

Lord of Life
Lutheran Church
5051 Pleasant Valley Road
Brighton, MI 48114

"Celebrating 40 years together!"



Living in God's amazing grace

"God's Work. Our Hands."

You are invited to worship with us!
9:30 am Sunday Communion Service
10:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am – 12:00 pm Confirmation Class
11:15 am – 12:00 pm Bible Study

Rev. Dale E. Hedblad, M.Div., *Board Certified Chaplain*
Office Manager – Amy Newburg
Labor of Love Daycare – Patti Fabisiack, Director

Contact us:

810-227-3113 or mylordoflife@sbcglobal.net

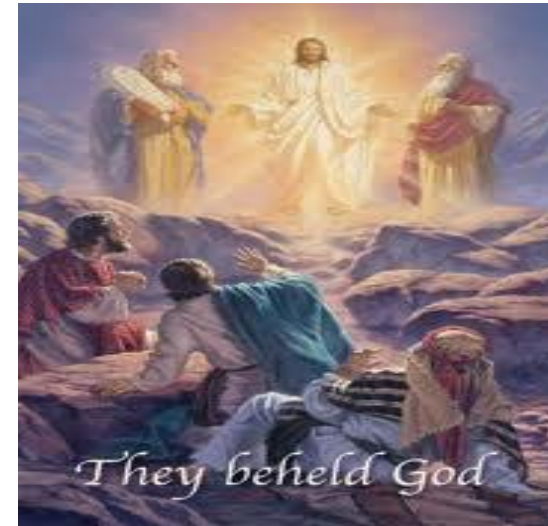
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Messages for February 2012:

February 5, 2012 (Mark 1:29-39) Everywhere Jesus goes, many people expect him to set them free from oppression. Everywhere he goes, he heals them and sets them free. The forces that diminish human life are rendered powerless by Jesus.

February 12, 2012 (Mark 1:40-45) Jesus cures a leper and asks him to tell no one but a priest, in accordance with Levitical law. Though Jesus performs miracles, his identity as Messiah will not be understood until the cross.

February 19, 2012 (Mark 9:2-9) Mark's Gospel presents the transfiguration as a preview of what would become apparent to Jesus' followers after he rose from the dead. Confused disciples are given a vision of God's glory manifest in the beloved Son.

February 22, 2012 (Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21) **Ash Wednesday, 7:00pm** - In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus commends almsgiving, prayer, and fasting, but emphasizes that spiritual devotion must not be done for show.

February 26, 2012 (Mark 1:9-15) The Spirit that comes upon Jesus at his baptism sustains him when he is tested by Satan so that he might proclaim the good news of God's reign.

Making Christ Known

FEBRUARY 2012 LORD OF LIFE SPECIAL EVENTS

LENTEN SERVICES - 7:00 pm

February 22nd: Ash Wednesday –Imposition of Ashes

February 29th: Lenten Worship

Communion Worship is every Sunday at 9:30 am, followed by hospitality time and Sunday school.

Sunday school for children ages 3 through the 8th grade is each Sunday, 10:45 – 11:30 am.



Confirmation class meets every Sunday from 11:00 am - 12:00pm. Pastor Dale leads this group.

First Holy Communion Class meets every Sunday from 10:45am – 11:30 am. Andrea Frederick leads this class.

Adult Bible Study meets every Sunday from 11:15 am – 12:00 pm. Gloria McCracken leads this group.

The Board of Ministry meeting is Wednesday, February 8th, at 7:30pm.



Scrapbooking Crop – Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Fundraising Scrapbook Crop will be Saturday, February 11th. See Sheila Andring for more information.



Food for the Poor – Sunday, February 12th, there will be a presentation by Pastor Ron Dingle and Dale Hedblad.



Fish and Loaves will be Sunday, February 12th. Volunteers are always needed and appreciated, if you would like to help, please be at the church by 5:30 pm

Turn your spending into giving. **SCRIP** orders will be taken on February 5th and 19th. A SCRIP order form with our most popular retailers will be available on the table in the narthex or can be downloaded at our church website at www.lordoflifeelca.com. For a complete list of SCRIP retail participants, visit www.glscrip.com. Place your order with Colleen Hedblad.



Knots of Love/The Shawl Ministry meets Tuesday, February 14th, 7:00 pm, at LOL.



PASTOR'S MESSAGE FOR FEBRUARY 2012

“I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”
(Jeremiah 29:11)

This year I have been looking forward to the month of February for many reasons. It is not because of Ground Hog Day, Valentine's Day, President's Day, or because of the Super Bowl. It's because this month, we have so much to offer you.

On Sunday, February 5th, First Holy Communion Classes begin and will meet each Sunday in the month of February, during the children's Sunday school hour. Andrea Frederick is teaching this class, and it will meet in the classroom next to my office, classroom #4. First Holy Communion will be celebrated by these students on Sunday, March 11, 2012.

On Friday, February 10th, we are planning a “Parents Night Out,” a date night on Valentine's weekend. Drop the kids off at church from 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Kids will have pizza and craft time, and will watch a movie in the Sanctuary. A free-will offering will be accepted on behalf of Vacation Bible School 2012.

On Sunday, February 12th, my mentor and friend, Reverend Dr. Ron Dingle will be worshipping with us. I can't wait to introduce him to all of you! He is one of the finest people I have ever met. He is a faithful and dynamic preacher, and has a very strong sense of God's calling. Dr. Dingle is retired from serving the church, but he continues God's calling by traveling throughout the United States preaching on behalf of “Food for The Poor.”

On Wednesday, February 22nd, we begin the season of Lent with the observance of Ash Wednesday. On this special night we will mark our foreheads with an ashen cross, in remembrance of our mortality. This marks the beginning of 40 days (6 weeks) of personal reflection and introspection, as we contemplate our life and God's calling to each of us. This six week time period has been referred to as the holiest time of the year. It is truly life changing if you are open to the Holy Spirit of God to lead you. We will worship each Wednesday evening at 7:00p.m. Each worship lasts for about 30 minutes. Come early if you like and have a soup supper at 6:15. A sign-up sheet is posted for families to bring a simple meal of soup and bread. Many times families will sign up together to provide the meal. This experience has been known to build community and make lasting friendships. I encourage everyone to make an effort to worship on Wednesday evenings.

I praise God that we have so much to offer in this shortest month of the year. I pray that all of our families will make it a point to worship each Sunday in February and on Wednesday evenings beginning February 22nd.

Serving with You,
Pastor Dale+



IN THE CROSS

"Oh Lord, my God, when I in awesome wonder, consider all the world Thy hands hath made; I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder-Thy power throughout the universe displayed . . ." The words to that beloved old hymn, "How Great Thou Art", are never more meaningful than they are when I look out from our 15th floor balcony, here on the "Emerald Coast": this morning, it's the gentle lapping of the waves on the beach; other times, it's dolphins frolicking in the early morning sun; pelicans circling a spot over the ocean, looking for an opportunity to catch a fish; the "rolling thunder" and fireworks of an electrical storm; or the sun dancing on large, white-capped waves. And when I reflect on these beautiful displays, I realize, and am grateful for, the blessings God bestows upon us every day. One can't possibly experience these gifts from God without recognizing His existence, His power, and His love for us, not to mention the peace such experiences bring to us.

In addition to the more spectacular gifts just described, God also provides me gifts that are not as obvious, but every bit as powerful: the reuniting with friends from winters past; my friend, Dave, who is a very devout Catholic, with whom I can share thoughts on everything under the sun, including faith- Dave has introduced me to the writings of a man named Oswald Chambers, who was a teacher and lecturer at the London Bible Institute in the early Twentieth Century; Chambers' writings are thought provoking and meaningful to me, and as relevant today as they were 100 years ago.

Well, I expect you have guessed, by now, that I have been counting my blessings to start the New Year; I have decided that if I count my blessings, as opposed to making New Year's resolutions, the resolutions will evolve automatically.

Shirley and I miss you all and hope your New Year is off to a great start!!

Glenn Kelly



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

May you experience an abundant measure of His grace and peace throughout the year ahead.

- 9 – Seamus McCurren
- 11 – Grace Garcia
- 13 – Brett Hahne
- 14 – Bettina Zaar
- 15 – Joe Rowell
- 19 – Hope Andring
- 20 – Scott Frederick & David Woycik
- 23 – Annika Olsen
- 24 –DeLynn Garcia

Is your birthday or anniversary missing? If so, please let us know.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER



Please remember in Prayer: Linda Smith, Alex Schreer, all troops serving worldwide, Judith Loeffler, Mary Anne Kelly, Ann Marie Kargel, Dee White, Max and Toby Mingo-McDonald, Bill Swanson, Daniel Billing, Roy Fox, David Moilanen, Marilyn Roxbury, Betty Parish, Irene Zizka, Bea Snider, Howard Stefon, Pat Wilson, Hunter Weaver, Bill Houser, Mary Clark, Nick Engstrom, John Shortridge, Joan Spagnoli, Mark Smith, Heidi Rock, Jeanine Stephan, Robert Parrott, Janice Falstitch, Sharon Hogan, Virginia Kuhn, Emily Bullen, Dave Swain, Cheryl Hawley, Sue Traylor, Jack Lynch, Irena Ziemann, Josh Williams, and Claire and Mikey.



WANTED - USED INK CARTRIDGES

Lord of Life would be happy to recycle your used ink cartridges. We received \$2.00 per cartridge; this is an easy fundraiser for the church. We have placed a plastic container on the table in the narthex for you to deposit your used ink cartridges.



LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS

We will begin the Lenten Soup Suppers on Ash Wednesday, February 22nd, supper will be from 6:15 – 6:45 pm and Lent Worship will start at 7:00 pm. Please join us.

FEBRUARY 2012 SCRIP ANNOUNCEMENT

The Christmas shopping is over, but your shopping needs still continue with groceries and gasoline purchases on a weekly basis. Try the Lord of Life SCRIP program for your weekly needs and see how easy it is for Lord of Life to receive the earnings.

SCRIP fundraising is simple: do your regular weekly shopping with gift cards from your favorite retailers. With each purchase, Lord of Life earns cash rebates that can quickly add up to hundreds of dollars a year.

SCRIP orders will be taken on **February 5th** and **19th**. Help us to help others by making SCRIP a part of your family's regular shopping.

January 2012 Earnings for SCRIP: \$74.20

Hiller's Market: \$3.00

Salsarita's: \$1.63

Total: \$ 78.83

Remember to have your Kroger Rewards card linked to Lord of Life. If you need to register, please contact Colleen Hedblad for instructions.



CALLING ALL SCRAPBOOKERS

As many of you may know, my 7 year old son Austin and my 5 year old Cody (newly diagnosed) both have Type 1 (Juvenile) Diabetes. Each year we participate in the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation walk to raise money to find a cure. I am hosting a Scrapbooking "Crop" at Lord of Life on February 11th. This event is for the beginner to the well experienced, come and enjoy a day with other scrapbookers. It will run from 9:00 am - 6:00 pm and include beverages, a light breakfast and lunch. The donation is \$20 to JDRF and is tax-deductible. Email me to reserve your spot, or with any questions you may have, at scrapevent@hotmail.com.

Sheila Andring



KNOTS OF LOVE/SHAWL MINISTRY

We will continue to collect scarves and hats for homeless and other people who can use them until the end of February; so if the knitters or crocheters were too late for Christmas, that's okay, we'll still take them.

Gloria McCracken

STEWARDSHIP

Being a member of Lord of Life Church has been a great blessing to me, my wife Lynn and my son Colin. The joy that we feel attending worship services each week can't be measured. There is nothing I personally look forward to more than my Christian fellowship with our large extended family and Pastor Dales sermons here at Lord of Life each Sunday! When circumstances arise that prevent me from being able to attend a service I truly feel a little separation melancholy. I plan to increase my joy and reduce my melancholy for 2012! This year Lord of Life will be celebrating its 40th anniversary. To honor this milestone Lynn and I have committed to attend at least 40 worship services at Lord of Life for 2012. Even though we feel this is a slam dunk, we still want to remain diligent. I would like to personally invite each of you to join me in setting this same goal for yourself as well this year. We all have busy lives with work, sport camps, vacations.....etc. It is easy to lose sight of how important that worship is, for the spiritual relationship we have with God and each other. Let's all get out the 2012 calendar and start planning today to meet or exceed the goal. Counting Ash Wednesday, Lent, and Christmas Eve services we will have 62 opportunities. I know you can do it!

God bless each of you and I look forward to seeing you Sunday morning!

David Burgess



FOOD FOR THE POOR

Please join us the Sunday of February 12, 2012 to hear The Rev. Dr. Ronald J. Dingle speak at the 9:30am worship service about a ministry providing direct relief to the poor though out Latin America and the Caribbean.

Dr. Dingle will share what he has witnessed about Food for the Poor's mission to care for the destitute as a means of living out the Gospel mandate to love one another.

Dr. Dingle was ordained in 1961 and served in the Florida-Bahamas Synod, at Advent Lutheran Church, in Boca Raton, Florida.

Please join me in welcoming Dr. Dingle.



VALENTINE DATE NIGHT

(AKA...Parent's Night Out or Kids Fun Night)
Friday, February 10th, from 6:00 – 8:30 pm



Kids will eat pizza, take part in a craft and watch a movie. There is no charge for this event. However, any free-will offerings will go towards Vacation Bible School 2012. Children do not have to be members to attend.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASSES

First holy communion classes will begin Sunday, February 5th, for youths wishing to learn more of the sacrament of communion. We will explore the meaning of communion for 4 weeks of class time. The Fed and Forgiven curriculum will show us how Jesus gives us the gift of communion, how communion connects us with God's love and how communion prepares us to serve others. Please see Pastor Dale if you are interested in attending these classes.

GOD'S PERFECT GIFT

During February we'll be celebrating Valentine's Day. This is a big occasion for card companies like Hallmark. Hallmark's slogan is, "When you care enough to send the best, send a Hallmark." God cared enough to send His best, but it wasn't just a card or even a messenger. Motivated by love for us, He sent His Son, not only the best, but the perfect gift (John 3:16). Let us seek to emulate God's love by giving our very best.

Ronald J. Chewning

12 Months of Congregational Stewardship



HAVE A HEART

February: the month devoted to love. Stores are filled with heart-shaped boxes of candy and heart-shaped cards and vases of flowers with heart-shaped gift tags. All this is available for the consumer so that he can find the appropriate expression of his devotion to his loved one. If that expression of love has been preceded by a year of thoughtful and loving words and deeds, it is welcomed and cherished by the recipient. If not, it is just an empty ritual, done out of duty rather than true devotion.

Our relationship to the Lord is similar. He, too, desires our sincere devotion, not empty lip service. *"The Lord says: 'These people come near to Me with their mouth and honor Me with their lips, but their hearts are far from Me' "*(Isaiah 29:13).

Stewardship is serving, helping, giving, but love is the basis for stewardship. Without love, our good deeds are empty and without merit. The first act of true stewardship is to *"love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength"* (Deuteronomy 6:5). Jesus called this the most important commandment (Mark 12:29, 30). With that love for the Lord in us, we are enabled to be good stewards. Then we can do acts of good stewardship, acts of true devotion. We are enabled to . . .

- *"Give generously to Him and do so without a grudging heart"* (Deuteronomy 15:10).
- *"Carefully observe [His decrees and laws] with all your heart and with all your soul"* (Deuteronomy 26:16).
- *"Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality"* (Romans 12:13).
- *"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men"* (Colossians 3:23).

God, through Ezekiel, promised, *"I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put My Spirit in you and move you to follow My decrees and be careful to keep My laws"* (Ezekiel 36:26-27). This promise He has fulfilled in His Son, Jesus, Who has followed His Father's decrees and kept His laws for us. As we strive to live fruitful lives of stewardship, at the same time, we rest in Christ Who has been the perfect steward for us.

Ronald J. Chewning

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