



725 W. 75TH STREET DARIEN, IL 60561

Greetings from Ghana!

Alice and I arrived to a very warm welcome African greeting. Being here reminds me how alive and thriving the church is in the southern hemisphere. I hope to bring that spirit back with me!

There is a lot of good discussion about the troubles and difficulties facing the youth of Africa. One of the biggest problems is young people are disillusioned with participating in politics because they say all politicians are corrupt. I think this is true for many young people in the United States as well. Voting is one very important part of our civic duty, but it is not the only way we can work for change in the world. Jesus often held people in places in authority accountable by pointing out how they failed to care for those on the edges of society. Jesus also taught that our hope and salvation comes from God through helping and caring for our neighbors and family members in stories like the Good Samaritan in Luke 10.

Care for others is a foundational principle in many African cultures. They call it 'Ubuntu' which is an ancient African word meaning 'humanity to others'. It is often described as reminding us that 'I am what I am because of who we all are'. Africans have been able to endure many hardships because of their commitment to community. I am inspired by this communal care and wonder how we can continue to learn from our Christian siblings from the southern hemisphere.

As we move ever closer to Advent, I pray we embody the love for one another taught to us by our coming Lord and savior, Jesus Christ.



Jesus loves us so much that he left heaven behind that we might better understand what it means to care for each other even unto death.

Ubuntu,

Pastor Adam



Members from the United States delegation from the ELCA to the 1st All African Youth Congress

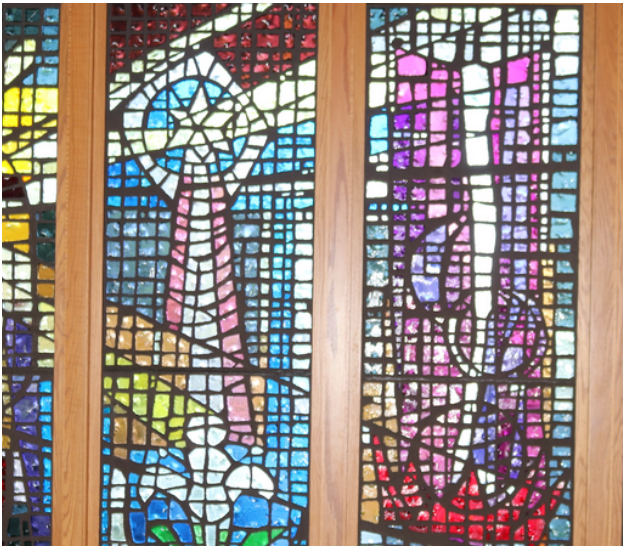
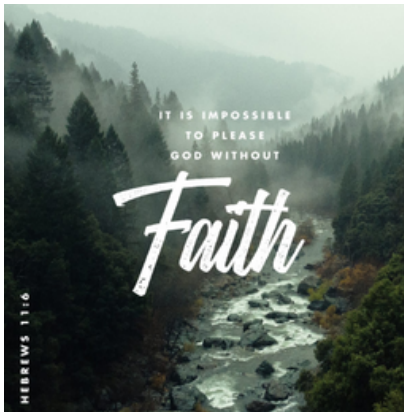


Photo Directory

The Church Council voted, at the October meeting, to engage a photography company, Unique Clear Solutions By Universal Church Directories, to make up a new directory with pictures of the members of LOL Church. Details will be forthcoming but in order to allow families to have portraits together, the process will be scheduled while school children and college students are free for Christmas break. Each individual or family that has a portrait taken will be given a free portrait and a free Directory. Roberta Sejnost and Connie Allekian have volunteered to be on a committee to work on scheduling. Anyone interested in participating is welcome to join the committee. Planning meetings will begin in November. The Council hopes that all of our membership and their families will take advantage of this opportunity. Please contact Roberta or Connie if you have any questions.



Advent Wreath Party

Come join Pastor Adam on November 18th at 7:00 PM. to make your own wreath. We will also learn about the history of the Advent Wreath. Make sure you sign up to let us know you are attending.



FISH Needs Help For Thanksgiving

FISH is serving more and more families and seniors every week. Last week 146 families came to the Pantry. Thanksgiving is approaching and while the FISH pantry has already obtained 150 frozen turkeys, they now need the rest of the food needed for a Happy Thanksgiving dinner. Lord of Life can do its part by providing the food items in the list below.

THANKSGIVING WISH LIST

StoveTop Stuffing mix

Chicken Broth

No salt canned corn

No salt canned carrots

Cranberry sauce

Instant mashed potatoes

Canned fruit (any kind)

Cookies

Collection begins immediately and ends on Sunday, November 20th.

Senior Spirits

On Thursday November 17th will meet and Arlene Danielson is going to have a Trivia game for us to play! We will continue with our Pot Luck luncheon starting at noon. Please bring your own beverage!

Remember everyone is welcome. Questions contact Marilyn Sells at 630-927-9996

Bags to Benches

We did it! We did it! Lord of Life and its friends and neighbors collected 500 plastic bags. And, our reward is a free "polylumber" bench from Trex in appreciation of our recycling efforts. Special thanks to Judy Padera who initiated the idea to get a bench for our playground and Sherry Sejnost who lugged the majority of the bags off to be weighed with help from Jon Silkaitis and Arlene Danielson.

Pet Blessing

Thank you to all the volunteers that helped make the Pet Blessing a success this year.

On October 2nd after the ten o'clock church service we had the Annual Blessing of Pets. Pastor Adam gave the outdoor service and afterwards Pastor & his dog BeBe went to each Pet and gave a special blessing. There were around 25 people, 14 dogs and 1 cat that attended. We gave out dog treats, (thank you Marilyn) & Judy supplied packaged cat treats and toys. Each pet was then presented with a special certificate of the blessing that Bobbie personalized.

A special thanks to Sherry who took pictures of the event, (that are posted on the bulletin board) and thank you to Arlene for advertising it in the Darien Connect that had an amazing number of people who viewed it.

"All creatures great and small the Lord God made them all".....James Herriot (author)

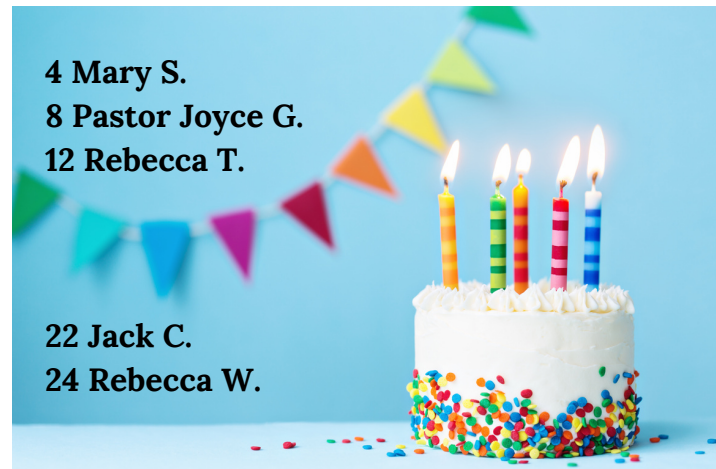
Carrie Navin Active Adults

Carrie Navin's from the Willowbrook Burr Ridge Active Adults program came and gave us information on all the activities that are available including Day Trips and other programs such as monthly Bingo. She passed out booklets listing everything available until the end of the year!



Lunch Bunch

This month we will meet at Copper's Hawk 510 Village Center Dr, Burr Ridge, on Tuesday, November 8th at 11:30 am. If you are interested in attending, please RSVP to Connie Ailekian at 630-986-9238.



Jesus found us
when we weren't looking for him.

Committee Reports

LCW – On September 11, 2022, the LCW hosted a church picnic following the church service. The committee provided hotdogs and buns and condiments and those in attendance supplied the pot-luck salads and desserts. The picnic was well attended, and we were blessed with the presence of the wonderful comfort dog, Jeremiah, who provided comfort to all of us. Thanks to Marilyn Sells for arranging to have Jeremiah with us. Even though the weather was rainy, we all enjoyed the picnic and fellowship.

Worship and Music Committee – The Committee met on Wednesday, September 13th. Judy updated us on the Altar Guild. Everything is going well with members going up for Communion at the Altar. We discussed the possibility of returning to Communion around the Altar but will hold off for now. Discussion regarding the Pet Blessing on October 2nd at 11:30. We'll use the old Banner out front to advertise. Dog treat bags and Cat treat bags will be handed out. Water bowls will be available. And Certificates will be given to the pet owners stating that their pet had been blessed with the date. The next meeting will be held on November 14th at 11:00 AM.

Lunch Bunch – Lunch Bunch was held on Tuesday September 13th at Public Landing Restaurant in Lockport. 14 people attended and a good time was had by all. Next month Lunch Bunch meets at Chuck's Southern BBQ in Darien on October 11th at 11:30 AM

RIC – The Reconciling In Christ committee, consisting of Pastor Adam, Toni Blesy, Sheila Ruh, Bobbie Sejnost and Sherry Sejnost, met on September 6th at 4:00 P.M. to further discuss RIC and Lord of Life's path to becoming a Reconciling In Christ church. Pastor Josh, from Gloria Dei and a member of the LGBTQIA+ community, provided much information and insight about the importance of welcoming and affirming all members of the LGBTQIA+ and answered questions committee members had. We develop Lord of Life's welcome message and continue the journey becoming a Reconciling In Christ church. The committee's next meeting is October 4th at 4:00 P.M. during which we will discuss the first 2 chapters of Rescuing Jesus. New members to the committee are welcome.

Finance – August donations were very good. The \$18,584 total is the highest August in the last ten years, exceeding a very weak 2021 (\$12,343) by \$6,240 and a weak 2020 (\$13,365) by \$5,219. August expenses (\$17,922) were higher than 2021 by \$1,912, but lower than 2020 by \$977. August operations generated a \$662 surplus. The year-to-date deficit decreased to \$36,039, the highest at the end of eight months not only in the last ten years, but in the last 20 years by more than \$6,000. At the end of eight months, 66.67% of the year, 64.4% of the budget was spent. Most categories that exceeded 64.4% were highly seasonal. However, it should be noted that in prior years the percent expended has been several percent lower than the completed portion of the year. Donations through August recorded in Shepherd's Staff agree in total and by fund with the financial records. No pass-through funds are overdrawn. Five on-line donations totaling \$375 were received by the last counters report date (08/29/22). There were no Thrivent donations (YTD there have been 3 Thrivent donations totaling \$222). The balance sheet remains strong. There is no long-term debt. Total assets have decreased by \$32,177 since 12/31/21. The decrease is due to the operational deficit. It should be noted that the exceptional deficit stems from reduced donations. Compared to August of 2013 with a slightly lower year-to-date expense, donations are nearly \$15,000 less and the deficit more than \$16,000 higher.

Property – The new water cooler has been received and will be installed this fall. Stephens Plumbing and Heating is still on track for the fall HVAC equipment check which will be on November 3rd. The sealing of the parking lot was completed on September 15th. Moving of the material from the southeast portion of the Sanctuary to the southwest room is complete. Repair of the rotted portions of the cross along 75th Street is in progress – completion expected by September 23rd. Pricing has been received for cleaning the carpet in the Fellowship Hall and Narthex. Pricing is more than we would like to spend (approximately \$1,600). Pastor will attempt a sample cleaning to see if the cleaning is practical to perform in house. Pastor Adam continues to work on the zoom cameras in the Sanctuary including the sound quality.

Council Highlights

- RIC continues to meet and invites others who are interested to attend the meetings on how LoL becomes an RIC church.
- Gutter cleaning is completed.
- Pastor Adam has gotten a library card for the church. They offer lots of activities and services at no cost. Great community service to utilize.
- Online service views continue to increase.
- Pastor Adam is working on planning an Advent wreath making event.
- Success clothing and sock collection that will be taken over to South Loop Community Table.
- Fish Food Collection – November collection. Stuffing, broth, no salt canned corn, carrots, cranberries, instant mashed potatoes, canned fruit and cookies.
- Connie and Bobbie will help to organize a church photo directory.
- Arlene will get a committee together to start planning for Santa Lucia.
- Election – November 8th. Will be using the building. Water and Snacks and Coffee. Should have brochures and Christmas and Advent services times.

Pictures Throughout the Month







2022 Council Members

Sherry Sejnost - Council President, Evangelism, Reconciling in Christ

Arlene Danielson - Council Vice President, Finance

Stacie Plzak - Council Secretary

Connie Allekian -LCW, Nominating

Aimee Jimenez - Christian Education

Art Kardatzke - Property

Debbie McNichols - Hospitality

Judy Padera - Children and Hunger

Roberta Sejnost - Vision Team / Reconciling in Christ

Marilynn Sells - Worship and Music

Marla Suda - Christian Education

Jan Treiback - Stewardship

Pastor Adam - Social Ministry



SUN 30	MON 31	TUE Nov 1	WED 2	THU 3	FRI 4	SAT 5
<div>All Saints Sunday</div> <div>10am Worship Ser</div> <div>11am Christian Ed</div> <div>2pm Loving Word</div>		<div>5:15pm OA</div> <div>7pm Troop 56</div>	<div>10am Bible Study</div> <div>7pm AA</div>		<div>9:30am Card Grou</div>	<div>9am SDA</div>
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
<div>10am Worship Ser</div> <div>11am Christian Ed</div> <div>2pm Loving Word</div>		<div>Election at LoL</div> <div>11:30am Lunch Bu</div> <div>5:15pm OA</div>	<div>10am Bible Study</div> <div>11am Hymn Pick C</div> <div>2pm Photo Directo</div> <div>7pm AA</div>		<div>9:30am Card Grou</div>	<div>9am SDA</div> <div>12:30pm SDA Lun</div>
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
<div>9am Santa Lucia N</div> <div>10am Worship Ser</div> <div>11am Christian Ed</div> <div>2pm Loving Word</div>	<div>11am Worship and</div>	<div>5:15pm OA</div> <div>7pm Church Coun</div> <div>7pm Troop 56</div>	<div>10am Bible Study</div> <div>7pm AA</div>	<div>12pm Senior Spirit</div>	<div>9:30am Card Grou</div> <div>7pm Advent Wreat</div>	<div>9am SDA</div>
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
<div>10am Worship Ser</div> <div>11am Christian Ed</div> <div>2pm Loving Word</div>		<div>4pm RIC Meeting</div> <div>5:15pm OA</div>	<div>10am Bible Study</div> <div>7pm AA</div>		<div>9:30am Card Grou</div>	<div>9am SDA</div> <div>1:30pm Baptism</div>
27	28	29	30	Dec 1	2	3
<div>First Sunday of Adv</div> <div>10am Worship Ser</div> <div>11am Christian Ed</div> <div>2pm Loving Word</div>		<div>5:15pm OA</div>	<div>10am Bible Study</div> <div>7pm AA</div> <div>7pm Holden Eveni</div>		<div>9:30am Card Grou</div>	<div>9am SDA</div>