



Lord of Life
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Come and Worship with us this Sunday!

8:00, 9:15 or 11:15 am Eucharistic Worship, staffed nursery provided
10:15am Education Hour
2480 W. Dublin-Granville Road
Columbus, Ohio 43235-2709
614-889-2292 www.lordoflifeluth.org.

September 2009

OUR MISSION
Is to reach people
with the
love
OF JESUS CHRIST

Churchwide Assembly: Poignant Moments (for me)

[But first ... wasn't it great to be able to watch on streaming video? Our national church leaders were able to connect everybody to the dialogues that were happening in Minneapolis. You can still go back and watch some of the proceedings.]

And... our website continues to bless us! So much so that I want to encourage you to do two things:

1. Go to the website and subscribe to our newsletter (see article on page 9). The postal service is changing their requirements in October. You can save this church a significant amount of money and get your newsletter faster. Our mailing practices will soon be changing. If you are not a member and you wish to continue receiving our newsletter, this will soon be your only option

2. Please contribute to the Technology Fund. We have not yet fully funded the changes in our technology, and we will continue to have expenses related to technological tools for ministry.]

I attended churchwide assembly August 17-23 in Minneapolis as a registered visitor. That means you get a nametag and a seat way in the back ☺ (Jeff Ramm and Linda Douce also went). It was a long drive, but I'm glad I went. There are some images that will stick with me forever:

- We elect persons from our synod to attend the churchwide assembly. They're called Voting Members, rather than delegates or representatives because they are to vote their conscience rather than their constituency. All the

voting members, and especially ours from Southern Ohio Synod, approached the task diligently and faithfully. I'm honored to be colleagues with each and every one of them. We don't agree on every issue, but we serve the same God. They bore witness to me.

- Bishop Mark Hanson is an amazing leader. It's easy to see why he was re-elected bishop of the ELCA on the second ballot, and why he is the president of the Lutheran World Federation, representing nearly 70 million Lutherans on this globe. Despite the physical and emotional toll of leading such an assembly, he spoke consistently in grace. I highly recommend his closing words to the assembly which can be found on the ELCA website (under Saturday). The extended standing ovation was heartfelt by all.
- Which made it exceedingly sad to see him with a security detail, even as he worshipped. It was his only option in response to threats received.
- The prayer shawls forwarded to the assembly were well received. The AC in the assembly made them in high demand and they spoke volumes about hospitality and inclusion. Even I brought one home.
- There was no cheering or booing during debate, despite sharp disagreement on some issues. A

spirit of discernment pervaded the gathering. Very faithful.

- The assembly stopped for prayer every 20 minutes. Big screens were cleared of resolutions as a camera focused on a burning paschal candle. A large Tibetan singing bowl was clanged. A bishop or member of the Church Council led the prayer. Powerful!
- I watched a mother, roughly my age, sitting next to her gay clergy son. When harsh words were spoken, she rubbed his shoulders. When they heard words of affirmation, they looked at each other and smiled. When the Sexuality Statement passed by its two-thirds super majority, tears ran down her face as she pecked his cheek. I would have driven to Alaska just to see that!
- I was also moved by the sense of dejection and hurt some persons felt. I don't think they had been on the "losing end" of an issue like this for some time. Having experienced that in assemblies before, I hurt with them and for them. We are sisters and brothers.
- The worship was magnificent. We had communion every day. But also healing prayers with anointing oil, foot washing, even African dancing as we were sent into the world as God's witnesses.

continued next page.

Lord of Life Staff

Jeff Ramm
Congregation Council President

Deanna Caudill, Sandy Lawson
Grow Team

Linda Douce, Pastor Jim Wilson
Experience Team

Mission Team

Karen Hilbert
Office Assistant/Bookkeeper

Sandy Lawson
Christian Education Director

Sonny Randall, Pastor Fred Wiese
Ministry Leader Support Team

Sherry Reis, Pastor Bethany Wallace
Connect Team

Suzanne Rippel, Shannen Rook
Wedding Ceremony Coordinators

David Robinson, Eric Saupe
Organists

Marylou Schmidt
Adult Choir Director

Sue Shough
Office Administrator

Irina Shpil
Nursery Coordinator

Susan Smith, Pastor Wallace
Care & Prayer Team

Bob Troutman
Property Manager

Dr. Jim Wilson, Pr. Bethany Wallace
Pastors

Congregation Council

Joe Jude
Curt Loge
Sarah Palmer
Dan Pierce
Schelley Pierce
Jeff Ramm
Jason Rook
Diane Saupe
Rob Underhill

Please let us know when you have an idea for how Christ's love might better be shared with others through our facility, our ministries, and our staff.

- It is odd to read accounts of an event you are at. Everyone's got a bit of a slant to what they write. I have to see that as a gift, rather than a problem.
- Phil Soucy wrote a daily blog for Lutherans Concerned. On Saturday, it was very brief, "*I woke up this morning with the thought that we start our journeys home from churchwide today. Then it stuck me that we came home Friday night ... We came home Friday night ... There is a hotel chain that says they'll leave a light in the window for us ... We too have been following a light left in the window for us — by Christ Jesus. We came home Friday night ... Welcome home, everybody ... Welcome home...*"
- It's gotten little press, but we voted for "full communion" with the United Methodist Church. Thirty-one years ago when I was ordained, my dear friend Bert Kite, now the Methodist Superintendent of the Indianapolis District of the United Methodist Church, participated in my ordination. He joined my bishop, and a handful of Lutheran pastors as they laid hands on me. It's taken thirty-one years to codify what Bert and I understood back in college, "*There's one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all.*" (Ephesians 3)

I give thanks for this church we are part of. We're not the whole church, but we are a branch on the vine of Christ. Others don't always agree with us and we often don't agree with each other, but God has knit us together in Christ. That alone is the source of our unity. To that God be honor and praise, always and everywhere!



Compassion Weekend

Compassion Weekend 2007 ... even though its been two years, you can hardly say "Compassion Weekend" around Lord of Life without someone stopping to share a memory of their experience that weekend ...



During that warm summer weekend in August, 2007, more than 230 LOL members were compassionate missionaries at 28 sites here in Central Ohio. All mission projects focused on the hunger, housing or healing needs of our community, and activities ranged from planning and enjoying a luau with seniors at Lutheran Village, to helping to build a walking path at Oest-erlein Home, to helping with a noon time meal at St. John/Holy Rosary community kitchen. Memories of ... laughter ... mercy ... sweat ... joy ... hard work ... relentless compassion.

It's time now to begin planning Compassion Weekend 2010! *The Mission Team is looking for Lord of Life members to participate on the Compassion Weekend 2010 leadership team.* Once we've assembled the leadership team, additional teams will be created to handle everything from mission site selection; prayer; child care; communication and publicity; party/celebration; master scheduling, planning for continuing compassion and the many other activities that will be needed to make the weekend meaningful to those who are served and to those who serve.

If you have the gift of leadership or administration, and a willing and compassionate heart, please contact Sherry Hemmingsen, Diana Stanton, or any Mission team member.

Special Thanks Bob Ward and Sherry Hemmingsen

First English Lutheran Church has issued Pastor Bob a fulltime call to ministry, a significant step of revitalization as they grow in faith and number.

But that means Bob will be stepping down as leader of our Mission Team, as will Sherry Hemmingsen as the team's co-leader. Thankfully, Sherry is continuing as the leader of the servant fractal of the team, organizing hands on mission opportunities in Jesus' name. We have been blessed by their partnership with us!

Fore Christ Golf Tournament Share the Good News!

The Fore Christ Golf Outing was held on July 25, and was another great success. A big thank you to all who helped coordinate the event, helped on game day, recruited players or got raffle prizes. This years event was the largest ever and produced a record amount of funds for the charity. Through your efforts we had 79 players from eight churches and three companies. Best of all we raised a total of \$5,520, which includes a \$1,200 contribution from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, for the Faith Lutheran Church Food Pantry in Wilmington, Ohio!

Mark Your Calendar! Next Years Fore Christ Tournament — 7/31/2010 Chapel Hill Golf Course

Worthington CROP Hunger Walk

When you think of hunger and poverty in the world, do you think it could happen in Worthington or your own neighborhood? Most people have either felt the impact of, or know someone impacted by today's turbulent economy. The notion that the average American family is only two paychecks away from poverty has sadly become a reality.



To help fight hunger locally and globally, the first annual Worthington CROP Hunger Walk will take place on *Sunday, October 11, 2009, at 1PM.*

The 5K walk will begin and end at the United Methodist Children's Home, located at 1033 High Street, Worthington Ohio. The route for this very important charity event will take participants through the Worthingway Middle School neighborhood.

The Mission team is looking for the Lord of Life family to not only participate in this event, but also to recruit family and friends to join the walk, thereby making it a success in both numbers of walk participants and in funds we raise.

If you are interested in participating or helping to coordinate this event within Lord of Life, please contact Joel Frederick.

The CROP Hunger Walks help fight hunger and poverty around the world, including the United States. **25% of the funds raised will stay here in our community and directly benefit the Worthington Food Pantry and Resource Center.**

Mission Ministries

Strive to empower and equip disciples for a life-long journey of hands-on mission.

FELC Thursday Night Dinners
Joel Frederick, Sherry Hemmingsen

Fore Christ Golf
Ron Eppley

Got Church?
Jeff Ramm

Red Cross Blood Drive
Joanne Dafler



IF ...

... children can't read by the 3rd grade, they aren't likely to graduate from high school.

... children enter kindergarten without pre-school, they begin their education a year and a half behind. Nearly half of children living in poverty are in this situation.

LEARN MORE!

Hidden Rules of Class
Sunday, September 13th
10:15-12:00, room 202

A Trip to the Holy Land

LOL members David and Tami Kuhlmann accompanied Trinity Seminary faculty and students to Palestine and Israel. They visited historic sites and heard the history of the region. They also experienced, first hand, the tension currently consuming this area. **On Sunday, September 27,** they will share their experiences and facilitate discussion. The seminar will be in the Gathering Place, at 10:15am. All are welcome.

OUR MISSION

To reach people with the love of Jesus Christ.

OUR VISION

Lord of Life Lutheran Church is a community of Christ where we experience God's grace, comfort and acceptance through each other. From here, everyone is empowered to share, teach and give what each has received

OUR VALUES

1. The Gospel calls us to unconditional regard for all people
2. Prayer is necessary for our relationship with God, one another, and the world.
3. Scripture provides the foundation for our lives of faith.
4. The authority for our ministry is founded in Jesus Christ, the head of the Church which is the Body of Christ on earth. An elected Congregation Council provides administrative authority; our called pastor(s) provide the spiritual authority of the Office of Word and Sacrament Ministry.
5. Each member is uniquely gifted by God for ministry and is expected to mature in discipleship of Jesus Christ.
6. Any ministry based on our Mission, Vision and Core Values is valid for our congregation, and may, at any time, evolve or end.



You're Invited.



Red Cross Blood Drive
Lord of Life Church
Monday, September 21
2:00 - 8:00PM

Upgraded: Website 3.0



Our mission of reaching people with the love of Jesus Christ extends to the Internet too. With that in mind, the Lord of Life website has recently received a major upgrade to version 3.0, with the goal of facilitating outreach by utilizing the most up-to-date technology available, inviting people into a Christ-centered community.

A variety of gifts will be needed to make this ministry a continued success, namely people with an understanding of the culture of our congregation and gifts of communication to shape an online picture of Lord of Life that expresses our community. Maybe this means you are a writer, photographer, or graphic designer... or, yes, even the tech geek who gets a thrill out of debugging PHP code. If you are interested in joining this ministry, contact John Kalis.

Sincere thanks go out to the entire version 2.0 website team, especially Chris Lay, who arranged hosting and support for the website from January 2008-June 2009. The important innovations of version 2.0 laid the groundwork for continued expansion in the new version 3.0.

These upgrades are being funded through generous donations of time and labor, as well as the technology fund of Lord of Life Church. **Your gifts to the technology fund will greatly assist in keeping this evangelism and communication tool effective.**

Tailgate with Chick-Fil-A and LSS to Tackle Hunger!

Join Chick-Fil-A for a tailgate party before the OSU football season opener on September 5, from 9:00am to 11:00am at their Hilliard location at 1988 Hilliard Rome Road.

Guests will be treated to free food, face painting, a balloon artist and many other activities. A number of businesses will also hand out giveaway items.

Those attending the event are encouraged to make monetary or canned food donations to the Lutheran Social Services food pantries. For more information contact LSS at 614-228-5200.



Wednesday Evening Discipleship Dinners



Looking for your midweek oasis? Then come and be part of LOL Discipleship Dinners. **Beginning September 9th**, on Wednesday evenings the hospitality fractal of the LOL Experience Team will host dinner here in our Gathering Place. Come and enjoy a tasty and satisfying meal along with the fellowship that accompanies “breaking bread” together as the Lord of Life family — And then stay for: a music ministry, a CAST group, a mission ministry, a grow ministry, a team meeting, or even more fellowship

For families with children under 5, our nursery will be staffed so that you can participate in other ministry activities knowing your child(ren) are only a pager beep or vibration away.

Dan Parker is coordinating this ministry with cooking help from Schelley and Bill Pierce, Bob and Jane Price, Allan and Kathy Zaenger, with openings for others with the gifts of service and hospitality. A cast of volunteers will be assisting with support for set up, tear down and clean up. If you're interested in assisting, please contact Dan Parker.

Choir Rehearsals Begin Wednesday September 9

All invited! Friends and Neighbors, too!

Cherub Choir – ages 3-6

6:15-6:45PM – room 202

Directors: Maggie Lay, Allison Moore, Renie Moore

Alleluia Choir – grades 1-6

6:15-6:45PM – room 305

Directors: Gretchen Lively, Pete Dunlap

Adult Choir (high school and up!)

7:00-8:15 – room 305

Director: Marylou Schmidt

Choirs are always open all year and no tryouts ...

... just a love for singing and fellowship!

Nursery Available – 6:45-8:30

Questions? Contact Marylou Schmidt



Experience Ministries

Strive to provide as many people as possible an experience of God's grace through weekly worship and welcome

Adult Choir
Marylou Schmidt

Alleluia Choir
Pete Dunlap, Gretchen Lively

Cherub Choir
Maggie Lay, Allison Moore, Renie Moore

Child Care
Christine Witt

Coffee
Art & Nancy Timms

crossCurrent
David Kuhlmann, Jeff Crisafulli

Dramatic Ministries
Suzanne Rippel, Alex Raabe

Ministry Scheduling
Lynn Kensing

**Narthex Experiential Welcoming
Space Design (NEWS)**
Neal Hauschild

Sacristan Team
Linda Douce

Ushers
Allan Zaenger

Wednesday Night Dinners
Dan Parker

Worship Arts Team
Kelly Wiechers, Missie Kendall

Worship Assistants
Linda Douce



Grow Ministries

Strive To help grow a member's faith into discipleship of Christ through bible study, small groups and learning opportunities.

Affirmation of Baptism Courses
Pastor Jim Wilson

C.A.S.T. Groups
Jan Burleigh

Adult Education

Saturday Men's Bible Study
Pete Dunlap

Tuesday P.M. Bible Study
Joanne Dafler

Life Passages (Children's Discipleship)
Sandy Lawson

Mid-Week Small Group

Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study Group meets the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month, 1:30-3:00pm, at the church in room 307. This year's study, "To God's Beloved: Paul's Letter to the Romans", begins this month and will continue through May. The study is written by Rev. Sarah Henrich who is associate professor of New Testament at Luther Seminary, St. Paul, Minnesota. Come join us in this exciting new Bible study!

Sunday Morning Class

Augsburg Bible Study – "All Sealed with Promise" — This study deals with important themes of the books of Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy. We'll explore how these themes shape our understanding of the character of God and of Israel. We'll explore how the theology flows throughout the biblical tradition into the New Testament. Join us Sundays, 10:15am, rm 217. Frank Rundio leads the study. All are welcome!

Interested in Membership?

"Exploring Lord of Life Church" begins Sunday, September 13, 2009. It's our membership course ... but it's really about discovery; exploring why this church exists and whether God is calling you to join us on the journey of discipleship! It's led by a team of ministry leaders at LOL and designed for dialogue. No commitment or knowledge is necessary to attend.

Lesson and Latte And a Movie

Sunday, September 20, 9:10am—11:10am — room 202

Bring your coffee and settle in to watch the movie, *Signs*, written, produced and directed by M. Night Shyamalan. *Signs* is a supernatural thriller where former Episcopal Rev. Graham Hess, played by Mel Gibson, has turned from God following the death of his wife. But when mysterious crop circles spread worldwide fear, Hess is forced to reevaluate his beliefs and discover if it is possible that everything is linked in a carefully orchestrated plan (Rated PG-13, 2002).

Movie Discussion — September 27—October 11 — 10:15

Come back on the following Sundays to discuss the movie's deeper themes. What does *Signs* say about how God intervenes in human lives? How do the characters approach the unexplainable? All are welcome, even if you didn't get a chance to see the movie.

Christian Education

Sandy Lawson, Director

It's hard to believe that summer is over and a new school year has started. I am very excited about our new Life Passages year that will start on **September 13th**. All children, ages 3 years – 6th grade are invited to **Rally Day on the 13th** at 10:15 am in the Gathering Place. We will be using a new curriculum this year called *Spark*. This curriculum instantly brought back memories of a song I use to sing in youth group:

"It only takes a *spark* to get a fire going
And soon all those around can warm up to its glowing.
That's how it is with God's love, Once you've experienced it,
It's fresh like spring, You want to sing, You want to pass it on."

This song goes perfectly with the curriculum and what we are trying to teach the young people of our congregation: God's love is so wonderful that we want to tell others about Him!

So plan now to attend not only Rally Day, but Life Passages each Sunday at 10:15 am. We have another fantastic staff that will use their time and talents in teaching the children each week.

The *Spark* curriculum is a Sunday school faith formation program where the Bible serves as the key learner resource and is the cornerstone of each lesson. Children ages 3 – 2nd grade will each have a Spark Story Bible that has wonderful artwork and creative language for reading the stories aloud. Children in 3rd – 6th grades will each have a Spark Bible (NRSV) that has great resources throughout the Bible.

We will once again have *The Blessing of the Backpacks* on **Sunday, Sept. 20th** at all three services. Make sure your child brings their backpack that day for a special blessing to help them get off to a great start to a new year.

Important dates:

August 30th & Sept. 6th – Registration in the narthex for Life Passages
Sept. 13th – Rally Day!
Sept. 13th @ 11:15 am service – Installation of Teachers
Sept. 20th – Blessing of the Backpacks

A Message for Animal Lovers St. Francis "Ingathering" on Oct. 4



The Care and Prayer Team is calling all animal lovers at Lord of Life Lutheran Church! Here's an opportunity for you to reflect on what animals do for us; and to consider what you could do to help them in the future.

October 4th is a very special day as we celebrate St. Francis of Assisi. St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of animals and environment could be viewed as the original Earth Day advocate. Francis' devotion to God was expressed through

his love for all of God's creation. St. Francis cared for the poor and sick, he preached sermons to animals, and praised all creatures as brothers and sisters under God.

During this time of economic uncertainty, there are many families that are having to choose between feeding themselves or their beloved pet. Franklin County Dog Shelter offers help to those families in need by offering free dog or cat food in their time of duress. Here's what we need: dog food, cat food (doesn't matter what kind), old towels or sheets. **Please collect these items at home and then bring them to church on Sunday, October 4. A truck will be in the parking lot to collect and transport the donations to the animal shelter.**

Thank you so much for your consideration. As an animal lover myself, I feel that this is a very important opportunity to make a difference.

God's Peace,
Shawnda Thompson

Franklin County Dog Shelter Facts:

- ▶ In 2008 the shelter provided a safe haven for more than 13,000 dogs.
- ▶ More than 2,800 dogs were returned to their owners.
- ▶ A total of 3,908 dogs and puppies were adopted, rescued or rehomed.



Have a Prayer Request?

The ePrayer ministry team is ready to lift your prayer requests to God. There are two ways to make a prayer request (any member of the church may do so, you don't have to be part of the ePrayer team):

1. send by email: ePrayer@lordoflifeluth.org
2. via our website: www.lordoflifeluth.org click on the link on the "Life at LOL" page

Care & Prayer Ministries

Strive to equip team to facilitate care and prayer within the congregation.

Care & Visitation

Pastor Bethany Wallace

Children's Prayer Workshop

Diane Saupe

ePrayer

Tami Kuhlmann

Lay Eucharistic Ministers

Susan Smith, Pr. Wallace

Mental Illness Support Network

Anne Robinson, Suzanne Robinson

One Another Meals Ministry

Kathi Brown, Shawnda Thompson

Prayer Bear

Ebie Kindsvatter

Prayer Shawl

Sandy Troutman



God is good! The **One Another Meals Ministry** welcomes two new co-leaders: Shawnda Thompson and Kathi Brown. This team provides meals and visitation to families of Lord of Life in times of extended illness, grief, and joy (a new birth). Typically, all volunteers are advised of a need for a meal either by e-mail or phone, and those who are able to respond do so. If you have the spiritual gift of hospitality, compassion, prayer, encouragement, or giving, and would like to support this team, please contact Shawnda or Kathi. We celebrate their leadership commitment and look forward to the many blessings this ministry team offers.

September Birthdays

| | |
|----------------------|---------|
| Jim Kensinger | Sept 1 |
| Joe Jude | Sept 1 |
| Nathaniel Herr | Sept 2 |
| Barbara Eppley | Sept 3 |
| Kathy Zaenger | Sept 3 |
| Brian Anderson | Sept 4 |
| Bob Schmidt, Jr. | Sept 4 |
| Andrew Katz | Sept 4 |
| Heather Loge | Sept 5 |
| Mckinley Witt | Sept 5 |
| Makenzie Rippel | Sept 6 |
| Marylou Schmidt | Sept 6 |
| Ellie Nowels | Sept 7 |
| Chris Lay | Sept 7 |
| Jeff Zaenger | Sept 7 |
| Rachel Szabo | Sept 8 |
| Lynn Crews | Sept 11 |
| Elise Lund | Sept 13 |
| Jonathan Borchert | Sept 13 |
| Jim Van Arsdale | Sept 14 |
| Nora Erb | Sept 15 |
| Kent Smith | Sept 15 |
| Christina Hemmingsen | Sept 15 |
| Bill Hoffman | Sept 16 |
| Drew Robinson | Sept 17 |
| Ron Young | Sept 17 |
| Vicki Herr | Sept 18 |
| Sarah Dowler | Sept 18 |
| Dave Cottone | Sept 20 |
| Pete Dunlap | Sept 21 |
| Mackenzie Haines | Sept 21 |
| Julie Smith | Sept 22 |
| Linda Coval | Sept 26 |
| Brad Krieger | Sept 26 |
| Samantha Prachar | Sept 26 |
| Dave Uldricks | Sept 28 |
| Gary Katz | Sept 29 |
| Nathanael Sabo | Sept 29 |
| Susan Schwab | Sept 30 |

Anniversaries

| | |
|---------------------------|---------|
| Pat & Bill Doody | Sept 4 |
| Dave & Camille Uldricks | Sept 5 |
| Matt & Suzanne Rippel | Sept 6 |
| Merle & Linda Douce | Sept 9 |
| Chris & Mindy Rini | Sept 10 |
| Dale & Vicky Gilreath | Sept 12 |
| Charley & Michelle Maghes | Sept 12 |
| Ron & Darby Williamson | Sept 20 |
| Bob & Bethany Wallace | Sept 27 |



From the Leadership Support Team

Gentlemen, start your engines." Don't hold me to it because I'm not a NASCAR racing fan, but my nephew is, and he tells me that these four words begin every race. He considered them the four words he most enjoyed hearing --until he needed and received (successfully) a double lung transplant as a result of his cystic fibrosis. He says the experience changed his four favorite words to "I'll pray for you." He doesn't hesitate to say that prayer was a crucial factor in his successful surgery and return to health.

What does this have to do with Leadership Support? We are a team of four people given the responsibility of training, supporting, and encouraging the leaders of Lord of Life, all 57 of them. We give it our best shot, but really, support of our leaders will be successful only if all of us, the entire congregation, encourage and support them.

Steve's favorite words come to mind. "I'll pray for you." Say it, then do it. Many of our leaders are listed in this newsletter, in Sunday's Weekly Reader, and the worship folder. Why not lift up these specific fellow members in your prayers during the week. Pray that God would use their gifts for the blessing of our congregation.



Prayers like this have given Steve new life, new ambition, a stronger faith. They can do the same for the leaders of our congregation.

Pastor Fred
for the Leadership Support Team

Young Adults Group

Dinner and Gallery Hop

Join the Young Adult's Group in the Short North for the September Gallery Hop on Saturday, September 5! We will start out at Barley's Brewing Company at 5:30, then move on to the Gallery Hop after dinner. If you are interested in going, please RSVP to Ashley Hard.

Columbus Italian Festival — Ciao Bella!

If you want to "be Italian" for a day, join the Young Adult's Group for the 30th annual Columbus Italian Festival on Saturday, October 10th from 5-11pm. There will be live entertainment, Italian dancing and food! If you are interested in going, please RSVP to Ashley Hard.

Going Green! Changes in Monthly Newsletter Delivery!

Did you know that you can view our monthly newsletter on the Lord of Life website (www.lordoflifeluth.org)? You can even request to receive an email link when a new issue is posted. On the website home page, scroll down the right hand side to view the options under the "eNewsletters" heading.

In an effort to be friendlier to our environment and to save on our postage and paper costs, we'd like to reduce the number of paper copies we mail as much as possible. You probably won't miss anything, except maybe a few paper cuts and a trip to the recycling box ☺, and if you really prefer reading from a paper copy, you can always print it from your own printer.

So, dear readers, we ask you to do one of the following tasks at your earliest convenience:

1. Visit the Lord of Life website and subscribe to the newsletter via email as described above. *Thanks to our many readers who have already done this.*
2. Or, if you do not have access to a computer, please call the church office (614-889-2292) to discuss alternate ways to receive the newsletter.

Inside the Numbers:

General Fund Recap – July 2009

| | Projected | Actual | Variance | % of Projected |
|-----------|--------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| Giving | \$ 52,669.25 | \$ 45,603.39 | \$ (7,065.86) | 86.6% |
| Expenses | \$ 53,717.86 | \$ 48,292.25 | \$ (5,425.61) | 89.9% |
| Change in | | \$ (2,688.86) | | |

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| General Fund Cash Balance | \$ (2,688.86) |
|---------------------------|---------------|

Year-to-Date

| | Projected | Actual | Variance | % of Projected |
|-----------|--------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Giving | \$359,349.69 | \$345,907.37 | \$ (13,442.32) | 96.3% |
| Expenses | \$361,306.67 | \$349,869.66 | \$ (11,437.01) | 96.8% |
| Change in | | \$ (3,962.29) | | |

Highlights for the Month:

Sorry I missed you last month! There wasn't much good news to report anyway. What we made up during May we gave back during June and ended the month in a slightly negative cash position.

JULY WAS DEFINITELY BETTER FOR US! General Fund Giving was almost \$8,000 better than July 2008. As of July 31st, we are 6% over our 2008 general fund giving! You folks are AWESOME!

For year-to-date 2009, our expenses are running a little ahead of our giving but I am confident that WE will move ahead of that position during the coming months.

God is Good All the Time!
Merle Douce, Treasurer

Connect Ministries

Strive to connect people to one another, and connect people's gifts to Lord of Life ministries.

Parish Friends

Pastor Bethany Wallace

Softball Ministry

Joe Jude

Young Adults Group

Ashley Hard

Administrative Ministries

Strive to steward the resources God has given Lord of Life Church as we cultivate an environment conducive to faithful ministry and spiritual growth.

Endowment Fund

Darin Kendall
Jim Kensinger
Kevin Lawson
Dan Pierce

Landscaping

Jens Hemmingsen

Offering Counters

Merle Douce

Office Support Volunteers

Frank & Bev Rudio

mRoad Leadership

mRoad seeks to empower the youth of Lord of Life with the tools they need to experience and reach others with the Love of Jesus Christ.

Rob & Rochelle Underhill, Team Leaders

mRoad Experience

Christine Griffin

mRoad Grow

Kathy Harrelson

mRoad Mission