

LifeLines

August 2015



Lord of Life Lutheran Church
20844 Bonanza Boulevard
Elkhorn, NE 68022
www.LordOfLifeElkhorn.org

Pastor Caleb's Corner

For the last five years, Brittany and I have daydreamed about where we would be when our time at Concordia Seminary ended. What type of congregation would we be placed in? How close would we be to family? Would we know anyone in the area? What would it be like raising a family in this new place? Would Brittany have to work or could she be a stay at home mom? All these questions swirled around in our heads as we got closer and closer to Call Day this past April. For both of us, it was a very exciting but very stressful time as we waited to hear where God was calling us.

After being at Lord of Life for a month and being able to look back at the journey that got us here, I can't help but laugh at the sleepless nights, anxious conversations, and butterflies in my stomach that seem to epitomize the month of April 2015. As a seminarian, and even now as a pastor, I need to be reminded of Jesus' words in Matthew 6:34: "Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble."

There are legitimately a lot of things in our lives that can stress us out. How much playing time am I going to get this school year? Where am I going to college next year? How am I going to pay for my child's college next year? Will I still have a job at Christmas time? Yet God promises that he provides what is needed.

I am still very new to this pastor thing and there are times that I'm stressed that I don't know what I'm doing, but when I look out my office window, I can see the potted flowers around the flag post and know that God has clothed those flowers. If he cares enough about the flowers to provide for them, how much more will he provide for me? How much more will he provide for you? Lay your stress and your anxiety on his outstretched arms by spending time in his Word and in prayer.

Pastor Caleb Kruse



Connect Through Prayer

Would you like to be part of a powerful prayer ministry? We would love to include you in our ranks of prayer warriors. To sign up, please list your name and email on the Info Board sign-up in the Gathering Area (narthex).

Whenever you have a prayer need or praise, please share those with us. Prayers for general distribution may be sent to Secretary@LordofLifeElkhorn.org; confidential prayers to PastorDavid@LordofLifeElkhorn.org.



Missionary Sharon Owens Our missionary to Macau, will speak at the Adult Bible Study on Sunday, August 9.



Mite Box Sunday

Lord of Life's **Women's Ministry** designates the first Sunday of every month as Mite Box Sunday. You can give your mites (offerings) to support the work of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML). Mites are collected in mite boxes to support the mission projects approved by the LWML membership in convention every two years. Lutheran women have stepped out in faith, setting goals and trusting God to move the hearts of His people to give generously to LWML to proclaim the Gospel. The national Mite Box Goal for 2013-2015 is \$1,830,000 – that's a lot of pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters! Look for the LWML Mite Box in the entry and add your mites.



GodConnects

Pastor's Sunday Bible Study

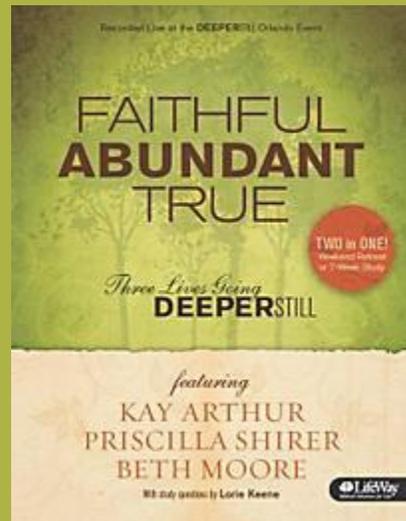
Whether you have questions about Christ or want to deepen your faith in Him, GodConnects will explore what the Bible says about our God, and how His love gives direction and meaning to your life today and forever. This class is designed for those who are interested in learning or reviewing the foundations of the Christian faith. Everyone is invited!

GodConnects is a video series explaining the Christian faith. Plain language and helpful illustrations present God's work of salvation in a concise manner. This series is ideal for those with questions about sin, judgment, redemption, Jesus, the believer's life, and more.

This study meets in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday mornings from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m.

Women's Monday Night Bible Study

The Women's Monday night Bible study will start again on Monday, August 24th at 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall at Lord of Life. We will meet the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month. The study will be "Faithful, Abundant, True" by three authors – Kay Arthur, Beth Moore, and Priscilla Shirer. Please sign up by Sunday, August 9th on the signup sheet posted or email Diane Linkugel at: diane.linkugel@cox.net to sign up for the Bible study so that I have enough books. You may also call Diane at 402-699-0987.



Description

Faithful, Abundant, True: Three Lives Going Deeper Still. Join Beth Moore, Kay Arthur, and Priscilla Shirer in a women's Bible study recorded live at the Orlando Deeper Still conference.

- Kay Arthur teaches from basically, the entire book of Hebrews! Hebrews is both an example of God's faithfulness and a challenge to believers to be faithful in difficult times.
- Priscilla Shirer teaches from Ephesians 3:20-21 on God's abundance. A fundamental basis for every believer is the absolute reality that God can do whatever He chooses to do. God's ability empowers our faithfulness.
- Beth Moore teaches on the topic of discernment. In these difficult days it is absolutely essential that we learn to trust the Holy Spirit to enable us to determine what is true and what is false.

While these three women each speak on the distinctive topic the Holy Spirit had lead them to teach, the messages result in a marvelous blend. Kay challenges us to faithfulness in difficult days. Priscilla points to the essential of trust in God's ability, and Beth teaches on how to discern truth from error in these difficult days.



Friday Faith Food Fellowship

The Friday Faith Food Fellowship Bible study meets every Friday at Valentino's, 5022 S. 108th St. We gather at noon for lunch and have a Bible study led by Pastor David from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. We'll be starting a new study this month, so now is a great time to join the Bible Study



Who Will You Invite to Church?

Think of a name. Any name. A friend, a relative, or a co-worker. When was the last time that person visited a church? Maybe they haven't been to church in a long time. Maybe they've never gone to church.

Have you ever thought about asking that person to come with you to church? Here's your chance. Lord of Life is planning a special Back to Church Sunday service on September 20 that's dedicated to welcoming friends and family to worship with us.

By participating in this special event, we'll join thousands of other churches across America to invite guests to hear about God's love. Last year, over 26,100 churches participated and together gave out more than 7.5 million invitations to church! It's exciting to be part of such a huge outreach.

So have you thought of someone you can invite? Don't worry about feeling nervous. We all do. But remember that God has placed that person in your life for a reason; He can give you the courage and the opportunity to ask.

It's not as hard as it may seem. Did you know that most people who have dropped out of church haven't lost their faith in God—they simply fell out of the habit of going to church? Some moved, had a change in life circumstances, or had a falling out with their former church and simply drifted away. Most often, life just became too busy. This means many of them are open to returning to church.

Will you commit to praying for our church as we prepare for Back to Church Sunday? And will you pray for that person God has placed on your heart? Let's see what He can do!



Scrip News

Scrip – an easy, super-simple ongoing fundraiser where businesses reward our church whenever you purchase their giftcards through us. You receive your card at face value, and the church earns a rebate just for your purchase.

How to Get - You can email Scrip orders to Julie at JulieKmusic@LordofLifeElkhorn.org. You can put your payment in the black mailbox in the entry and it will be deposited. You may also place orders online.

1. Online - www.ShopWithScrip.com
2. Paper Order Form – in the Gathering Area kiosk. Remember, we also have local Hy-Vee and No Frills available.
3. On Site – Check out the (limited) selection in the black labeled binder kept at the tech booth on Sunday mornings, and in the office during the week.

4. ScripNow online – Print cards immediately or reload existing cards. A new feature now lets you purchase cards to **give as gifts!** Go to ShopWithScrip.com and select the ScripNow option when shopping. Lord of Life's enrollment code is 9194FD1128994.

If you have any questions, or would like a Scrip informational packet, please contact Julie.



College Addresses Needed

The start of a new college year is just around the corner. Pastor Kruse and the Board for Human Care would like a current list of all of our college members and their addresses. Please send addresses and contact information to Pastor Caleb Kruse at PastorCaleb@lordoflifeelkhorn.org

Last Hurrah for College Students!

It's about time to move into dorms, have orientation, and just get back into the daily grind of college classes. Pastor Caleb and Brittany would like to have a BBQ and play lawn games with the college students before you leave and head back to school. Pastor Caleb is going to be grilling up burgers and brats on Sunday, August 9th starting at 5pm. Plan on coming for some good food, fun games, and a chance to meet up with others from your church family who are going to be heading to college also. Bring a dessert to share and a favorite lawn game if you have one. Friends are welcome to join! RSVP to pastorcaleb@lordoflifeelkhorn.org so we can get a head count for the amount of meat and buns needed.



Thank you to our wonderful church family for all of your prayers, food, and transportation services following Diane's bicycle accident, broken wrist, and recovery! We are truly blessed and very grateful to be a part of this church family!

Thank you for the awesome celebration of 30 years in the pastoral ministry. It has been a joy to spend 24 years as the pastor of Lord of Life!

Blessings in Christ,
Pastor David and Diane Linkugel



Thank you for supporting the Christian Outreach Program of Elkhorn (COPE).

HOURS of OPERATION

Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday 10:00 AM-12:00 PM
Tuesday and Thursday 5:30-7:30 PM
Closed Sunday

Below are the number of services your support helped us provide to families this quarter:

Clothing/Household - 115; Food Pantry— 53; Rent/Utilities— 4 families;
Bread/Produce – 186

Ongoing Angel Drive You may also support COPE financially through the Angel Drive. The funds raised are used to provide families who are experiencing temporary hardship with assistance and educational programming so families are stable. Please mail your check to COPE, 3434 N. 204th Street, Elkhorn, NE 68022.

Volunteer Opportunities Consider ways to use your talents to help those in our community. COPE has volunteer opportunities sorting clothes, helping with training classes, and bread and food pantry pick-up. Even occasional help is welcome. For more information, please contact COPE at 402-616-2330 or copeinfo@hotmail.com.

Back to School Backpack Program It's time for COPE's annual Backpack and School Supply Drive. There is a collection area in the entry for your donations. We need volunteers Friday August 7th (4pm to 6pm) and Saturday August 8th (8:30am to 12:30pm) at Community of Grace. School age youth may help Friday evening. Saturday is for adults only. Please contact Linda Hester at 402-659-6755 or lindaannhester6@yahoo.com if you would like to volunteer. Sunday August 2 is the last day you can bring school items to church.

For more information visit www.copeinfo.org For assistance requests, please contact Jane Gordon or Ginia Duff at 402-616-2330



Video and Sound Techs

If you would like to serve in this ministry area, please contact Julie Koenemann. You will receive training and work with another tech before going solo!

Quarterly Congregation Meeting

August 16 is the next regular quarterly congregation meeting. We'll meet at 9:15 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. All congregation members are welcome to attend.



Midweek Christian Education

Basic Training, our confirmation instruction for 7th and 8th grade students, begins on Wednesday, August 19 at 6:00 p.m. Christ Discipleship Training (CDT) for the 1st through 6th grade students begins on August 26 at 6:00 p.m. The parents' meeting for Basic Training and CDT is August 12 at 6:30 p.m.

Lord of Life's Mission

We are "Reaching out with love to create new and abundant lives in Christ."