

The Lamp Lighter
February 2025
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.

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SUNDAY WORSHIP & SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 9:30 AM
ADULT FORUM AT 8:45 AM

From the Pastor, Gerald Gammon...Ah February! A month of some of our coldest weather, but also the month of love as we celebrate Valentine's Day. Hearts, flowers, maybe even yummy chocolates, serve as symbols of affection and love. We celebrate with each other with special cards, trinkets, and sometimes sharing a special meal.

As a Christian, I sometimes find it odd that the symbol of the greatest love of all is often left out. The cross. Can you think of a greater expression of love than Jesus allowing himself to be crucified for our sake? And yet, the cross is rarely used as a symbol of love during the festive times of Valentine's Day.

Is it because we realize that we could not love as much as Jesus did? Is it because we feel inadequate in comparison? Or do we fail to recognize the cross as a symbol of great love? After all, it has probably never been explained to us as such.

We all have in our lives someone that we would willingly lay down our life for. Some of us may have more than one. Some of us would do so for our nation. But for the whole world? For people we do not even know? That's what Jesus did! He died for all! Surely that is love!

It is my prayer that we all come to recognize the cross as a symbol of true love. A love so great that it includes everyone and everything. And we, as Christians, following the command of our Lord Jesus, are to love one another as He loves us. So, let's pick up our crosses and love all those around us. Let us too become a symbol of true love, Christian love!

May the Lord bless you and keep you under His divine protection now and always,
Pastor Gerry

From the President, Bob McKinney...

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 2024. The receipts for 2024 were \$87,627.31 and expenses were \$87,428.08, for a gain of \$199.23 for the year 2024. We made it! We turned a slight profit for the year. Thanks to all of you at Living Lord Lutheran Church. Now, 2025 will be a very challenging year, so let's get ready!

From the In-Reach Committee Chairperson, Bonnie Sanzenbacher...As of January 31, 2025, my term of In-Reach Chairperson on Church Council will end. My time served in this position for the past two years has been very fulfilling. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my Committee members who served faithfully on the projects for our Homebound members: Karen Bandy, Rose Baringer, Jean Pfleiderer, and Barb Wright for volunteering every time to help deliver gifts to our Homebound. "Kudos" to the Prayer Chain gals who volunteered their time to pray for members and friends during all their health issues and/or with the passing of a loved one: Camille Allen, Karen Bandy, Pam Boothe, Karin McKinney, Kitty Thompson, Rose Zavatsky, and myself. We all know that there is power in prayer...and more is better! We must leave it to God to answer our prayers. Many of us are impatient thinking God doesn't hear us and will not answer, but God always answers! May God's blessings guide you, surround you, and give you peace now and always.

Thank you...Thank you for a wonderful Christmas! The Pastor's Purse was such a surprise! Thank you for your support. I look forward to our New Year together! Love & Prayers Always, Pastor Gerry

EVENTS IN FEBRUARY

Saturday, February 8, 9:00 am – Council Retreat in Fellowship Hall

Sunday, February 16 – Fellowship/**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

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

Anniversaries

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