

The Lamp Lighter
February 2024
The Newsletter of Living Lord Lutheran Church
Real God. Real Faith. Real Life.

Mission Statement

As the body of the Living Lord, Jesus Christ, we seek to reflect and share God's grace, love, and forgiveness with one another near and far.

Vision Statement

We are a community of faith committed to strengthening faith, strengthening lives, strengthening relationships, strengthening families, and thus, strengthening the community into which God has placed us.

Living Lord Lutheran Church
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SUNDAY WORSHIP & SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 9:30 AM
ADULT FORUM AT 8:45 AM

From the President, Bob McKinney...I am still having trouble remembering to write the new year 2024 on stuff that I write. Well, we are starting a new year at Living Lord Lutheran Church. Your Council and I are ready to make this a great and fulfilling year. We hope to have a new pastor soon and will be working together on many ways of bringing in new members! We will start that process by having a Council Retreat in February to bounce ideas off each other for that purpose. I hope to be working with our Property Committee to suggest items around the church that need to be addressed in the new year, as well as all other Committee Chairpersons to continue our outreach into our community. I know I have said this before, but our church does a good job, with limited resources, to be as active as we are. If any member has any comments, suggestions, or concerns, please let me or any Council member know as we want your feedback. May your New Year be a happy and healthy one and may God bless you and your family.

Church Information...Please remember that you can obtain church information from the monthly Lamplighter Newsletter, the Constant Contact emails you receive, on the church website (www.lllc.org), on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/Living-Lord-Lutheran-Church-493806727349110/>), and postings on the church bulletin board. Church Council Meeting minutes are posted on the bulletin board and sent out via Constant Contact. We would like to see a better “open rate” when we send information to you via Constant Contact so that we know you are being informed of the activities that are occurring at the church. If you have any other suggestions on how best to reach out to our parishioners, please see a Council member.

From the Finance Committee, Treasurer Dave Henderson...The books are closed for December 2023. The receipts for December were \$9,322.55 and expenses were \$7,860.79, for a gain of \$1,461.76. For the year 2023, income was \$99,474.67 and expenses were \$102,186.66, for a loss of \$2,711.99 for the year. We ended the year in a lot better shape than our budget. We were forecasted for a loss of \$16,999.24 for 2023, but our giving exceeded budget. So, all in all, it was a good year financially. We will continue to have challenges with our budget in 2024.

From the Fellowship Committee Chairperson, Pam Gerbetz...We are looking forward to our Soup Suppers each Wednesday during Lent. Please sign up to bring a soup and join us for a bowl and a short message from our pastor. **February 18** is our regular Fellowship Sunday. I am recuperating, but my team is on duty so please plan on joining us after worship service for coffee and a treat or two. I wish to thank all donors, helpers, bakers, husbands, and friends for their support as I start my second year as Fellowship Chairperson. It has been my pleasure to serve my church and my God. I will be back on duty soon with everyone’s prayers. Thank you.

Monthly Women’s Breakfast...Please join us at our monthly breakfast at Vasilio’s in Cortland on the second Thursday (**Feb. 8**) of every month at 10:00 am. All are welcome!

From the In-Reach Committee Chairperson, Bonnie Sanzenbacher...First of all, I would like to wish all the members of Living Lord Lutheran Church a very Happy, Healthy, and Successful New Year. Second, I would like to thank my Committee members for their helping hands during the past year: Karen Bandy, Rose Baringer, and Jean Pfleiderer. You certainly made my job easy! Third, and most important to share, in December the Committee decided to give homemade cookies to our homebound members, along with a Christmas card signed by members of the congregation. Our volunteer cookie bakers were Karen Bandy, Rose Baringer, Audrey John, Jean Pfleiderer, Rita Tewksbary, Barb Wright, and me. Cookie containers and postage stamps were purchased from a monetary donation given by Sue Armstrong and Christmas cards were donated by Kitty Thompson. The containers of cookies, along with a card addressed to each of the homebound members, were placed on the narthex table on December 10 in hopes that a church member would take and deliver a container during the week. Mike and Chris Kowach, Don and Patty Smith, Kitty Thompson, Rich and Rose Baringer, Tom Lauka, and Barb Wright all volunteered to complete the delivery. The goal of spreading Christmas joy to our homebound members was reached and I want to sincerely thank all those named above for your time and especially for your caring concern for our homebound members.

Prayer Chain...The Prayer Chain of Living Lord Lutheran Church includes seven volunteer members. A Prayer Chain is simply a request that people join in prayer for others which deepens the power of prayer. If you would like to pray for others in our congregation and community who are ill, hospitalized, homebound, or have health issues, please contact Bonnie Sanzenbacher at 330-372-5103 for more information. The group could always use another “link”.

Camille Allen 330-503-1817
Karen Bandy 330-856-4835
Pam Boothe 740-395-3564

Karin McKinney 330-469-6083
Kitty Thompson 330-856-5996
Rosemarie Zavatsky 330-883-3267

From the Parish Education Committee Chairperson, Raymond Boothe...

Adult Forum... We have finished our study of Paul in our Adult Forum which begins at 8:45 am each Sunday. Our next study will be about Acts, which includes the adventures of Paul, Peter, and the other disciples. Please come to get your take-home goodies!

Sunday School... We have Sunday School for all ages every Sunday at 9:30 am.

From the Worship Committee Chairperson, Karin McKinney... On Ash Wednesday, February 14, 2024, Pastor Gerald Gammon will distribute ashes at 1:00 pm.

Soup Suppers & Lent Midweek Services... We will have Soup Suppers with Lent Midweek Services led by Pastor Gerald Gammon beginning on **Wednesday, February 21**, at 5:00 pm.

Thank you... Thank you for all you have done for us. We are truly blessed. The Monday Morning AA "One Day at a Time" Group

EVENTS IN FEBRUARY

Sunday, February 4, 10:30 am – Installation of Council

Wednesday, February 7, 10:00 am – Trustees Meeting in Pastor's Office

Sunday, February 11, 10:30 am – Council in Activity Room

Wednesday, February 14, 1:00 pm – Distribution of Ashes

Sunday, February 18, 10:30 am – Fellowship after Service/**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

Monday, February 19 – Presidents' Day/**OFFICE CLOSED**

Wednesday, February 21, 5:00 pm – Soup Supper & Lent Midweek Service

Wednesday, February 28, 5:00 pm – Soup Supper & Lent Midweek Service

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

7 = Larry John
8 = Frederick Peachman
12 = Rollie Walters
18 = Anthony Brounce
19 = Bill Dillon
23 = Frank Roberts
25 = Cynthia Griffin
28 = Bonnie Smith

Anniversaries

8 = Lauka, Tom & Pat
19 = Gerbetz, Ernest & Pamela
25 = Altieri, Tom & Darlene

