

The Love Letter

Volume 50

MARCH 2020

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Worship Schedule
8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Mission Statement: Celebrating and sharing God's love in a welcoming community of faith, while serving others.

Looking Ahead

March 11: Aged to Perfection luncheon

April 4: Loads of Love and Easter Egg Hunt

April 5: Palm Sunday

April 8: Aged to Perfection

April 12: Easter Sunday



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“By day the Lord commands his steadfast love, and at night his song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life.” –Psalm 42:8

Last night, I was at the Celebration of Love Dinner at Lord of Love and got to listen to Simon Weber, from Table Grace Ministries, talk about songs and the powerful impact they can have. She talked about how songs are really one of the ways that scripture sometimes comes to us and gets imprinted into our hearts and souls and can make a huge impact on our lives.

This Lent, we asked for some members to share about one of their favorite hymns. And at first I thought I would pick out my favorite hymn to write about, but there are so many, I have a hard time picking! However, one person who has already shared with me about her favorite hymn, is Lorraine Mohrlock. Her favorite hymn is “Day by Day”, by Lina Sandell Berg. This hymn talks about how God accompanies and guides us, and provides and blesses us, and fills us with joy despite our sorrow through prayer, and eventually takes us home to our eternal rest. And it is a hymn that reminds us of how no matter what, day by day God guides and leads us to our heavenly home with God. She loves how true it is that God leads us day by day.

Like many authors of great hymns, Lina knew about suffering and tragedy in her life. When Lina was only 12, she had been left partially paralyzed and was given little hope by the doctors of recovering, but upon reading scripture and praying at home while her family was at church together, she read about how Jesus had healed Jairus’ daughter (Mark 5:22-42). She was certain



that he could heal her too, so she prayed and got up and went to church herself, having been healed. Also, at the age of 26, she watched her father, a Lutheran pastor, get thrown overboard when their ship lurched and watched helplessly as he was drowned. Yet none of this kept her bitter. She is known to have written many over 650 Swedish hymns, including “Children of the Heavenly Father.”

What a gift music can be to the soul when it fills us with hope, and especially when we have known suffering. During the season of Lent, perhaps a good spiritual practice for us to consider could be to simply write down some of our favorite hymns, Google them, and track down what scriptures they are tied to, and the stories and moments that might have led to their writing. No matter when it was written, the music and the words still touch our souls and fill us with God’s presence each time we sing them, like singing “How Great Thou Art” did during the month of February.

May God's Word continue to fill us, speak to us, sing within our hearts, and encourage us as we walk with our Lord through our Lenten journeys.

Peace and blessing to you all,

Pastor Becky <><

WORSHIP

Lenten Midweek Services: When in Our Music God is Glorified

Our Lent midweek services will be a time to worship with the Night Prayer/Compline Service. We will also be praising God with music as we listen to members tell us about their favorite hymns and why they mean so much to them.

Join us every Wednesday in March at 5:30-6:40 p.m. for a soup supper, followed by the service at 7 p.m. The order of people speaking is as follows:

Wednesday, March 4

Doug Aden: God Be with You 'til We Meet Again

Wednesday, March 11

Karen Mullen: Behold the Host Arrayed in White ELW 425

Wednesday, March 18

Ashley Hamik: Be Thou My Vision ELW 793
Sarge Schuchard: Jesus Loves Me ELW 595

Wednesday, March 25

Tom Olson: This Little Light of Mine ELW 677

Wednesday, April 1

Deb Lund: Thy Holy Wings ELW 613

NURTURE

Book Club

Tuesday, March 24 at 1 p.m.

We will be discussing "The God of Small Things," by Arundhati Roy.

Community Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 4, 1 p.m.

Lord of Love will host a free Easter egg hunt, open to the community. Kids up to age 10, grouped by similar ages, can hunt for surprise-filled eggs. There will be yard games for all ages, plus a bounce house and photo booth. Invite your family, friends and neighbors!



Donations of candy are needed. Volunteers on the afternoon of the event are also welcome! Please talk to Shelby Lamoureux, Rosie Avalos or Joan Witt if you would like to get involved.

Lenten Soup Suppers

Lenten Soup Suppers will be served at 5:30 p.m. for six Wednesdays. The first soup supper was on Ash Wednesday with members of the church council preparing and serving the meal. Thank you!



The groups within the congregation that will be preparing and serving the meals include the alto and bass sections of the choir, the men's ministry team, the soprano and tenor sections of the choir, the youth team and the women's ministry team. Thank you in advance to everyone for participating and assisting with the Lenten soup supper meals.

"Celebration of Love" Dinner and Concert

The love within and around Lord of Love was very evident at the "Celebration of Love" dinner on Sunday, Feb. 23! THANK YOU to so many of you who came and shared your evening with us and showed such love to Table Grace Ministries and the Lord of Love Youth.

Matt Weber with Table Grace catered the appetizers and delicious meal that was efficiently plated by Heather Christensen, Robin Potter, Dana and Scott Griffin. The senior high youth team – Eric Manuel, Abby Rieff, Briar Braddock, Audra Van Arsdale and Owen Van Arsdale along with the junior high youth team – Maykala Adams, Mitchell Griffin, Kayci Hansen, Alicia Rodriguez, Sarissa Thompson, Avah Van Arsdale, and Evan Van Arsdale helped to prepare the tables. After Pastor Becky led us in prayer, the youth served the three-course meal.

The entertainment for the evening started with a "Not so new Newlywed Game" hosted by Abby Rieff with score keeper Audra Van Arsdale. There was a lot of laughter as Brian and Deb Lund competed against Brandon and Heather Hansen followed by a second round with Dave and Susan Lueders against Adam and Lynette Lueders. In both rounds, the newest "not so new newlyweds" won and received gift cards.

Simone Weber, also of Table Grace Ministries, shared her vocal, piano and guitar talents with several songs she had written along with some other familiar tunes. The stories she related and the love of God she demonstrated



in her music and words served as an inspirational message to all.

As well as thanking all who attended and the youth and sponsors, there are several other people who helped make the evening successful. Much appreciation to Pat and Jesse Brewer, Laura Armitage, Connie Walther, Joe and Jackie Combes, Paula Foster, Rosie Avalos, Jon Novak, Carol Novak and the piano moving team (even though the piano didn't fit through the third set of doors) and of course, appreciation to Pastor Becky.

Table Grace Ministries received an additional \$258 in donations. The tabulations are not all quite complete but including an individual's Thrivent card to help with food expenses and with donations and tips, the youth fund will be receiving close to \$680.

Thank you for sharing your love in time, talents and gifts!

MISSION

Loads of Love Matching Funds

"I thank my God every time I remember you." -Phillipians 1:3

Thank you to all who have supported the Loads of Love laundry and personal care products program by giving special doantions in February. A total of **\$3640** has been given, exceeding the amount we needed to match the Immanuel Vision Foundation grant. WOW!

Special offerings for the Wednesdays in Lent and the special Easter offering are designated to the ELCA Lutheran Disaster Response. Thanks in advance for helping us be the hands of Christ when natural disasters strike throughout our area, and the world.

Rick Steves and ELCA World Hunger

Hear from travel author, TV host and Lutheran Rick Steves about why he chooses to support ELCA World Hunger. ELCA World Hunger is a recipient of a climate-smart grant from Rick Steves to support its work to fight hunger and poverty around the world. Learn more at [ELCA.org/hunger](https://elca.org/hunger) and check out the video: youtu.be/0b7kWWQNAW4



ELCA World Hunger
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

50 Years of Ordained Women



**We Are Church,
We Are Called**

50•40•10

With gratitude for those who have gone before and hope for the future, the ELCA gives thanks to God for the ministry of women. In 2019 and 2020, we celebrate 50 years of Lutheran women being ordained in the United States, 40 years of women of color being ordained, and 10 years of LGBTQIA+ individuals being able to serve freely.

As part of this anniversary year, we lament that women have been barred from serving and have been bullied, dismissed and excluded. We also celebrate the gifts and service that women have brought to our church and our world as pastors.

Congregations are encouraged to hold commemorative events throughout the year! [Resources](#) to help congregations observe these anniversaries include a five-session adult forum, a four-session Bible study, and a liturgy with Scripture and hymn suggestions.

*"For most of us, the great danger is not that we will renounce our faith. It is that we will become so distracted and rushed and preoccupied that we will settle for a mediocre version of it. We will just skim our lives instead of actually living them."
—John Ortberg*

COUNCIL

2020 Lord of Love Church Council

Vision and Coordination: Brian Lund, President; Paul Murphy, Vice-President; Renae Rich, Secretary; Rett Messerschmidt, Treasurer

Nurture: Rosie Avalos and Joan Witt

Outreach: Matt Willard and Charise Adams

Resources: Brandon Zalesky and Paul Christenson

Worship: Rex Quadhamer and Shawn Lorenzen



Giving Status

General Fund financial information for January 2020:

Actual Income - \$26,846.45
Actual Expense - \$23,645.89

Financial Information Year-To-Date as of the end of January:

Actual Income - \$26,846.45
Actual Expense - \$23,645.89

As of the end of January, the available cash balance is \$7,549.65. Weekly offerings of \$6,500 are needed to meet budgeted expenses. The weekly offering average at the end of January was \$6,526. Thank you for your continued support.



Communications Update

The Love Letter format and frequency will be changing. Starting later this month, short **weekly announcements** from the bulletin will also be included in an email to all members. The announcements will be printed on a sheet separate from the bulletin to take home or pass along.



Please email Mary Lou at marylou@lord-of-love.org with announcements. Information will automatically be included in both the printed announcements on Sunday (if sent by Thursday at 9 a.m.) and the weekly email.

Every *other* month, an **email newsletter** with longer articles will be sent to members at the beginning of the month. To submit an article for the newsletter, please continue to send it to loveletter@lord-of-love.org. This could include thank you notes, reports following an event, mission or synod-related news, and more, in addition to the regular pastor's page and president's message. A link to each newsletter will also be posted to our Facebook page and website. If you have something to say but are not sure where it should go, send to both email addresses.

Volunteers will each take responsibility for the announcement and newsletter emails one month at a time. If you are interested in volunteering, talk to Brian or Deb Lund or Charise Adams.

STEWARDSHIP

Men's Ministry Group Stewardship, by Rex Quadhamer

The Men's group breakfast meets every Saturday from 7-8 a.m. Besides eating great food, we:

- Converse about what's going on at church and in our lives
- Pray for members and our neighbors
- Study God's word and faith issues
- Help as needed for church functions
- Contribute financially for the breakfast, which adds up to where we contribute to help others.

Events we sponsored this past year were the Mother's Day breakfast, church pool party, and a youth Christmas party. We were also able to help a lady across the street move when she came to us for help.

Things we financially supported the past year included Memorials, Boy Scout events, Disaster Relief, NELOM Pastoral Education fund, debt reduction, and the Deacon's Fund. These are ways we use our time, talents, and possessions to serve God and our neighbor.



WOMEN OF LOVE

Lord of Love Women General Meeting

Wednesday, March 25, 6 p.m.

All women are invited to participate in a general meeting of LOL Women of the ELCA. Come for the supper at 5:30, attend the meeting, and close out the evening with Lenten worship.

Metro East Spring Gathering

Saturday, April 18

Lord of Love Women will host the Metro East Conference (Nebraska Women of the ELCA). Registration and coffee will be at **8:30 a.m.** with the program scheduled from **9 a.m. to 3 p.m.** The theme of the gathering is "Creation and Praise" based on the theme verse, "*For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer*" (1 Timothy 4:4-5 NIV).

All women are invited to participate in a day of Bible study, music and workshops, which will be centered around caring for God's creation: Community Gardens, Pollinator Gardens, Beekeeping, and Recycling. There also will be a presentation on the Tri-Faith Initiative. The tangible offering has been designated as follows: 50% Churchwide Women's Organization, 25% Nebraska Synodical Women's Organization, and 25% Tri-Faith Initiative Garden Project.

Registration is \$18 and includes lunch. Registration forms are available on the Women's bulletin board in the narthex. **Deadline is April 11.**



IN OUR PRAYERS

Patty Adams (mother-in-law of Charise Adams)
Janet Baker
Paul Barnett
Connie Bennett (cousin of Karen Armitage)
Kate Boarts (mother of David & grandmother of Chris Boarts)
Kathy Campina (cousin of Rose Roberts)
Jason Combes
Larry Czapla
Jim Edwards (uncle of John Edwards)
Donald Egr (uncle of David Egr)
Mardi Fiske
Stephanie Flansburg (friend of Judy Egr)
Babette Garder (mother of Kenn Garder)
Olivia Griffin (daughter of Scott and Dana Griffin)
Ed & Janet Guthrie
Pr. Joe Hernandez – Missionary in the Middle East (cousin of David & Chris Boarts)
Katie Humphrey (niece of Mary Lou Gustafson)
Janet Jensen (mother of Dawn Burton)
Juanita Kiesel (friend of Mary Lou)
Lucy Klos (sister-in-law of Mike & Christie Klos)
Lester (friend of Paul Barnett)
Ken Lineweaver (step-dad of Gwen Edwards)
Don Lueders, Lisa Lueders (brother of Dave Lueders & sister-in-law of Dave Lueders)
Alan Meyer (uncle of Todd Meyer)
Cindy Moos (friend of Tom and Beth Olson)

Eileen Nagle (mother-in-law of Tara Novak)
Vern Nemitz (uncle of Paula Foster)
Bill Pickens
Ron Salak
Sarge Schuchard
Nancy Shinrock
Ron & Brenda Thom
Roslynn Thom (sister of Ron Thom)
Betty Thompson (mother of Beth Olson)
Bill Todd (husband of Pam Todd)
Pat Wineinger
Stephanie Ulrich (relative of Paula Foster)
Steve Wiitala (friend of Karen Mullen)

Caregivers and those who suffer with addictions and depression, those seeking employment, those dealing with infertility or seeking to adopt.

Those Who Mourn

The family and friends of Tillie Mathiasen, grandmother of Todd Meyer
The family and friends of Kolby Crum, relative of Dayla Miller
Helen Tuveson, friend of Dayla Miller
The family and friends of David Hojnacke (neighbor of the Armitage family)

Those Who Are Deployed

Abel Avalos, son of Miguel & Rosie Avalos
Tanner Torosian, grandson of Lorraine Mohrlock

To add a name to the "In Our Prayers" section, email marylou@lord-of-love.org, contact the office at 402.493.2946, or fill out a prayer request note available in the narthex and place it in the basket.



SUNDAY SERVANTS

	8:00 a.m. Service	10:30 a.m. Service
March 1		
Greeters	Dale and Karen Finck	Gary Ramsay, Ron Salak
Liturgist	Brandon Zalesky	Tom Olson
Communion Servers	Peg Murphy	Beth Olson
	Heather Christensen	Paul Christenson
	Nathaniel and Levi Gust	Rex and Deb Quadhamer
Altar Care	Pat & Jesse Brewer	Ann & Paul Kroll
CD Recording		Pat Brewer
March 8		
Greeters	Sarge and Shirley Schuchard	Dave and Susan Lueders
Liturgist	Brian Lund	Susan Lueders
Communion Servers	Deb Lund	Dave Lueders
	Ron Thom	Julie Thompson
	Todd and Lisa Meyer	John and Gwen Edwards
Altar Care	Heather Christensen	Claudia & Don Rowen, Connie Martin
CD Recording		Paul Christenson
March 15		
Greeters	Jim and Jeri Morgan	Doug and Karen Armitage
Liturgist	Shawn Lorenzen	Don Rowen
Communion Servers	Jim and Jeri Morgan	Claudia Rowen
	Joe and Jackie Combes	Joan Witt
		Doug and Karen Armitage
Altar Care	Sue Dieter, Cathy Aden	Susan Senff
CD Recording		Dave Lueders
March 22		
Greeters	Jesse and Pat Brewer	Ruth Manning, Shelby Lamoureux
Liturgist	Judy Egr	Ashley Hamik
Communion Servers	Dave Egr	Paul and Ann Kroll
	Bill Baker	Charise and Maykala Adams
	Paul Concannon	
	Kelly Duffy	
Altar Care	Connie Walther, Lisa Meyer	Rosie Avalos
CD Recording		Paul Murphy
March 29		
Greeters	Woody and Mardi Fiske	Paul and Deb Christenson
Liturgist	Kenn Garder	Karen Mullen
Communion Servers	Shari Garder	Paul Christenson
	Pat Brewer	Kathy Christiansen
	Jason and Bailee Shupp	Judy Messerschmidt
		Lori Vandeventer
Altar Care	Mardi Fiske	Shelby Lamoureux, Ann & Paul Kroll
CD Recording		Jesse Brewer
Ushers		
	8:00 Paul Murphy, David Hild, Bob Christensen, Mike Klos	
	10:30 Gary Ramsay, John Ramsay, Rex Quadhamer	

MONTHLY CALENDAR

March 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:00am Worship & Communion 9:15am Sunday School/FISH 10:30am Worship & Communion 12:00pm Bowling for Jesus 5:00pm Bell Choir 6:30pm Youth Group	2 6:00pm Roanoke neighborhood Assoc. Mtg. 6:00pm Gather Bible Study 8:00pm AA & AI Anon	3 9:00am Quilters	4 4:30pm Tai Chi 5:30pm Soup Supper 6:00pm Brass Rehearsal 6:00pm Gather Bible Study 7:00pm Lenten Service 7:45pm Choir Rehearsal	5 7:00pm Boy Scouts	6 9:00am Scooter's Coffee Fellowship 9:30am AI Anon 7:30pm AA Mtg.	7 7:00am Men's Ministry 9:00am Novak Recital 9:00am Tai Chi 3:00pm Novak Recital
8 Daylight Saving Time Begins 8:00am Worship & Communion 9:15am Sunday School/Adult Forum 10:30am Worship & Communion 1:00pm District 18 AA Mtg. 5:00pm Bell Choir	9 8:00pm AA & AI Anon	10	11 4:30pm Tai Chi 5:30pm Soup Supper 6:00pm Brass Rehearsal 7:00pm Lenten Service 7:45pm Choir Rehearsal	12 7:00pm Boy Scouts	13 9:00am Scooter's Coffee Fellowship 9:30am AI Anon 7:30pm AA Mtg.	14 7:00am Men's Ministry 9:00am Tai Chi 9:00am Worship Planning 10:30am Vision & Coordination
15 8:00am Worship & Communion 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship & Communion 5:00pm Bell Choir 6:30pm Youth Group	16 Mary Lou out of the office 8:00pm AA & AI Anon	17 Mary Lou out of the office 9:00am Quilters 7:00pm Church Council	18 4:30pm Tai Chi 5:30pm Soup Supper 6:00pm Brass Rehearsal 7:00pm Lenten Service 7:45pm Choir Rehearsal	19 7:00pm Boy Scouts	20 9:00am Scooter's Coffee Fellowship 9:30am AI Anon 7:30pm AA Mtg.	21 7:00am Men's Ministry 9:00am Tai Chi
22 8:00am Worship & Communion 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship & Communion 5:00pm Bell Choir	23 8:00pm AA & AI Anon	24 1:00pm Book Club	25 4:30pm Tai Chi 5:30pm Soup Supper 6:00pm Brass Rehearsal 7:00pm Lenten Service 7:45pm Choir Rehearsal	26 7:00pm Boy Scouts	27 9:00am Scooter's Coffee Fellowship 9:30am AI Anon 7:30pm AA Mtg.	28 7:00am Men's Ministry 9:00am Tai Chi 9:00am Recital
29 8:00am Worship & Communion 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship & Communion 5:00pm Bell Choir	30 8:00pm AA & AI Anon	31				