

# LIFELINES

of

## LORD OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Phone: (972) 867-5588

Fax: (972) 985-5588

Internet Home Page: <http://planolutheran.com>

Vol. 32, No. 10

Plano, Texas

October 2018

### Good News: Christ has defeated death.

I have had the occasion to think and talk a lot about death lately; more importantly, I have had the opportunity to proclaim the hope we have in Christ to the dying and to the grieving.

Longtime member of Lord of Life, Mavis Anderson, ended her long struggle with dementia and was called home on Wednesday Oct. 3rd. Her funeral will be on the 13th at 11:00. Mavis died the same day of Lauvenia Barry's funeral. Lauvenia died suddenly on Friday September 28th. Her death came as a complete shock. She was not sick or hospitalized, she was shopping with her daughter at a CVS pharmacy. She left her daughter at the register to get one more item, and was found a moment later lying on the floor. At this time Bob Nance and Barbara Botello are on hospice care and both Bob and Barbara, as well as their spouses, (Carol and Luis) would appreciate your prayers. Other members are also in poor and declining health dealing with all kinds of issues, and several are in their 80's and 90's and not getting any younger. No doubt, I will soon be speaking the same words of comfort to a different group of mourners.

When coming to terms with the death of a loved one, our faith in Christ and the hope we have on

St. Paul writes in Romans 4, 25 as follows: "Christ was delivered up for our trespasses, and was raised for our justification." Paul is indeed the man who extols Christ in a masterly manner, telling us exactly why and for what purpose he suffered and how we should conform ourselves to his sufferings, namely, that he died for our sins. This is a correct interpretation of the sufferings of Christ, by which we may profit. And as it is not sufficient to know and believe that Christ has died, so it will not suffice to know and believe that he rose with a transfigured body and is now in a state of joy and blessedness, no longer subject to mortality, for all this would profit me nothing or very little. But when I come to understand the fact that all the works God does in Christ are done for me, nay, they are bestowed upon and given to me, the effect of his resurrection being that I also will arise and live with him; that will cause me to rejoice. This must be brought home to our

account of His resurrection and victory over death, becomes much more palpable and profound than merely some historical truth we have acknowledged mechanically while reciting the creed. Martin Luther spoke in these terms about the resurrection of Christ, saying it is not merely some truth confessed with our mouths, but felt in our hearts. Below are some of Luther's comforting words regarding death and what Christ has done for us, cited from one of his Easter sermons. I commend them to your reading as I have recently commended so many similar words to the dying and the grieving. May these Gospel words comfort you and remind you of the simple, but profound truth at the heart of the Christian faith.

PrS



## prepare for worship in october

### Sunday, Oct. 7: Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Texts: Gen. 2:18-25; Heb. 2:1-13; Mark 10:2-16

Hymn of the Day: "Our Father, by Whose Name," 863

### Sunday, Oct. 14: Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

Texts: Amos 5:6-7, 10-15; Heb. 3:12-19; Mark 10:17-22

Hymn of the Day: "Thee Will I Love, My Strength, My Tower," 694

### Sunday, Oct. 21: Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost

Texts: Ecc. 5:10-20; Heb. 4, Mark 10:23-31

Hymn of the Day: "Hope of the World," 690

### Sunday, Oct. 28: Reformation Day

Texts: Rev. 14:6-7; Rom. 3:19-28; John 8:31-36 or Matt. 11:12-19

Hymn of the Day: "Salvation unto Us Has Come," 555

hearts, and we must not merely hear it with the ears of our body nor merely confess it with our mouth. ...

This is the meaning of the words by St. Paul: "Christ was raised for our justification." Here Paul turns my eyes away from my sins and directs them to Christ, for if I look at my sins, they will destroy me. Therefore I must look unto Christ who has taken my sins upon himself, crushed the head of the serpent and become the blessing. Now they no longer burden my conscience, but rest upon Christ, whom they desire to destroy. Let us see how they treat him. They hurl him to the ground and kill him. O God; where is now my Christ and my Saviour? But then God appears, delivers Christ and makes him alive; and not only does he make him alive, but he translates him into heaven and lets him rule over all. What has now become of sin? There it lies under his feet. If I then cling to this, I have a cheerful conscience like Christ, because I am without sin. Now I can defy death, the devil, sin and hell to do me any harm. As I am a child of Adam, they can indeed accomplish it that I must die. But since Christ has taken my sins upon himself, has died for them, has suffered himself to be slain on account of my sins, they can no longer harm me; for Christ is too strong for them, they cannot keep him, he breaks forth and overpowers them, ascends into heaven takes sin and sorrow captive, and rules there over all throughout eternity. Now I have a clear conscience, am joyful and happy and am no longer afraid of this tyrant, for Christ has taken my sins away from me and made them his own. But they cannot remain upon him; what then becomes of them? They must disappear and be destroyed. This then is the effect of faith. He who believes that Christ has taken away our sin, is without sin, like Christ himself, and death, the devil and hell are vanquished as far as he is concerned and they can no longer harm him.

*Martin Luther. Sermon for Easter Sunday on Mark 16:1-8 Complete Sermons of Martin Luther ed. Nicolas Lenker, Baker Books Reprint Edition, 2000.*

**October 2018 ELDER Monthly Newsletter**

**I receive the Lutheran Hour Devotion just about every day. As I review the daily devotions I think about the many ways I connect in my daily life. I hope you will find a way to connect too in your daily life. We are indeed blessed to have a Savior that 'stands with us' and 'loves us' UNCONDITIONALLY.**

**Your Elder, Tom Read**

**Daily Devotion** *(From Lutheran Hour Ministries)...*

*Psalm 116:4-7 Then I called on the Name of the Lord: "O Lord, I pray, deliver my soul!" Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; our God is merciful. The Lord preserves the simple; when I was brought low, He saved me. Return, O my soul, to your rest; for the Lord has dealt bountifully with you.*

"Mom! Mom! Are you there? Mom!"

I ran out of my room at the top of our rather steep second-story steps to the sound of mounting panic in my five-year-old son's voice. This time he was attempting to slide down the banister that is fixed only a few inches from the wall and had gotten his leg stuck. He had one remaining toe holding him on the step and nowhere to go but down!

Despite images of what might have happened if I had not reached him in time, I couldn't help but laugh. This boy's insatiable desire to try life from every angle is one of my favorite things about him! And while I certainly have my crabby moments as his mother, I also delight to save him from danger and help him discover ways to experience life to its fullest.

In this psalm, David gives voice to his own experience of being rescued. He sings the praises of a son who, free to explore, has been pulled back from the edge by his parent's loving embrace. His testimony here bears witness to God as a gracious parent. This is the same God, our Heavenly Father, who spared not His own Son, but gave Him up for us all (see Romans 8:32).

Some of us never knew the security of loving earthly parents and are tempted to read this passage with the old fear and shame experienced when needing to be saved. Even those of us with great parents know that they (and all of us) fall woefully short of God's perfect parenting. So, it's easy to imagine God being grumpy, disappointed, and disapproving when we yet again need help.

But that's not the kind of God we have.

Zephaniah 3:17 says, "The Lord your God is in your midst, a Mighty One who will save; He will rejoice over you with gladness; He will quiet you by His love; He will exult over you with loud singing." This is not a begrudging God! This is a loving Father who delights, much as I did in that moment with my son, to intervene for our good.

What a joy to know that rather than berate us for our shortcomings and our failures, we have a Savior who is merciful, patient, and understanding of our weaknesses, because He has been like us.

As the writer of Hebrews says, "For surely it is not angels that He helps, but He helps the offspring of Abraham. Therefore, He had to be made like His brothers in every respect, so that He might become a merciful and faithful High Priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people" (Hebrews 2:16-17).

**THE PRAYER:** Dear Jesus, as the bumps and bruises of life tempt us to be silent in our troubles, please remind us to call out unashamed for Your salvation, again and again, knowing that You are for us -- *always*. In Your Name, Jesus, we pray. Amen.

***Blessings on your day!***



*For God, who said,  
"Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts  
to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God  
in the face of Jesus Christ.  
2 Corinthians 4:6*

## **LWML Dal-North Zone Event**

**Sunday, Oct. 21 - 3:00-6:00**

**Faith Lutheran Church**

**1701 E. Park Blvd. Plano, 75074**

**Registration begins at 2:30**

**Dinner served at 5:00**

**\$8 requested donation for dinner**

**No RSVP required**

**We hope you will attend and bring a friend**

**Guest speaker:**

**Nancy Cohen of Apple of His Eye Ministry**

**Boldly declaring Y'shua as Messiah to Jews and Gentiles**

**In-gathering: free-will offering for the  
Apple of His Eye Mission Society**



**God brought light out of darkness during creation.  
Christ, the light of the world, has shone the Gospel into our hearts.  
Today, the Gospel goes out to Jews, Gentiles and to all nations.**





# Open the Eyes of Your Heart

## A Multicultural Women's Event

**Saturday, October 13, 2018**

10 a.m. to 2 p.m., lunch included  
Registration & Coffee begins at 9:45

No RSVP required

**Our Redeemer Lutheran Church – Irving**  
2505 W. Northgate Drive, Irving, TX 75062

## Sponsored by the LWML Texas District Heart to Heart Sisters

**All women of the LCMS are invited to join in sisterly love to praise the God of all nations and in thanksgiving for our ethnic diversity and common love for our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.**

### Bible Study

Joyce Williams, Texas District Heart to Heart Sister

### Enrichment Speakers

Rev. Yohannes Mengsteab, Mission and Ministry Facilitator for LCMS  
Texas District Area B

and

Debbie Curry, President of the LWML Texas District

### Praise

Children from Africa and Latin America

### Lunch - Ethnic Food Fair

Cuisines from India, Ethiopia, Brazil,  
Mexico, Taiwan, Louisiana Cajun, Texas, and more

Questions contact: Mary Afsharirad  
214-226-0225 or mja8591@gmail.com

*I pray that the eyes of  
your heart may be  
enlightened in order that  
you may know the  
hope to which he has  
called you...*  
(Ephesians 1:18 NIV)

Sponsored by





# Teen Times



It is really amazing how many things teenagers are into these days. When I was growing up in Plano in the late 1970s and early 1980s (yes, I realize I just dated myself), there was a number of extracurricular activities that teens could be involved in. Most of them revolved around sports. Plano was an up and coming community with rapid growth in population and new businesses. New schools were being constructed and completed on an annual basis. This meant a lot of families with kids were moving to the area and the Plano Parks and Recreation Department could hardly keep up with the demand for practice and game space to accommodate all of the sporting activities. Of course there were the school sports teams for middle school aged kids and older, but it seemed like the number of participants in the recreational leagues was much greater. Part of the reason for this is the concept of private club teams had not been conceived back then. The three sports I mainly competed in were soccer, baseball, and basketball. But today, participating in sports is not the dominant activity for youth as it was thirty to forty years ago.

The lives of young people in the Jr. and Sr. IMPACT youth groups at Lord of Life are very busy with many different kinds of activities. Some of our families have multiple kids who are all heavily involved in one or more after-school events requiring parents to spend many hours on the road as taxis to multiple destinations. My wife and I only had two boys and we thought our lives were busy when they were teens! I have five words for those parents today; I am praying for you! Where am I going with this? Well, here are just a few things that the Jr. High and high school kids at Lord of Life are involved in.

Sports include football, baseball, soccer, volleyball, equestrian, cross-country, areal aerobics, drill team or cheerleading, and school sponsored fishing. There are six youth (boys and girls) involved in scout troops and 4 are working on their Eagle Scout projects. Music is a big part of their lives whereas 13 youth play instruments such as trumpet, French horn, saxophone, clarinet, violin, harp, bass drum, hand bells, organ, and piano. 3 are in school marching bands and one is a Drum Major. A few have participated in the Dallas Children's Chorus and some currently sing in their school choirs. I am sure that there could be more things added to this list that I am currently unaware of. What I am thankful for is that these youth (and you have to include the parents) commit to be involved in worship, Bible class, youth events, and fundraisers at Lord of Life. It is good that you live life to the fullest, but it is even greater to live your life to the glory of God. All of the talents, abilities, and gifts you are given come from him, just as the gift of salvation through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. In all of our endeavors we practice to be perfect, but the reality is we will never be perfect due to our sinful nature. We need forgiveness; the forgiveness only God can give through His Word and Sacraments in worship and study.

*"Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established." Proverbs 16:3*

Until next time, God Bless.

Scott Peters

*Thanks for all the prayers, cards, phone calls, and gifts. The love shown to Luis and me has been amazing.*

*Barbara Botello*

## Lord of Life IMPACT Youth Ministry



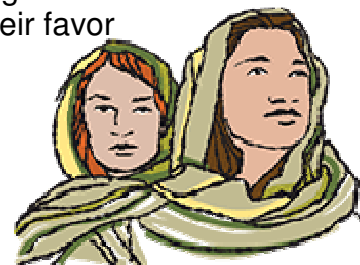
*Bring your donated items to church during the week of October 29 to November 2 and place them in the game room. (Room 121).*

*Proceeds will benefit the 2019 summer youth trips.*

### Bible Quiz

Though daughters weren't allowed to inherit property, some young women whose father had died appealed to the community's leaders to change the law in their favor — and it was done! Who were these women?

- A. Mary and Martha
- B. The daughters of Zelophehad
- C. Nympha, Sapphira, Claudia, Tabitha and Lydia
- D. Joanna, Susanna and Salome



Answer: B (See Numbers 27:1-11.)





- |    |                                |
|----|--------------------------------|
| 1  | Mike Paradise, III             |
| 3  | Frank Edelmann                 |
| 3  | Curtis Peters                  |
| 4  | Carolyn Schaub                 |
| 5  | Laura Isbell                   |
| 5  | Bill Pieper                    |
| 6  | Norma Martin                   |
| 6  | Gary Nuschler                  |
| 6  | Bennie & Paula Lowery (11)     |
| 7  | Georgianna Womak               |
| 9  | Susan Gromatzky                |
| 9  | Kathy Wilde                    |
| 10 | Rose Moore                     |
| 11 | Tim Ozlowski                   |
| 13 | Alex Ozlowski                  |
| 14 | Travis & Elisabeth Bennett (1) |
| 16 | Adam Buckmeier                 |
| 18 | Gay Stueckler                  |
| 18 | Al & Mollie Manning (43)       |
| 18 | Rueben & Bette Martin (32)     |
| 22 | Jean Spraez                    |
| 22 | Sal & Julz Cruz (7)            |
| 23 | Don & Paula Bunger (4)         |
| 24 | Elijah Isbell                  |
| 24 | Mike & Sherri Kunschke (31)    |
| 26 | Alvin Bryant                   |
| 30 | Ashley Sims                    |
| 31 | Ruth Bernhardt                 |
| 31 | Jonah Carter                   |
| 31 | Daniel Ozlowski                |

## 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](mailto:itsparadise.inplano@verizon.net)
- † Will meet on Sat. Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 PM

### EPIC PARENTING

- † For 30ish couples with kids
- † For info contact Ben Scarth [BenjaminScarth@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto:speters@planolutheran.com)
- † Will meet on Sun. Oct. 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM

### GOOD NEWS CARE GROUP

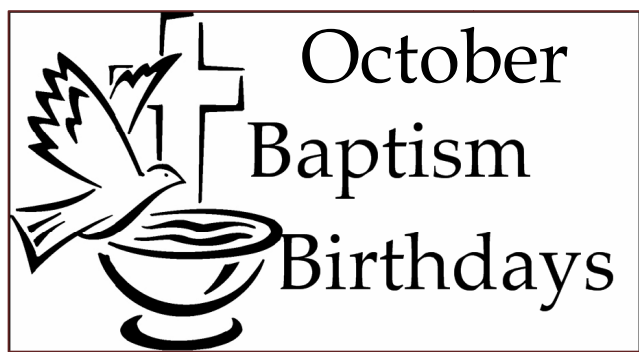
- † For info contact Chris Oltmann at (972) 727-6330 or Mike Kunschke at (847) 951-6974
- † Usually meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of each month at 6:30 PM for Bible study

### MIXED BLESSINGS

- † For info contact Fred and Ruth Bernhardt at (972) 398-0771
- † Will meet on Sat. Oct. 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM

### TWENTY SOMETHINGS

- † For couples and singles in their twenties
- † For info contact Pastor Shaltanis at [PastorShaltanis@yahoo.com](mailto:PastorShaltanis@yahoo.com)
- † The group is currently in transition, but has usually met on Sundays after late service



Josh Prescott 10-01-06



### LWML Celebration on Sunday October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018

The theme chosen for LWML Sunday 2018 is "Our Rest in a Changing World," from Psalm 62. LWML Sunday is celebrated annually in The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS) churches. Celebrate LWML Sunday on October 7, 2018 by wearing purple. Watch for more information about the LWML and becoming involved in reaching others with the love of our Lord, Jesus Christ.



## Serving in Worship in October

	October 7		October 14		October 21		October 28	
	8:00 AM	10:45 AM	8:00 AM	10:45 AM	8:00 AM	10:45 AM	8:00 AM	10:45 AM
<b>Elder</b>	Peters		Moudy		Read		Ziegelbein	
<b>Assist</b>	Lutek	Kunschke			Lutek	Moudy	Lutek	Hite
<b>Altar</b>	Nevelle Vess, Charis Bennett, and Lynda Abbott							
<b>Acolyte</b>	Sebastian	Nate	Kaitlyn	Mallia	Josh	Athan		Hayden
<b>Greeter</b>	Vess	Dorak	Schrank	Manning	Hampton	Bennett/Tyler	Vess	Abbott/Moore
<b>Sound</b>	Wilkerson	Pittson	Hacker	Hite	Moudy	Selvaraj	Wolf	Raj
<b>Usher</b>	Bunger Shaltanis Scarth	Ziegelbein E Hacker G Hacker C Hacker	Frinsko Read Paradise	Cruz Carter Moudy	Ozlowski Messinger Prescott	Berger Parish Oltmann	Schrank	Short Crabtree Buckmeier

## FINANCIAL REPORT

### January – August, 2018

		ACTUAL	BUDGET	VARIANCE
<b>RECEIPTS:</b>	<b>Regular Offerings</b>	\$384,439	\$403,080	(\$18,641)
	<b>Other</b>	\$133	\$0	\$133
	<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	\$384,572	\$403,080	(\$18,508)
	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	\$356,210	\$366,652	(\$10,442)
	<b>RECEIPTS OVER EXPENSES</b>	\$28,362	\$36,428	(\$8,066)

#### OTHER INFORMATION

1. General Operating Fund Balance	\$126,696
2. Dedicated Funds Balance	\$107,489
3. Building Note Balance	\$276,122

DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER ARTICLES IS THE 20TH — [lol.newsletter.editor@gmail.com](mailto:lol.newsletter.editor@gmail.com)