted the narthex and parish hall. [See below]



And more recently, he has been rearranging the classrooms and getting them ready for many new guests. Scott and I, along with the Administrative Council and the Board of Properties, have been working out the details to arrange for two more homeschooling groups to meet at Lord of Life. Starting in August, in addition to the Classical Conversations [CC] group that has met here on Thursdays for the past several years, we will also be hosting the Plano Area Texas Homeschoolers [PATH] on Mondays and an additional CC group will be here on Tuesdays. All of these groups are earnestly Christian, and while not specifically Lutheran, they teach a Biblical worldview and operate well within traditional Christian framework. In other words, we will be providing space for a lot of devout Christian families working to educate and pass on the faith to their children. There also happen to be a number of Lutherans in the group and even some members of our own congregation have their children in one of the schools.

It is a very good and pleasing thing to see our facilities and especially our classrooms and playground all get put to good use in service of the Gospel for the next generation of Christians. Scott and I have also been given permission to lead opening devotions for the children during the school year. This will give us an opportunity to have a relationship with these groups that is beyond simply that of a "Landlord." Please pray that this new endeavor will be a blessing to many.

PrS



Colossians

Wednesdays at 7:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/76276632786?pwd=RytLUFVoUGRWQUw0MkVdLzlk2dERqdz09>

prepare for worship in august

Sunday, August 2: Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Texts: Isa. 55:1-5; Rom. 9:1-13; Matt. 14:13-21
Hymn of the Day: "O Living Bread from Heaven,"
642

Sunday, August 9: Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Texts: Job 38:4-18; Rom. 10:5-17; Matt. 14:22-33
Hymn of the Day: "Eternal Father, Strong to Save,"
717

Sunday, August 16: Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Texts: Isa. 56:6-8; Rom. 11:1-2a, 13-15, 28-32;
Matt. 15:21-28

Hymn of the Day: "When in the Hour of Deepest
Need," 615

Sunday, August 23: Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Texts: Isa. 51:1-6; Rom. 11:33-12:8; Matt. 16:13-20
Hymn of the Day: "Built on the Rock," 645

Sunday, Aug 30: Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Texts: Jer. 15:15-21; Rom. 12:9-21; Matt. 16:21-28
Hymn of the Day: "Hail, Thou Once Despised
Jesus," 531

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



“My Lord and my God”

These are the words that Thomas used in John 20:28 to acknowledge Jesus when he was confronted with the proof of Jesus resurrection that he'd previously demanded.

It occurred to me recently to consider Thomas' use of both the terms Lord and God to refer to Jesus in his confession of faith. What meaning did he intend to convey by using both of these terms? And, what do they mean to us?

While Thomas' declaration was the first time that a disciple directly referred to Jesus as God, we know from the testimony of scripture that all of the Apostles understood and proclaimed this truth thereafter.

Our catechism and the Creeds also affirm from scripture that Jesus is both God and man, and we understand that it is only because of His divinity that He was able to keep the Law for us and that His death for us served as propitiation (payment) for our sins.

In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. 1 John 4:9-10



This understanding of Jesus as God made flesh is profound and fundamental to our understanding of the Gospel.

The idea of Jesus as Lord is also familiar to us, as we use the word Lord often within the church (e.g., “The Lord’s Supper” and “The Lord’s Prayer”, etc.).

However, outside of the church, that word – which means master – is not commonly used in contemporary settings. In fact, the words lord or master may evoke images of feudalism or domestic service or slavery, which are at best antiquated and at worst offensive.

In Jesus' time, the term lord would likely have been understood in terms of the (essentially) despotic system under which they lived. In those days, one's lord (master) had

absolute authority over his subjects. Jesus acknowledged this title of Lord, but he had a different idea of how it would be applied.

Why do you call me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do what I tell you?

Luke 6:46

You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. John 13:13

You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise

authority over them. It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many. Matthew 20:25b-28

Thus, Jesus, as our Lord, acts as both our master and our servant – and He calls on us to serve others in His name.

Therefore, with Thomas, we do well when we proclaim that Jesus is both our God (by which He has the power and right to save us) and our Lord (in that we submit ourselves wholly to His care and to His service).

In Christ,

Mike Kunschke

LWML Texas District

2020–2022 Mission Grants

Mission Grants	Amount
Scholarships for Seminarians — Texas District LCMS	\$40,000
Mercy Meals — Orphan Grain Train	\$5,000
DCE Scholarships — Concordia University Texas	\$24,000
Blessings and Bibles — Lutheran Disaster Care	\$15,000
Lutheran Student Center Improvements — Lubbock	\$20,000
Urban Base Camp Outreach — Camp Lone Star	\$15,000
Creating a Network of Hope — Driving Hope of Texas	\$20,000
Let the Little Children Come — St. Paul, Dallas	\$20,000
E-Kids After School Program — Expansion Ministries, Inc.	\$20,000
Laundry Love — St. Paul, San Antonio	\$12,000
Reaching Immigrants and Refugees — Multi-Ethnic Ministry of North Texas	\$10,084
Translating LWML Bible Studies — WORDrus	\$9,243
Total (includes mission abundance of \$10,327 from 2018-2020)	\$210,327



We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek (Hebrews 6:19-20).

Check Out the Renewed Nursery

Kaitlyn Hacker chose to update our nursery for her Girl Scout Silver Award project. Read about it below in her own words.

Lord of Life Lutheran Church Nursery Update

Let's all be honest with ourselves- church nurseries are where old toys go to die. My name is Kaitlyn Hacker and I'm a 14 year old Girl Scout Cadette from Troop 2439 which is the Girl Scout troop who regularly meets at the church on Wednesday afternoons (at least pre-COVID). I just recently finished my Girl Silver Award! For my Silver Award I decided to revamp the church's nursery. You're probably wondering



why I decided upon this for my project. I wanted to make a difference for current and future families, and honestly, the nursery was not in great shape. There were several things in the nursery that really needed some love, and one of those things were the walls! The walls had not had a fresh coat of paint in over 16 years! I know that because my mother, Dixie Hacker, actually helped paint the walls way back then, when my brothers Ethan and Garrett were still young enough to be using it. The original wall color was a pale green and had a strip of wallpaper with a bunch of animals stretching around the wall; so knowing this I decided to paint the walls two colors in order to match the

wallpaper strip! Another thing done was to give everything in the room a nice deep cleaning. We went through and scrubbed EVERYTHING thoroughly and any soft toys I brought home and washed in the washing machine. Another thing we did was go through the toys and look for any that were broken/old, and I replaced those old and broken toys with brand new toys! You might be wondering how I paid for those toys and supplies; I funded my project with my own personal savings that I have saved up though yard mowing and babysitting. Of course none of this would have been possible without help and I would like to especially thank Scott Peters for giving me ideas, donating painting supplies, and helping with the painting. It was greatly appreciated! I would also like to thank the three Cadettes from my troop who contributed



hours of help cleaning and painting. Now that the nursery has been given a complete face lift with new toys, a new design, and several new features, I hope the church nursery will be able to give all the littles and their parents happy memories from church.



AUGUST

Birthdays & Anniversaries

1 Brian & Devrie Hahn (40)	8 Tony & Nevelle Vess (61)	18 Josephine Barnes
2 Travis Bennett	10 Jim Hampton	18 Christine Messinger
2 Debbie Olsen	12 Carol Ozlowski	18 Kevin Tyler
2 Leo Parrent	13 Earl Lund	22 Matt & Sarah Sims (22)
2 Carol Read	13 Rachel Ozlowski	25 Brian & Gail Wolf (41)
3 Shannon Nuschler	14 Dixie Hacker	28 Joanne Benner
4 Doug & Kathy Hite (19)	14 Phaedra Shaltanis	28 Braydon LaPlante
5 Sherri Kunschke	16 Robert Duff	28 Bill & Charis Bennett (43)
5 Jeff & Kara Prescott (25)	16 Joanne Keeney	29 Jan Carper
6 Cathleen Ott	16 Mike Paradise	30 Doug Hite
7 Scott Peters	16 Audrey Thiel	30 Tom Read
7 Rob & Amy Reinert (21)	17 Duffy & Cindy Carter (24)	
8 Trent & Jackie Barnes (5)	17 Tim & Carol Ozlowski (29)	

SUMMARIZED STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

6 Months Ending June 2020

	Y-T-D Operating Funds	Y-T-D Budget	Variance	Jan-Dec 20 Budget
Contributions				
Regular Offerings	\$270,016	\$279,884	(\$9,867)	586,549
Other	\$1,208	\$0	\$1,208	0
Total Income	<u>\$271,224</u>	<u>\$279,884</u>	<u>(\$8,659)</u>	<u>586,549</u>
Expenses				
Operating Expenses	\$249,924	\$277,945	(\$28,021)	\$552,379
Mortgage (P&I)	\$23,174	\$17,046	\$6,128	\$34,092
Total Expenses	<u>\$273,098</u>	<u>\$294,991</u>	<u>(\$21,893)</u>	<u>\$586,471</u>
Surplus or (Deficit)	(\$1,874)	(\$15,108)	\$13,234	\$78
Other Information:				
Operating Fund Balance	\$95,779			
Restricted Funds Balance	\$126,087			
Building Loan Balance	\$208,631			