

The Lamp Lighter
March 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...Well this has been an interesting several weeks for Living Lord Lutheran Church. We hired our part-time pastor and I think everyone was excited about that and he preached his first Sunday and then all “heck” broke loose! You guys all know the rest of the story and now a decision must be made about our future. I guess you could say we have a few options, but in my mind, there is only one that really makes sense. I think our future is as an Independent Lutheran Church and I don’t take this statement lightly. But if you think about it, the ELCA is forcing our hand because our future with them will be limited, and you all know there will be no help finding a pastor. We have a pastor who is very excited to get back to us but cannot because of the Synod. Now let me say, this is my opinion as a member of Living Lord Lutheran Church. The Church Council has not yet made a decision nor is it ready to make a recommendation to the congregation. As far as I know, one will be coming before our **March 3 Special Congregation Meeting**. I am hoping we can come to a consensus at the meeting so we can move forward. Prayer always helps in making these decisions and guiding us.

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 January 2024. The receipts for January were \$10,730.76 and expenses were \$7,898.77, for a gain of \$2,831.99. Year to date numbers are the same as January’s monthly. We will continue to have challenges with our budget in 2024 as we have lost some significant income in the loss of some of our members during 2023. Let’s try and keep current on our pledges during 2024.

From the 60th Anniversary Committee Chairperson, Barb Wright...

Keep the Bell Ringing...Hello Living Lord Lutheran Church congregation! This is your 60th Anniversary Committee hoping you are enjoying reading the 60 years of history of Living Lord Lutheran Church each Sunday in your bulletins. We have had a brilliant internal and community-wide 60 years of contributing. Let’s all thank the Lord, previous, and current members for our accomplishments and services. We are destined to continue. The 60th Anniversary Luncheon of Living Lord Lutheran Church will be held on **Sunday, April 14, 2024**, at 1:00 pm at Ciminero’s in Niles, Ohio. Your invitation will be mailed on February 29, 2024, and your response **must be returned by March 24, 2024**. Please watch your mail as we must have your reply by March 24, 2024! Please...by **March 24, 2024**. God has been with us and we are grateful for his many blessings to us over the years. May we continue to serve and receive forgiveness and love through his grace. Keep the Bell Ringing!

From the Fellowship Committee Chairperson, Pam Gerbetz...Lent is here and our Soup Suppers and Lent Midweek Services have begun. Please plan on joining us each Wednesday at 5:00 pm during Lent for a bowl of soup and a Lenten message. If you can bring a soup, please sign up in the narthex. We need two soups each Wednesday and crackers or bread.

Fellowship Sunday...March 17 will be Fellowship Sunday. I hope to be back to my duties soon, so I hope you mark your calendar and plan on joining us after our service.

Monthly Women’s Breakfast...Please join us at our monthly breakfast at Vasilio’s in Cortland on the second Thursday (**March 14**) of every month at 10:00 am. All are welcome!

60th Anniversary Celebration...Our 60th Anniversary preparations are moving along for **April 14** at Ciminero’s Banquet Center in Niles. This is an important milestone in our journey as a church. Please join us to celebrate with a gathering and luncheon.

From the In-Reach Committee Chairperson, Bonnie Sanzenbacher...

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 Outreach Committee, Volunteers Pam Boothe and Donna Wright...

Easter Food Baskets...As we still do not have an Outreach Committee Chairperson, Pam Boothe and Donna Wright have volunteered to lead the Easter Food Basket collection, which began on Sunday, February 25. The last day to bring in items will be **Sunday, March 17**. A chart will be in the hallway for items to bring. If you know anyone in the church or anyone in the community in need, please call or email the Parish Office (330-856-5302 or secretary@lllc.org) to order your food basket by **Friday, March 8**. We will pack and distribute the baskets on **Sunday, March 24**, immediately after the worship service. No deliveries. There will be envelopes for monetary donations at the food chart in the hallway. Please mark "Easter Food Baskets" in the memo portion of your check made payable to Living Lord Lutheran Church. You may also place your check in the collection plate. If you have any questions, please contact the Parish Office.

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

Adult Forum...The Adult Forum begins at 8:45 am each Sunday. We are studying Acts. Please join us to receive your Acts study guide.

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

From the Worship Committee Chairperson, Nancy Walters...

Soup Suppers & Lent Midweek Services...We are hosting Soup Suppers with Lent Midweek Services every Wednesday during Lent at 5:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Lent Boxes...Please return your Lent Boxes on **Palm Sunday, March 24**. Contributions will go to Camp Frederick's Grief Camp.

Holy Week Schedule

Sun., March 24 – Palm Sunday Service at 9:30 am/Return Lent Boxes
Thurs., March 28 – Maundy Thursday Service at 4:00 pm
Fri., March 29 – Good Friday Service at 4:00 pm
Sun., March 31 – Easter Sunday Service at 9:30 am

EVENTS IN MARCH

Sunday, March 3 – Lent 3/Special Congregation Meeting at 10:30 am

Wednesday, March 6, 5:00 pm – Lent Soup Supper & Midweek Service

Saturday, March 9 – Spring Ahead – Turn Clocks Ahead Before Going to Bed

Sunday, March 10 – Lent 4/Daylight Saving Time Begins/Council in Activity Room 10:30 am

Wednesday, March 13, 5:00 pm – Lent Soup Supper & Midweek Service

Sunday, March 17 – Lent 5/Fellowship after Service/St. Patrick’s Day/**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

Wednesday, March 20, 5:00 pm – Lent Soup Supper & Midweek Service

Sunday, March 24 – Palm Sunday/Return Lent Boxes/Pick up Easter Food Baskets/Deadline for 60th Anniversary RSVP

Thursday, March 28 – Maundy Thursday Worship Service at 4:00 pm

Friday, March 29 – Good Friday Worship Service at 4:00 pm

Sunday, March 31 – Easter Sunday

MARCH BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

- 2 = Karin McKinney
- 4 = Jean Pfleiderer & Donna Tompkins
- 6 = Drena Smith
- 9 = Ashley (Anderson) Rooks
- 12 = Rachel Gifford & Neal L’Amoureux
- 17 = Pat Gilmore
- 21 = Pat Lauka
- 24 = Jack Gilmore & Alberta Lucas
- 25 = Camille Allen
- 26 = Mike Milone
- 28 = Chuck Thompson
- 30 = Ruth Lewis & Barb Wright
- 31 = John Hinely, Jr.

Anniversaries

