

Love of Christ Lutheran Church



Love Notes



Monthly Newsletter

“Christ living and loving through us!”

January 2020

2020 LOC CHURCH COUNCIL

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Secretary: Jo Coyle
Discipleship & Prayer Chairperson: Dean Garnett
Social Ministries Chairperson: Teona Henry
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PASTOR GENE’S COMMENTS WORSHIP

When Christ lives in the heart, the natural reaction is worship. When we realize what a privilege it is to be given the power to become a child of God, we gratefully respond in worship.

We know there are many distractions. So many things are bidding for our time, we often neglect the most important thing and that is our relationship to God. Where would we be today if God, our Father, withheld his blessings?

Our churches should be filled to capacity as we recognize that Jesus Christ is Lord of all. We need to invite others to join us, yes, we should offer to

take them with us on Sunday and help them feel at home with the service of worship.

There is nothing that can fill our hearts with peace and joy like our relationship to God. We have the privilege to live with Him in Prayer with the assurance that He will Hear and Bless.

As our relationship to Him grows more and more personal, our hearts are filled with gratitude. Our life should be one continual act of thanksgiving for the joy of knowing our sins are forgiven. Evil would like us to ignore Him, but we cannot as we believe that He is the Lord of life, our life.

Be sure to arrange your schedule so that you find time to worship on Sunday morning. Take time for your devotions every day. And take the name of Jesus with you.

Pastor Gene Hasselquist

Working for God on earth doesn't pay much....but
His retirement plan is out of this world!

Sunday Services: Worship service is scheduled for each Sunday at 11:00AM.

Communion Schedule is the 2nd and 4th Sundays

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Welcome to a new year and a new decade. May you be blessed with peace, love, and good health. May your resolutions include loving your neighbor and lending a hand to those less fortunate. Remember our mission at Love of Christ Lutheran is LOVE. Spread the love to those around you.

Shirley

Nelson

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

Every January, millions of people begin their year with New Year's resolutions. Statistics claim that by January 31 two percent have still been keeping their resolutions, but the other ninety-eight percent have either neglected or forgotten the resolutions all together. (At usually that is by January 3rd.) The most common of the resolutions are: Diet or eat healthier (71 percent), Exercise more (65 percent), Lose weight (54 percent), Save more and spend less (32 percent), Learn a new skill or hobby (26 percent), Quit smoking (21 percent), Read more (17 percent).

But what about making spiritual New Year's resolutions? James spoke of some people who can teach us a valuable lesson about great intentions that aren't aligned with God's will:

James 4:13-15--Listen carefully, those of you who *make your plans and* say, "We are traveling to this city in the next few days. We'll stay there for one year while our business explodes and revenue is up." ¹⁴The reality is you have no idea where your life will take you tomorrow. You are like a mist that

appears one moment and then vanishes in another. ¹⁵It would be best to say, "If it is the Lord's will and we live long

enough, we hope to do this project or pursue that dream."

Our plans may or may not be God's plans. If we want to be successful with any New Year's resolution, we must seek God's will. By his strength we might lose weight, eat better, or become better stewards of our finances.

What does God want for our lives? When he convicts, he also equips us to follow through with the plan. When we know we are following God's plan, then we have more strength to stick to it, allowing him to work well beyond our normal January 3rd quitting date.

Have you considered God in your resolutions?

"HEART FELT THANKS" To ALL of you who helped in so many ways to make the 2019 Runn School Christmas Party a huge success! The children and staff provided a wonderful day for us.

The following message was printed in the Christmas Program:

Thanks for all the things you do for our children!!!

Some day....Some how....Some where.... The Love of Christ's seed will give fruit in our children's hearts. May God keep blessing you and all of those that are in your life. Have a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year! Thanks Love of Christ Church.

Love always, Runn Elementary

BIBLE STUDY NOW AVAILABLE

DON'T MISS OUT! Love of Christ has a study to fit your needs!



Thursday: 9:00 AM Ladies Bible Study w/Lou
1st Saturday of the Month: W-ELCA Bible
Study w/Sharon
Sunday: 9:30AM Bible Study w/Paul

FELLOWSHIP

Coffee and rolls are served in the Fellowship Room from 10:15 to 10:40AM before Sunday services. Everyone is invited.

HAPPY STITCHERS

What a fantastic year we've been having. Ten, or so, ladies, and yes---you too, Richard, come every week to quilt.

We asked for materials and have we ever been blessed. We have received lots of materials for tops, but also lots of sheets, etc., for backs.

Not only do these ladies come on Tuesday, but some take material home and make tops, backs, and baby quilts during the week. What a joy this is!

For all who have donated materials, thank you! For all those giving of their time to do quilting, thank you!

If you would like to quilt with us but feel you "don't know how", please come. Give us a try. You don't have to know how to thread a needle or tie a knot☺ We love having new faces.

We have a "Prayer Squares" project. A square is quilted and tied with loving strings of embroidery thread. Then when one of our members of Love of Christ (or a friend) is having surgery, or is in a hospital, each of us say a prayer, tie a knot, and then give the patch to them. They are even allowed to take them into the surgery room. We want our prayers with them.

We will be quilting until the 1st of April. Please come join us. The Happy Stitchers

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl Ministry was begun in 2003 through the efforts of Jean Wegner and others who began knitting and crocheting shawls. Prayers were suggested and printed to be used as they created the shawls which would be given to the sick and those needing comfort within the church.

Sally Moe designed the enclosure card. At the beginning of the ministry, the shawls were distributed primarily to those who are within Love of Christ; but as more and more ladies joined the group, there were ample shawls to provide for family and friends of the church. We are pleased to fill requests. Shawls have been distributed to many within the community, and they have been mailed to numerous locations within the United States and Canada as requests for those needing prayers and comfort are filled.

The cost of mailing and purchase of gift bags has been defrayed by monetary gifts. Occasionally, yarn is given to the ministry, but usually the ladies bear the cost of the yarn they use.

A book has been compiled of the thank you notes received from the recipients. It is located on the lectern beside the television in the Fellowship Room. You are welcome to enjoy the book and the comments of those blessed by this ministry.

Do you wish to join this ministry? Just provide a shawl; if you have any questions, you may call Cathy Johnson at (772) 834-1845. She will be happy to share what she knows about this ministry. Jerry Shields

READING MACHINES

If you, or a loved one, have a vision difficulty that could be helped by the use of our reading machines, please contact Julie Knutson at the Church office (956) 447-1337. Three reading machines are available to be used by anyone in need of help. The machines are "checked out", much as a library book and returned to the office when no longer needed, or if the user does not remain in the Valley during the summer months. There is no charge for this use. If you have a problem picking up the machine from the church office, please make it known to the secretary at the church office, and the machine will be delivered to you. This is another ministry of the Love of Christ Church!

THE LIBRARY

Come and check out the Love of Christ Library! Folks have donated some great reading, videos, and audio tapes. Come and browse or come and bring your donation to the Library, and be an encouragement to the folks at Love of Christ

church. The Library is located at the church office, and Julie Knutson is always willing to help you. P.S. I am looking for bookshelves, if anyone has some they are willing to donate to Love of Christ.

WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE RESTROOM

You will find this rest room beside the church Nursery. Please enter through the Nursery door unless worship is being held in the Sanctuary. If so, you may use the bi-fold doors into the south overflow area from the Fellowship Room.

SPECIAL MUSIC

We are still looking for a volunteer to coordinate special music for our worship services. Contact Dean Garnett (712) 579-2233 for more information.



PRAYER REQUESTS

Would you like to get the prayer requests of Love of Christ? Send an e-mail lthspopie2@sbcglobal.net and you will be included! You can start praying right away! And it's a **FREE** subscription!!

Are any among you suffering? They should pray....Pray for one another so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. James 5:13&16

PRAYER CONCERNS

- Carrie Anderson
- Eloy Avila, III
- Reb & Heather Baker
- Ethan Bowen
- John Bowen
- Arlys & Harold Buland
- Renate Chamberlain
- Geoffery
- Greg Gieseke
- Charles Hubbell
- Rosalinda Huerta

- Don Jacobson
- Carole Kangas
- Arlene & Vince Lange
- Donna Lidtke
- Dorothea Malloy
- Maria Mendoza
- Mary Ann Mudge
- Anita Nelson
- Evelyn Nelson
- John Peterson
- Ed Puder
- Sidney Pugh
- Ryan Rounds
- Staff and Children of Runn School
- Don Van Deest
- Isabella Waldschmidt
- Bruce Wiedner
- Jean Wiedenfeld
- Elaine Wisely

AND...A SPECIAL PRAYER for our men and women of the Armed Forces!

CHRIST CARE...

Reflecting Christ's love in our community of faith! His inspiration!

Please, if you...or someone you know... could use some Christ care, some concern, or some expression of the love of Christ in his/her life, *LET US KNOW.*

You may do so by calling Pastor Sylvia De La Garza at (956) 655-5508 or by calling the church office (956) 447-1337. We at LOC want to care for you, for your friends, and for all who want to know the love of Christ in their life.

SPECIAL OCCASIONS

Drop a personal note to one of your brothers or sisters in Christ at LOC who celebrates a special occasion this month and let them know how much their presence in our family of faith at LOC means to you.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

01/01 Mike Jensen

01/03	Helen Lamson
01/05	Gary Rhodes
01/07	Bonnie Cahoon
01/09	Cathy Graham
01/10	Lee Nelson
01/10	Eleanor Scott
01/10	Elizabeth Sutton
01/11	Bonnie Moore
01/13	Gloria Jaegler
01/22	Jon Schwartz
01/24	Bob Chaloupek
01/26	Beverly Telfor

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

01/01	Ernie & Lorraine Harrell
01/03	Gerald & Helen Lamson
01/28	Gloria & Mike Jensen

We apologize if we've missed your special date. Perhaps we do not have your special dates on record, so please let us know your birth or anniversary date!

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

I want to thank all the people who have volunteered these past few months as lectors, ushers and communion assistants. Your dedicated service and help to Pastor Sylvia each Sunday morning is most appreciated. There is always room for more people to get involved. And training is provided.

Dean Garnett

A minister waited in line to have his car filled with gas just before a long holiday weekend.

The attendant worked quickly, but there were many cars ahead of him in front of the service station. Finally, the attendant motioned him toward a vacant pump.

"Reverend," said the young man, "sorry about the delay. It seems as if everyone waits until the last minute to get ready for a long trip."

The minister chuckled, "I know what you mean. It's the same in my business."

A GENTLE REMINDER

The area in front of the North Door of the church is designated for loading/unloading only. The purpose is to make it more friendly for the handicapped from both congregations to worship. Please feel free to use the designated area and then park your vehicle elsewhere in order that others will have access to the same convenience. Thank you so much for your courtesy.

Attractive bumper stickers advertising our church are now available. They can be obtained from the ushers at church services or during the week from Julie Knutson in the church office. You might want to put one on your car bumper, RV, or golf cart.

Also, if you would like a name tag and logo, please write your name on a card at the usher's station. One will be made for you.



The Parking Ticket

A minister parked his car in a no parking zone in a large city because he was short of time and couldn't find a space with a meter. Then he put a note under the windshield wiper that read: "I have circled the block ten times. If I don't park here, I will miss my appointment. Forgive us our trespasses."

When he returned, he found a citation from a police officer with a note saying "I've circled the block for 10 years. If I don't give you a ticket, I'll lose my job. Lead us not into temptation."

CHURCH PRAYER MINISTRY

If you have any questions about the Love of Christ Prayer Ministry, please speak with or e-mail Anne Baker at lthspopie2@aol.com. Anne's telephone is (956) 929-0260.

Editor's Note: This is a regenerated copy of the Love Notes originally printed in February 2009.

Shirley Nelson, Sharon Newcomer & Dean Garnett submitted new articles for this version. I have taken the liberty of updating existing articles to reflect what is happening at Love of Christ in 2020.

Printed By:

Love of Christ Lutheran Church
“Christ Living and Loving through Us”
Worship Address: 300 S. Border
Mail Address: 914 W. 3rd St.
Weslaco, TX 78596

Pastor Sylvia De La Garza
Love Notes Editor: Julie Knutson
Telephone: (956) 447-1337

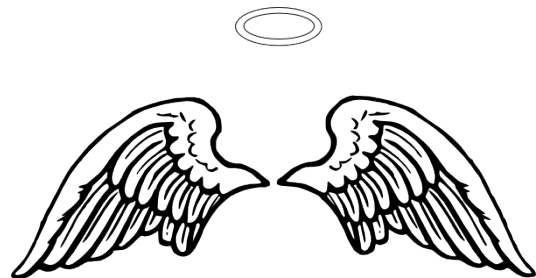
Love of Christ Office: (956) 447-1337
Office Administrator: Julie Knutson
Website: www.loveofchrist.net
E-mail: locmailbox@yahoo.com

SPRING FLING

Mark your calendars! The Spring Fling will take place on Thursday, March 5, 2020. More information will follow as the date draws nearer. We hope you will plan to attend this fun event!

PASTOR CARL FREDRICKSON

Word has been received that Pastor Carl Fredrickson passed on January 9th 2020. Services will be held in May in San Antonio, TX.



RUNN SCHOOL SHARING PLACE

Unpacking of the many boxes will continue on Mondays, from 9-11 a.m. continuing each Monday thereafter except on the days the school is closed. Many, many willing hands are needed in this ministry. We will no longer accept donations to the Sharing Place. Please give your items to Salvation Army, Goodwill, or CHI. Thank you for all you have done for the Sharing Place in the past. You are appreciated. If you have any questions, please call Kathy Whitney at (515) 778-3347

CHURCH PICTURE DIRECTORY

The cost of the directory will be \$15.00, due when you pick up the directory. There is an option to use a previous photo, which is indicated on the form. The next photo days will be January 27th 9:30a.m.-4:00p.m., 28th 9:30a.m.-4:00p.m., & 29th 12:00 noon-4:00p.m., 2020. Call Betty Piper to schedule an appointment (956) 460-9841

ANNUAL MEETING

will be held on **Saturday, February 15th at 10:00am.** Continental Breakfast served at 9:30 am.

Invitation to the Rio Grande Conference of WELCA

Spring Conference Gathering on Saturday January 25, 2020

At Love of Christ Lutheran Church at 914 W Third St, Weslaco
(corner of Border Avenue & Third Street)

Theme: Children of Runn School shared by The Reverend Gene
Hasselquist

Registration is at 8:30 a.m.

Registration cost is \$10 per person (includes Lunch)

Physical Offerings: Walmart Gift Cards to be used for School Supplies

Monetary Offering: ½ to W-ELCA and ½ to Love of Christ for Runn
School necessities (make checks to: Love Christ Lutheran Church)

The worship Service will focus on Thank Offerings (please have your
congregations do a Thank Offering collection prior to coming on
January 25, 2020) see note at bottom of this Invitation

All's Fair World Gifts - Gifts from Haiti - Display & for Sale

Women of Faith & Creativity – Pop Top Creations on Display & for
Sale Please bring your Pop Tops for this mission