

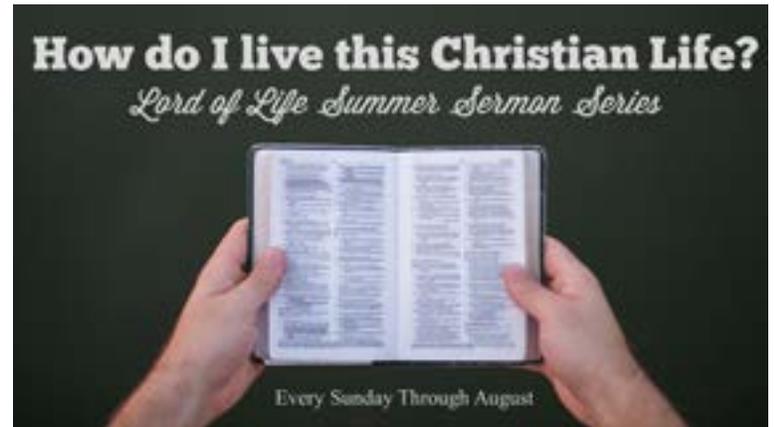
Lifeline

Growing together in faith,
centered in Christ,
serving God's world with love.

June 21st, 2017

As you are making your summer plans be sure to include worship at Lord of Life!

We encourage you to invite family, friends, and neighbors as we take time to explore current life issues and how we can apply the truths of scripture to those issues. Each month we'll encounter a different mini-series that will all seek to help of answer the question: *How do I live this Christian Life?*



June - What Would Jesus Do? Living a Life of Integrity

The “WWJD” bracelets may have come and gone with the 90’s but the question remains central to our Christian life. This 4-week series will look at stories about and told by Jesus to help us think of practical ways to live our lives following Jesus. What do we do when we are angry or when we want to celebrate? How do we follow Jesus when we are faced with seemingly impossible decisions?

July - The Peace that Passes Understanding: How can I have peace in such unpeaceful times?

We are living in divided times. Some of us have cut ourselves off from community and even family because we feel that peace is unobtainable. But as followers of Jesus we are called to be in community and to seek peace with one another. How do we strive for peace in a world that pushes anger and division?

August - Operation True Hope!

After talking about “What Would Jesus Do?” and “How to Have Peace” we want to end this summer by encouraging all of us to look for true hope. Too often we place our hope in false idols or we have given up hope all together. But scripture promises that “hope will not disappoint us because God’s love has been poured out upon us.” So what should we hope in and for? How do we find true hope?

For more information about each series visit online at LordofLifeOnline.org or talk to one of the pastors. We can’t wait to see you in worship this summer at Lord of Life!



Grace and Peace,
Pastor Gary



Groundbreaking Ceremony at Lord of Life.
Story on pg 2.

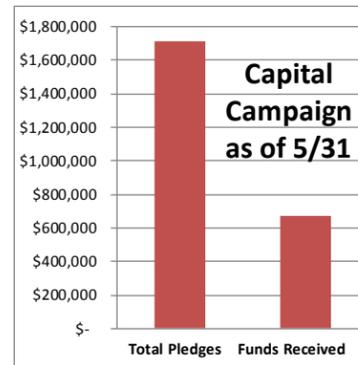


Campaign Update

Year Two of Welcome One Another is off and running!

The beginning of construction on the Welcome Center is the culmination of an amazing Year One of the three-year Welcome One Another capital campaign. Behind the excitement of the groundbreaking celebration was the hard work of dozens of Lord of Life members who have diligently met for months to review round table comments, meet with architects, pour over design plans, and communicate the campaign's progress with their fellow members. But all that hard work would be meaningless without the support of our congregation, and that support has been amazing! Financial contributions submitted for Year One were 15 percent above the amount originally forecast. That support has been integral to the success of the campaign, and it is only getting stronger as we begin Year Two. As of the first week of June, Lord of Life members have contributed 39 percent of the amount pledged in the first third of the campaign. Many thanks to all of you who have honored your pledges! We are off to a great start for Year Two!

If you would like to honor your pledge, or if you were not able to participate during Year One of the campaign, please go to LOLOnline.org/capital-campaign-how-to-give/



“Welcome one another therefore, as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.” Romans 15:7

With those words, Lord of Life broke ground for our new Welcome Center. What a Spirit-filled celebration it was, with global music and representatives of all generations wielding the shovel. Included in the groundbreaking were our three remaining Charter members - Willard and Linda Fischer and Laura Stovall, who launched Lord of Life 47 years ago. We owe special thanks to the Welcome One Another Committee, and to Austin Hunt and our choir and musicians, who led empowering worship at all three services.

This first phase of construction is scheduled to be completed by the end of October, in time for our celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation.

Read the Woodlands Villager article about our Welcome One Another construction project by clicking or going to goo.gl/nQwvWv

A big thank you to Dan Kaldor and Bobby Blair!

Dan Kaldor and Bobby Blair have been co-chairing the Property and Technology Committee for over 10 years, and as they step down we express our gratitude to them for their countless hours of coordinating, supervising, and hands-on efforts to keep our property and our building operational.

Thanks, Dan and Bobby. We love and appreciate you both.



A note from Pastor David

Going Somewhere?

Wherever we go, we need community!

Here's an interesting fact: According to the U.S. Census bureau the average American will move 11.7 times in their lifetime. If the average lifespan for an American citizen is 79 years (according to World Bank statistics) then we are moving every 6.75 years. Most of the moves in our life will occur between 22 and 40 years old. So in that age group it is reasonable to assume that people are moving every 3-4 years.



Why is that interesting? It's not just because I'm one of those people between 22 and 40. And it's not just because my family has relocated to 5 different homes in the last 6 years (the life of a seminary student!). This information should be interesting to us because experts in community building say that it takes an average of 4 years for a new person to become fully invested in a community. So, that means that if we imagine the Johnson family (Dad- age 32; Mom- age 34; child- age 6; child- age 3) starts attending Lord of Life this Sunday, they might not be fully invested in the community until the year 2021. And in that amount of time they may well move 1 or 2 more times! The question that we then need to face is this: How do we equip anyone that walks through our door to create community wherever they are? If the Johnson's are only here for 2-3 years before moving to Austin or Tokyo, we want to make sure that they are immersed in community while they are among us and that they are equipped to create community when they leave.

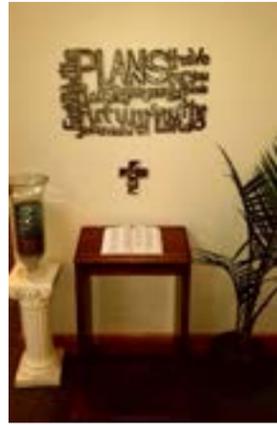
When we live out our mission to “grow together in faith” in this way the reach of Lord of Life expands around the world! When the Johnsons arrive in Tokyo they will be equipped to build a community for their family because they experienced true community here at Lord of Life! Mini-communities, within our congregation, such as the Ladies' Bible Study, the Mom's Bible Study, the Men's Breakfast, Hug-a-Bears, Hospital Visitation Team, and the Altar Guild are all incredible communities that care for us but also train us up to be people who create community everywhere we go. So, for the next several months, watch this little corner of the Lifeline for tips on building and becoming community! Because community doesn't just happen, it takes effort, desire, and risk. But the payoff is a love and a joy that can bring about transformation that we would never expect!

Twenty-two kids confirmed their faith May 21 here at Lord of Life.





Congregational Life



Prayer Stations

In need of a quiet place to pray or just focus your thoughts and heart on Jesus? Please consider using one of the 3 prayer stations your Lord of Life Liturgical Arts team has created within the Sanctuary. These are available weekdays from 8:30am to 4:30pm and Sundays prior and after all 3 services.

Please let us know if you find these stations to be helpful to you as you walk in faith with our Risen Lord.

Lord of Life's Bunco group will not be meeting during June, July or August. If you have any questions, please call Holly Jo Deltgen 860-823-0864.

Synod News: Volunteer with the ELCA Youth Gathering

Would you like to volunteer at the national gathering in Houston and help our young people grow in faith and encounter Christ? Serving the youth of this church is a vocational calling that requires careful discernment. There are four volunteer categories:

- Community Life
- Gathering Volunteer Corps (GVC)
- Servant Companions
- Local Volunteers

Applications opened on May 15 and close on July 15. Please prayerfully discern this opportunity.

Elca.org/YouthGathering/registration/volunteer-opportunities

Adult Education Opportunities on Sundays at Lord of Life

Bible, Christianity & You Sunday School Class - FEARLESS CONVERSATION. 13 lessons exploring "How Can We Be Fully Faithful When We're Fully Flawed? We will study 1-2 Samuel, 1 Chronicles and Psalms and our topics will consider among them, "Is it okay to complain to God in prayer?" and "What's my story in God's eyes?" All are invited to join us upstairs in Room 21 (Library) on Sundays at 9:45.

Old Testament Study with Amy Jill Levine - Rm 23 upstairs. Lead by Mark Ruch.

The Common Table

A social ministry for adults age 55+ in conjunction with Trinity Episcopal next door. Join us the 3rd Tuesday of the month for happy/social hours. 5-7 pm.

July Summer Gathering "9 to 5" Musical at Owen Theater . Carpool available upon request. Group price is \$17 and must be paid in advance to reserve your seats. Reserve your group ticket under the name "Sandy DeSelms". Questions or to RSVP, Sandy DeSelms 281-323-8465.

During the special congregational meeting on May 7, 2017,

a budget for mold remediation and rebuild with a 10% contingency was approved. Adding the budgeted amount to our current mortgage was also approved. Finally, it was approved that should the additional 10% contingency be required, it would be funded through Welcome One Another campaign funds.



Worship & The Arts

Director of Worship and the Arts - Rev. Tamara Fincher tfincher@lordoflifeonline.org

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice... Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:4, 6-7

We have been having absolutely wonderful times of celebration all this past Easter season, concluding with Pentecost and the groundbreaking for the new Welcome Center. What amazing and awe-inspiring worship – with bells and children and dancers and musicians – and through it all the Spirit blowing wild and free. We rejoice at what has already come into being and what is still to come.

The construction is really on the move and so is the Spirit!

Where we used to have glass allowing us to take in creation, we now have walls blocking us from construction. But watch these walls – the Spirit is at work in and through us. We will have three collaborative artworks in process for the summer. Each work will focus on one of the themes of our summer sermon series. Leave your mark (literally) as the Spirit moves you.



CALLING ALL ARTISTS:

We are seeking artworks to be displayed around the building during construction on the following themes: Peace, Hope, Welcome and/or Reformation. We will begin accepting work to be displayed for 3-4 weeks at a time beginning July 2. Please bring your submission to the office, attention Tammy Fincher, Director of Worship & the Arts.

We are settling in to the real nitty-gritty of renovation. Our "traffic" pattern has changed with our main doors closed and everyone coming in through Kids of the Kingdom or the "back door". We will become used to the sounds of construction and the dust flying. We may even begin to be tired of it all and ready for the work to be finished.

What would Jesus do? Rejoice, pray, give thanks and receive the peace of God. Have hope. This too will pass. Or as Julian of Norwich said, "All shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of thing shall be well."

8:30/11am Choir is off for the summer. Choir practice will resume August 1.

Lord of Life is seeking bass player for Sunday morning worship band. Must be able to attend Tuesday night rehearsals, Sunday morning performance and pass audition and background check. Pay is \$75/week. Email resume to TFincher@LordofLifeOnline.org.

Altar Guild

Have you ever wondered how it happens that every Sunday, at every service, the table is set for us to take communion together? Have you ever wondered who prepares the bread for every service? How do the paraments get changed from green to red or white to purple? It is the work of a very dedicated group of people at Lord of life.

Every week there are two teams of two assigned to see that the table is ready. Each team may serve 5-6 times a year, but they are dedicated and predictable. Arlynne Nickell currently heads this team and is looking for people who would like to join this team. There will be training in January and you will learn how it's done, and why it is done. You will serve with a team member who will get you through the first few times you serve. It is not difficult, but important, and predictable. Yes, we oversee the candles and many little details that happen from time to time. Please consider joining this dedicated group of servants at Lord of Life. If interested, call Arlynne Nickell at 832-331-2550.

Children's Ministries

Visit our website for more information about our Children's Ministry LordofLifeOnline.org



A Note from Katie Phillips, Director of Children's Faith Formation: Summer has started! Kids have been attending camps, parents are trying to keep their sanity and the Children's Faith Formation team is in full planning mode. We are excited about our joint Vacation Bible School this summer with Spirit of Joy! Lutheran Church and have more exciting things planned as we enter the fall. I invite you to spend some time in prayer with the Children's Faith Formation Team. Please pray over our ministry, that God will move through us to help our children grow in the love and faith of Jesus. Please pray that God

speaks to the hearts of our church members as we continue to find adults to volunteer to work with and mentor our children. Lastly, please pray for all of our children, that they are safe this summer and are reminded daily, of God's love for them. Wishing all of our families a wonderful summer!

Teen Life Ministries

A Note of Thanks

"Mrs. Kirsten and Mr. Phil,

Thank you for coming in every week to Sunday School with a smile on your faces no matter what may have been going on in your life. Your teaching has not only been guidance, but mentorship that has taught me so much and allowed me to grow as a person as well as in my faith in Christ. You have showed me that beauty comes from the heart, love conquers all prejudice, and faith is not just something you have, but something you can hold onto in times of troubles as well of times of joy. You have given me hope by proving that it is okay to be imperfect, okay to have doubts, okay to fall, because in all times you are never alone. Every day I stepped into that room, I knew I would, without fail, laugh and learn with a loving group that soon became my second family. You never ceased to extend your hand out to us, giving us support in times of trials and tribulations. This knowledge that you have given me has changed many aspects of my life, and I would not be the person I am today without your teachings. Thank you for teaching me that waffles and spaghetti have more in common than you might think, but it's good that they are different. Thank you for spending ceaseless hours with us to not only teach but create bonding relationships with every single one of us. Thank you for giving me tools to go out and witness, as we were called to do. Thank you for shining your light as an example for me; I can never thank you enough for all you have given me.

Jill Bohnet

7th-8th Graders

Annual Confirmation Mini-Mission Trip will be August 6th – 9th right here at Lord of Life. We will be serving several local organizations and dealing with the needs in our own backyard. We will be staying here at Lord of Life. Cost is \$50. To sign up or for questions, contact Patrick at pnazaroff@lordoflifeonline.org

See more Youth updates at LOLonline.org/teen-life-ministry/



Outreach Ministries

Thanks to all who came to celebrate the 4th year of the Hands of Faith store. With a brief reading presented by Pastor David, focus was placed on why we do this—"to help our neighbors, that we have not met yet." It also is a reminder that, without Fair Trade, many women would fall prey to human trafficking. Thank you for your support!

Needle Arts at Lord of Life

Stitches of Love: Knitting and Crochet every Saturday at 9:30 in the library upstairs. Judy Frappier cell 936-443-0678 or judyannefrappier@gmail.com. Join our Facebook group [LOL Stitches of Love](https://www.facebook.com/LOLStitchesofLove).



Upbring Golf Houston 2017: Benefitting Krause Children's Center at BlackHorse Golf Club MONDAY, JUNE 26, 2017 Register now at birdeasepro.com/UGH2017

Flat Martin Luther (and members of Lord of Life) are touring Germany to follow Martin Luther's footsteps during the Reformation. Look for more pictures on Facebook and our website.



7th Annual Lord of Life Men's Retreat

Follow Me: Servant Leadership July 14-16, 2017 at Lake Livingston. All Lord of Life men and their guests over 21 years of age are welcome. You may sign up outside the Fellowship Hall or online at LOLOnline.org/mens-retreat. Please contact Danny Craft (713)899-4730 or Mark Torrison (713)410-4145 with any questions!



Want to contribute? We now have an App for that!

Download GivePlus Church for free from the Apple App Store or Google Play. Simply search for "GivePlus Church" to quickly find and download the app. You can easily make donations directly from your smartphone using your debit/credit card and/or checking/savings account. Search for Lord of Life among the list of churches (be sure to pick the right one!)

You can also choose to donate as a guest, use your existing online giving email and password or set up a new account that allows you to securely and conveniently make a one time contribution, buy tickets to an event or schedule recurring

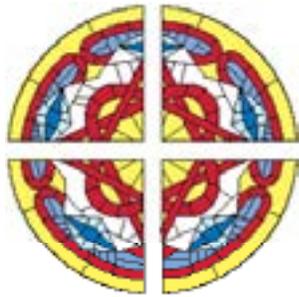
donations. You can still use existing online and text giving capabilities if you prefer. We hope you enjoy this new way to contribute to our ministry, and thank you for your support.

Lord of Life Lutheran Church

3801 South Panther Creek Dr.

The Woodlands TX 77381

www.LordofLifeOnline.org



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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www.LordofLifeOnline.org

email us at 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 Worship
9:45 am	Sunday School for all Ages
9:50 am	New Life Worship
11:00 am	Traditional Worship

Your Church Staff

Rev. Gary Heath

Senior Pastor

Rev. David Bauser

Associate Pastor

Tammy Fincher

Director of Worship & The Arts

Rob Hunt

Organist/Choirmaster

Lanette Jackson

Director of Finance

Marna Arlien

Director of Communications

Patrick Nazaroff

Director of Teen Life Ministry

Anne Swetich

Director of Outreach Ministries

Austin Hunt

Music Associate

Katie Phillips

Children & Youth Music

Sarah Schlacks

Bells of Life Director

Steve Shirley

Building Superintendent

Cindy Maxwell

Director of Connecting Ministries

Nancy Hauglie

Wedding Coordinator

Sandy DeSelms

Funeral Coordinator

Rick Janacek

Office & Communication Manager

Michelle McGuire

KOK Preschool Direct



The Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod
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God's work. Our hands.

A network of growing, Christ-centered, authentically-trusted congregations
passing the faith to the next generation.