

LIFELINES

of

LORD OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Plano, Texas

March 2023

Some updates for March:

Lutheran High School of Kansas City, Choir Concert, March 12, 7:00 PM

Well, once again, your generosity has surprised and encouraged me. In last month's newsletter I mentioned that we needed church families to host high school students from Lutheran High School in Kansas City. The response was excellent and I am happy to report that enough of you volunteered so that we have housing for nearly the entire choir. Thank you! Whether you are hosting students or not, I hope you will join us on Sunday, March 12 at 7:00 PM to hear the students perform. I recently had the opportunity to attend another Lutheran High school choir concert and I was pleasantly surprised at how good it was and how much I enjoyed the experience. There is something unique and wonderful about the sound of a large choir. The music selections were also spiritually edifying and my hope is that the Kansas City choir will likewise share some beautiful sacred music with us.

New Books

I am always adding new additions to our library whenever Concordia Publishing House releases something valuable and I did so again recently. *Eternal Anthems* is a collection of short single-page explanations of "your favorite hymns." There are two volumes of *Eternal Anthems*, and both are now available at Church.

Another addition is the new *Luther's Large Catechism with Annotations and Contemporary Applications*. This large and beautiful volume (it is over 700 pages!) had some controversy surrounding its release. The book contains dozens of short articles by various Lutheran theologians writing on the different themes in *Luther's Large Catechism* (The 10 Commandments, Apostle's Creed, The Lord's Prayer, etc.) Though the book passed Concordia's strict doctrinal review, the president of the LCMS, Matthew Harrison, went so far as to pause distribution until he had time to look into the matter personally. Ultimately, he found no cause for alarm. At least one member expressed some concern over the matter and spoke with me about it. You can decide for yourself if some of the material makes you uncomfortable, though I suspect what you will find instead are a series of thoughtful and insightful articles challenging you to think about *Luther's Large Catechism* from a more contemporary perspective.

(The Catechism and both *Eternal Anthems* are on display on the credenza near the office area entrance.)

And speaking of big, beautiful books... Concordia just released a large print edition of the *Lutheran Service Book*. If your old eyes are failing and you would like a little help seeing the hymns, we just

purchased three new copies of this book and they are available in the narthex for you to use. Only, be warned, you may need assistance lifting these massive books! Each page of the hymnal is now legal sized (11" x 14") and while this makes it very easy to see, it may be a little challenging to carry! As they say: all solutions breed new problems.

Debt Reduction

Thank you to all who have contributed so much to our debt reduction. The end is in sight and, Lord willing, we are going to retire our debt in just a few months. If you haven't contributed anything to this effort and would like to do so, the time is now. Special offering envelopes marked "Debt Reduction" are available in the narthex.

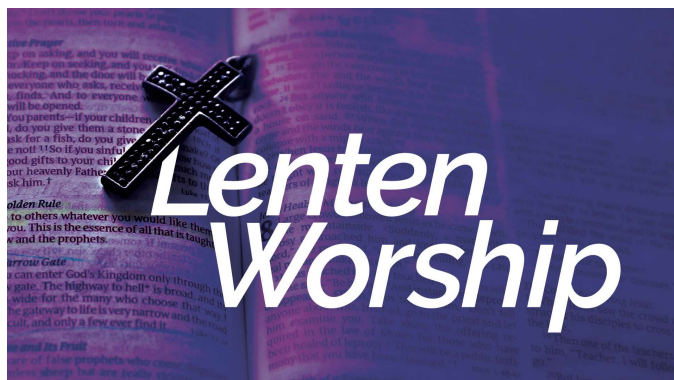
English District Update

Last month a letter was sent to the Texas District Board of Directors formally requesting that they transfer us to the English District. The letter was several pages long and laid out our reasons for the request and the tone was very irenic. Representing the Board of Elders and the Church Administrative Council, the letter was signed by Mike Kunschke, Charles Hacker, and me. We are waiting to hear from them and will report it to you when we have their response. In the meantime, I heard from Bishop Hardy of the English District that their Board of Directors met and agreed that they will receive Lord of Life into the English District once the Texas District Board of Directors agrees to release us.

PrS

Reducing Our Debt UPDATE

Note Balance 2/20/2022	\$148,208
Principal Paid since 2/20/2022	\$102,605
Note Balance 2/28/2023	\$45,603



prepare for worship in march

Mar. 5: Second Sunday in Lent

Texts: Gen. 12:1-9; Rom. 4:1-8, 13-17; John 3:1-17
Hymn of the Day: "Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart," 708

Mar. 8: Midweek

Faith (Abraham and Isaac: Genesis 22:1-18)

Mar. 12: Third Sunday in Lent

Texts: Ex. 17:1-7; Rom. 5:1-8; John 4:5-26 (27-30, 39-42)

Hymn of the Day: "May God Bestow on Us His Grace," 823

Mar. 15 Midweek

Repentance (The Repentance of Nineveh: Jonah 3:1-10)

Mar. 19: Fourth Sunday in Lent

Texts Is. 42:14-21; Eph. 5:8-14; John 9:1-41 or John 9:1-7, 13-17, 34-39

Hymn of the Day: "God Loved the World So That he Gave," 571

Mar. 22: Midweek

Purification (The Three Men in the Fiery Furnace: Daniel 3:1-30)

Mar. 26: Fifth Sunday in Lent

Texts: Ezek. 37:1-14; Rom. 8:1-11; John 11:1-45 (46-53) or John 11:17-27, 38-53

Hymn of the Day: "My Song Is Love Unknown," 430

Mar. 29: Midweek

Salvation (The Crossing of the Red Sea: Exodus 14:10-15:1)

Teen Times

Thank you everyone who helped make our Valentine's fundraiser such an overwhelming success. We didn't expect to meet half of our goal with cookies. Your generosity shows that Lord of Life truly does care well for the youth of our congregation! Our next fundraiser, a St. Patrick's Day Dinner Party is sure get us fully funded for our trip to Higher Things this summer along with our other events. It's going to be a fun time as well – you won't want to miss it. Check out the menu below.



LWML Dal North Zone Event

Saturday, April 15, 2023

9:30 am Registration Opens

\$10 includes lunch

RSVP by Monday, April 3

lwml@log.org or (972) 219-6874

Gathering items for

Our Daily Bread in Denton:

Bottled water	Cotton swabs
Deodorant	Large garbage bags
Cough drops	Paper towels
Toilet paper	Napkins
Ziploc bags	
Gift cards for Wal-Mart and Target	

Scripture Markers

Using new, rescued, and recycled paper, attendees will create a bookmark inspired by our conference Bible verse.

Presenter: Elasha Edwards

Very Vary Vintage, owner

Lamb of God, member

Serve the Lord with Gladness

1 PETER 4:10

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.

LAMB OF GOD LUTHERAN CHURCH

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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
- † Will meet Sat., March 11 at 6:30 PM for Bible study

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



MARCH BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Tammi Chumbley
- 2 Barbara Sinclair
- 3 Sam Ziegelbein
- 7 Caroline Loewecke
- 9 Karen Ashburn
- 9 Joanna Smith
- 9 Bob & Linda Hixson (55)
- 10 Tom & Carol Read (44)
- 13 Pastor Joel Shaltanis
- 14 Shelby Lund
- 16 Russ & Brooke Wilkerson (21)
- 18 Greg Kostrzewa
- 19 Steven & Sara Tweedie (11)
- 23 Charles Gabriel
- 25 Steven Tweedie
- 27 Mark Ziegelbein
- 29 Cheryl Tyler
- 29 Alex & Catherine Duff (15)
- 30 Nevelle Vess

CELEBRATE THE LORD OF THE NATIONS WITH LWML IN MILWAUKEE — June 22–25, 2023. Come to the 40th Biennial LWML Convention and serve the Lord with gladness!



Lord of Life Lutheran Church
Summarized Statement of Activity
1 Month Ending January 31, 2023

	Y-T-D Operating Funds	Y-T-D Budget	Variance	Jan-Dec 2023 Budget
Contributions				
Regular Offerings	51,005	53,861	(2,856)	580,202
Other	0	0	0	0
Total Income	51,005	53,861	(2,856)	580,202
Expenses				
Benevolences	3,553	3,770	(217)	40,614
Elders	32,817	32,192	625	411,841
Education	0	50	(50)	1,000
Outreach	0	50	(50)	600
Office Expenses	181	695	(514)	12,090
Utilities	3,706	2,870	836	37,185
Property Maintenance	2,088	1,520	568	37,740
Stewardship	0	0	0	350
Family Ministries	1,705	150	1,555	5,290
Youth Board	2,151	2,200	(49)	6,600
Children's Ministry	390	500	(110)	6,000
Admin Council	192	200	(8)	2,600
Total Operating Expense	46,783	44,197	2,586	561,910
Mortgage Payment	1,573	1,573	0	18,876
Total Expenses	48,356	45,770	2,586	580,786
Surplus or (Deficit)	2,649	8,091	(5,442)	(584)
Other Information:				
Operating Fund Balance	\$157,261			
Restricted Funds Balance	\$119,473			
Building Loan Balance	\$51,979			