



Fall is upon us! The days are getting shorter and the leaves on the trees have already begun to fall. I know because I crunched through them this week on my bike ride along the DuPage River Canal. In Plainfield, the farmers have cut the corn stalks and are preparing the ground for winter. I am enjoying the cooler nights and looking forward to bonfires and roasting marshmallows with my family in our backyard. Even the food on our table is changing! Nutmeg, cloves, and cinnamon take the place of dill, mint and cilantro in many of our recipes.

Typically in the Fall we think of harvest and bounty and give thanks for all the good things God has provided for us.

Lord of Life is entering into a time of harvest. You all have gone through the difficult work of discerning and calling me as the new pastor. I am very thankful for my new role and am excited to get to work. I can't help but think how liturgically appropriate it is to be called to a church in the autumn. It is a time of coming together, regathering for summer activities and travels, and giving thanks. The next few months I hope to do a lot of the Fall sorts of things: gathering, telling and listening to stories, giving thanks for how God has brought us together.

It is easy to get caught up in the excitement of everything that goes with the changing seasons and forget the effort to get here. Plants that grew our favorite Fall foods complete their life cycle and return to the earth to provide the nutrients for new plants. We owe a debt of gratitude for all the food those plants grew for us in the past, and for how they continue to help us to grow into the future with the nourishing gifts they have left behind. Similarly, we are blessed by all the faithful saints who came before us. I feel a debt of gratitude to Pastor Todd and to all those that Lord of Life has lost in recent months and years. They put in time and energy, loving and caring, helping to build the community we enjoy. Though they are not with us in the same way they once were, their stories and legacies live on in us and in our community.

I am honored to take part in this new season of harvest for Lord of Life. I look forward to preaching and administering the sacraments of bread and wine and water. The sacraments of communion and baptism are holy practices that remind us of our connectedness not only to our church community here and now, but to all the saints who have come before. The sacraments connect us to Jesus's death and resurrection. When we live into the covenant that Christ has made with all of us, to love each other unto death as Christ loved us, we share in the eternal life

and plentiful harvest of God's kingdom. As pastor of Lord of Life, it's in my joy to continue the growth you have already begun and to accompany you in our journey together.

May God bless us with the bounty of Heaven,
Pastor Adam

A Big Sunday School Thank You!

The church council would like to take this opportunity to thank Jeanette Zoldowski for her many years of service to our Christian Education Programs. Jeanette has given countless hours to organizing, teaching, supporting and doing a multitude of duties needed for the success of our Sunday School and Bible School programs. We thank her for being a wonderful Christian role model for so many children who have attended LOL programs over the years. Senior Spirits On September 16th



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THESE LOL MEMBERS

- October 4 Alina M.
- October 5 Carlie T.
- October 8 Manuel J.
- October 19 Ron M.
- October 26 Rosita Y.
- October 28 Benjamin J.



Our Senior Are Active

In September, **Senior Spirits** welcomed Officer Lauren from the Darien Police Department who provided **Seniors** with a very informative talk on current scams, car jackings and a rise in robberies in the area and the fact that we need to be ever vigilant of our surroundings and not to hesitate to call 911 if something seems suspicious.



Senior Spirits next meets on **Thursday, October 21st at noon in the Fellowship Hall.** We will host the LCC K-9 Comfort Dogs! The dogs are trained to interact with people of all ages and circumstances who are suffering and in need. The LCC K-9 Comfort Dogs serve every day in their community and are dispatched in times of disaster. LCC never charges those they serve, and they depend on donations to support their Ministry. Thank you to everyone who has generously donated during the month of September – your donations

will be given at this time. Bring your own lunch and beverage.

The Lunch Bunch meets again on Tuesday, October 12th at 11:30. We will gather at Steven's Restaurant, 2393 63rd St., in Woodridge. Please RSVP to Sue Tomaszek at (630) 964-0580 if you would like to attend.

LCW At Work

The LCW Committee extends its thanks to the Lord of Life family who demonstrated *Sharing God's Love* by providing an abundance of school supplies for the children at the Family Shelter in Downers Grove. The staff at the shelter were so very thankful for the wonderful contributions and indicated that the supplies were very much needed. It is gratifying to us all to be the hands doing God's work. Thanks to all of you who helped with this project."

God's Work Our Hands

The God's Work Our Hands for October is our annual Sock Collection. LoL has been supporting the Foot Care Clinic of the Church of Our Savior in Chicago for the past 6 years. The purpose of this clinic is to develop a relationship with the disenfranchised people on the streets. Persons attending the clinic receive foot care and general health assessment. Referrals are made to local clinics for free care. Our role is to provide new socks to the clinic participants. Winter is coming and warm, dry socks are essential for foot health. Have you ever walked in wet socks? Think of the discomfort if you wear wet socks day after day. We will collect the socks in the wooden box in the narthex during the month of October. Thank you for your past donations and we look forward to receiving new socks again this year for the clinic participants.





BLESS OUR PETS

Spread the word that October 17th is Lord of Life's famous pet blessing event. Pets will receive treats and a special personalized Pet Blessing certificate. And best of all, we will introduce Pastor Adam Dowd to our community. Tell your friends and neighbors today!

Council Highlights

- For the first time since the beginning of the pandemic LoL have exceeded 50 in person worshipers on a Sunday! Our online views continue to stay strong.
- Sherry Sejnost and Arlene Danielson will finish the inventory requirements to ensure a clean start for a new pastor.
- Kathy Clinton completed the “cleanup” of the rolls in the Shepherd's Staff software. This ensures that we have an accurate list of voting members.
- Council has approved keeping Matthew and Raymond on staff to clean the church on a permanent basis.
- The Pet Blessing was moved to October 17th.
- Council reviewed the priorities for the new pastor.
- The Mini golf outing was a huge success. We will be planning another outing for members soon.
- Sunday school has started with 4-5 children attending.
- Finance and PPP* - Donations continue to be weak. Expenses are down so the deficit is not as large as previous years. Paperwork has been completed for forgiveness for second PPP loan.
- The Property committee is working on painting outside and cleaning gutters.
- New Christmas, Advent and Easter banners have arrived.

A People of Hope: Until All Are Fed
An online benefit for ELCA World Hunger
When: Thursday, Oct. 14, 7:30 p.m. Central time
Where: Zoom webinar

Dear friend in Christ,
You're invited to join me and [Rick Steves](#), guidebook author and travel TV host, as we celebrate World Food Day!

This online benefit for [ELCA World Hunger](#) will feature interviews hosted by my friend, Rick, with people on the ground that are doing the dynamic work of fighting hunger around the world. Special guests include the Rev. David Beckmann, who is being honored for his lifelong service to end hunger; the Rev. Rebel Hurd; Willie and Anne Langdji; and the Rev. Rafael Malpica Padilla. There will also be special performances by Rachel Kurtz, Peter Mayer and the St. Olaf Choir. As a vital supporter of the church, we would love for you to join us as we hear compelling stories, listen to wonderful music and gather in fellowship to invest in this life-giving work.

As a church, we remain focused on supporting our neighbors near and far as the pandemic continues disrupting and impacting lives. At this event, you will learn about the ways ELCA World Hunger is responding. No one is better positioned and more experienced than the church in addressing hunger — both immediate needs and root solutions. We are ready, able, effective and efficient.

Together, we are a people of hope.
I Look forward to seeing you there!
In Christ,



Tithe Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton
Presiding Bishop

