



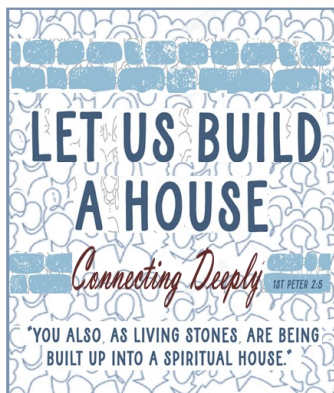
Worship

- In-person worship—
9:00 am Sundays
- Online worship continues, and will be posted on the [church website](#) and [Facebook page](#)



Church Council 2023

Mike Boyack
Laurie Brown
Billie Chock
Tim Current (treas.)
Steven Dickey (pres.)
Derek Horeis (v. pres.)
Dan Paulson
Lisa Spencer (sec'y.)
Natasha Werner
Pastor Bruce Kuenzel



Contact us!

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LightOfChristLutheran.com
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We are getting excited for our big youth fundraiser on Sunday, March 5th! There are many ways you can join in the fun and support our youth!

- Check out our online auction and share this link (<https://www.32auctions.com/locyouth23>) with family and friends... shipping will be available on most items! You can view items anytime now (*new items added daily!*) but bidding won't take place until 3/5 from 10 am until 5 pm.
- Come to church on 3/5 from 3-5 pm to view our awesome auction items! We will have youth entertainment, wine and beer tasting, appetizers, great raffle items and fellowship! Bidding will still take place online (youth will help those who don't feel comfortable doing this on their own device) but seeing the items in person will help you to see how great the items are!
- There are less than 75 tickets left for the Spaghetti Dinner (5-7 pm on 3/5)! Tickets are being sold by the youth before and after worship on Sundays and Wednesdays. Each ticket purchased receives one free raffle ticket!!
- Donations are still being accepted through this **Wednesday, 2/22 (Ash Wednesday)**.
- Our highly anticipated live Dessert Auction will take place at the end of the dinner around 6:30 pm on 3/5! We welcome you to bid or even donate a great dessert item!
- If you're not able to participate in any of these ways we always welcome your prayers and financial support! We still plan to give each youth a \$100 scholarship for attending but with the number of youth increasing (35 this year versus 15 last summer) this dollar amount keeps going up! We couldn't do these trips without you!

Belize Fundraiser March 5, 2023

-Auction = 3-5 pm

(begins online at 10 am)

-Spaghetti Dinner = 5-7 pm

(tickets go on sale beginning 1/29)

-Live Dessert Auction = 6:30 pm



LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE
MIDDLE EAST CRISIS

FEBRUARY 2023

ELCA.org/dlsaster

On Feb. 6 two powerful earthquakes, one a magnitude 7.8 and the second a magnitude 7.5, hit Türkiye and significantly impacted neighboring Syria. The two quakes devastated both countries, killing thousands of people and collapsing thousands of buildings.

member organizations are providing immediate aid; a comprehensive response will be coordinated as the full extent of the impact becomes clearer.

Gifts to “Middle East Crisis” will be used in full (100%) to assist those affected by the earthquakes and other disasters in the region. Together we can provide immediate and long-lasting support. Give today to support this response and others like it.

Lutheran Disaster Response is committed to supporting ACT Alliance and other partners in responding to the earthquakes. ACT Alliance

Yes, I want to help!

- Lutheran Disaster Response: Where needed most \$ ____ DDG0010
- Lutheran Disaster Response: Middle East Crisis \$ ____ IDG0038

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP code _____

Email address _____

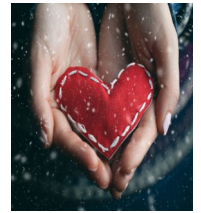
Give through your congregation or make your check out to Lutheran Disaster Response and send to: Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, ELCA Gifts Processing Center, P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009 and write “Where needed most” or “Middle East Crisis” on your check’s memo line.



Here is the link where you can donate electronically: [Evangelical Lutheran Church in America \(elca.org\)](http://Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (elca.org))

Caring Corner

(from Lisa Hemmer of the Healing & Wholeness Committee)



Random Acts of Kindness

In September 2022, the New York Times published an article titled “The Unexpected Power of Random Acts of Kindness – New research shows small gestures matter even more than we may think.” The article describes findings published in the Journal of Experimental Psychology, that people who perform a random act of kindness tend to underestimate how much the recipient will appreciate it. And they believe that miscalculation could hold many of us back from doing nice things for others more often. Several experiments were conducted, and the results in all of them confirmed that the people doing the kind things consistently underestimated how much it was actually appreciated.

I recently ran across this story on Instagram:

Several years ago, I invited a Buddhist monk to speak to my Senior elective class, and quite interestingly, as he entered the room, he didn’t say a word (that caught everyone’s attention). He just walked to the board and wrote this: “EVERYONE WANTS TO SAVE THE WORLD, BUT NO ONE WANTS TO HELP MOM DO THE DISHES.” We all laughed. But then he went on to say this to my students:

“Statistically, it’s highly unlikely that any of you will ever have the opportunity to run into a burning orphanage and rescue an infant. But, in the smallest gesture of kindness—a warm smile, holding the door for the person behind you, shoveling the driveway of the elderly person next door—you have committed an act of immeasurable profundity, because to each of us, our life is our universe.”

This is my hope for you in the New Year—that by your smallest acts of kindness, you will save another’s world.

The NY Times article concludes with this:

If you are not already in the habit of performing random kind acts—or if it does not come naturally to you—Dr. Franco said to start by thinking about what you like to do.

“It’s not about you being like, ‘Oh man, now I have to learn how to bake cookies in order to be nice,’” she said. “It’s about: What skills and talents do you already have? And how can you turn that into an offering for other people?”

There are lots of small things all of us can do that don’t require any special talent. So, maybe consider helping with the dishes.

Colossians 3:12: *Therefore, as God’s chosen ones, holy and dearly loved, put on compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.*



Join us for Ash Wednesday Worship on February 22nd. A meal will be served starting at 6 PM, with the service beginning at 7 PM, held in-person and live-streamed. There are options for you to participate in the imposition of ashes at home. If you would prefer “pre-made” ashes, we will have a limited supply available for pick-up at the church on Ash Wednesday, between 7:30 AM and 1:30 PM. We will also hold weekly Wednesday services beginning on March 1st. These services begin at 7 PM and incorporate the Holden Evening Prayer service. Supper will be served by the youth at 6 PM, preceding each Lenten service. They will continue through the season of Lent.

How to participate in the imposition of ashes at home:

If you choose to use ashes, it isn't necessary to find palm fronds to burn – just be aware of what kind of ashes you are using and make certain there isn't anything in them that will react badly with the skin. For safety, mix the ashes with oil before use. **Do not mix the ashes with water. A mixture of water and ash on skin can often lead to irritation and burns.**

Please use caution whenever burning anything to make ashes.

Follow these steps once you have created your own ashes or picked palm ashes up from church.

- **Step 1:** Add one or two drops of olive oil to the ashes in the bowl and mix with a teaspoon. Mix the ash and oil until the ash begins to stick together, the mix should have a paste-like consistency. Add oil or ash until the mixture is right.
- **Step 2:** Cover the ash and oil paste with plastic wrap until ready to use to prevent anything from falling in and contaminating the mixture.

Lenten Supper Schedule

2/22 = Pulled Pork Sandwiches
3/1 = Pasta Bar
3/8 = Baked Potato Bar
3/15 = Chili Dogs
3/22 = Tacos
3/29 = Soup, Salad & Breadsticks

Lenten Meals



*There will be gluten free options at each meal. All proceeds benefit youth going on the summer service trip to Belize. Thanks for your support!



In need of a night OFF or a night OUT? You're in luck! Drop your kiddo(s) off for a night of fun at Light of Christ on **Saturday, February 25th**, where they'll enjoy food and fun with senior high

youth. Deadline to register is **Wednesday, February 22nd**. Scan the code below for details and to reserve your spot(s):



Sisters of LOC February Event

Please join the Sisters of LOC for a night of custom candle making and fellowship on Thursday, February 23rd from 6:30-8:30 PM in the Living Room (youth room). The cost is \$30 per candle and can be paid for by check to Kelly Harstad or Venmo **@Kelly-Harstad**. You may choose your own scent and customize your candle label. Refreshments will be provided. We hope you can make it! Sign up at this link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040A4AA5A62CA64-candle>



A PLACE FOR YOU



A PLACE FOR YOU ↗

Celebration of First Communion— March 26 at our 9 AM Worship

To help prepare for this special event we will meet on Sunday, February 26 and Sunday, March 12 from 6-7 pm. [Register here](#)

THERE IS A PLACE FOR YOU!



Confirmation Games!

Each week we take time with our Confirmation youth to play a fun game. Some games don't take any supplies, some take quite a few. Your generosity allows us to have fun and build relationships with the kids!

High School Fellowship

Join us for nights of fellowship, friends, faith, food and FUN! Here is our upcoming schedule (Wednesdays from 7:30-8:45 at LOC):

On the Wednesdays during Lent (2/22 – 3/29), the Living Room will be open after worship for any youth that want to connect and hang out but we won't have any scheduled plans. We hope you'll join us for worship each week at 7 pm and connect with friends afterwards.