

## ***About Our Church Body***

Lord of Life is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA). Our membership in the ELCA unites us with Christians across our country and the world. It allows us to pool our resources for mission work as well as for writing hymnals, Bible classes, and other materials. But above all, we can be comforted by the fact that we know there are Christians throughout the world who share a common faith with us.

We believe:

- We are saved by the **grace of God alone** – not by anything we do;
- Our salvation is through **faith alone** – a confident trust in God, who in Christ promises us forgiveness, life and salvation; and
- The **Bible is the norm** for faith and life – the true standard by which teachings and doctrines are to be judged.

## ***New Member Events Include:***

A New Member Orientation, a time to hear more from you, what you are looking for in a church, and to be introduced to a few people and many opportunities regarding the ministry we share.

A New Member Sunday, a time in worship, to celebrate you as new members.

**Contacts:** Pastor Jamie Thompson can be reached at 952-953-4484, [info@lordoflifemn.org](mailto:info@lordoflifemn.org)

Or contact our New Member Coordinators, Mike & Nancy Zaske at [nzaske@gmail.com](mailto:nzaske@gmail.com)

## ***A Worship Guide***

Sometimes, folks are nervous about trying out a new church because they think they won't know what to do and when to do it. Our services will be easy to follow. We will have an order of worship ready for you, and the worship leaders will help guide the worshippers through the service.

After the service, we have a fellowship time. We enjoy checking in and catching up with one another in this informal way, getting to know one another over a cup of coffee or juice. We hope you will stay for a few moments after worship. We also have a reception line in the lobby where you can meet the pastor after each morning service.

## ***Worship Time***

We offer one worship service at 9:30 a.m. This service lasts approximately 1 hour. From September through May Sunday School is provided for our pre-K through 6<sup>th</sup> grade students during the 9:30 a.m. worship service.

## ***Sunday School – Faith Quest***

Faith Quest, our Sunday School program, is offered September – early May during the 9:30 a.m. worship service. All children ages 4 – 6<sup>th</sup> grade are welcome to join at any time.

Information about our other youth education programs is also available in the narthex – First Communion, Confirmation, Life Nite, Life Quest, Vacation Bible School and IGNITE youth group.



**Welcome to**

**Lord of Life**

**Lutheran Church**

***Making God First***

***Through Hope, Growth & Togetherness***

***Visitor Guide 2017***

Visiting a church for the first time can be a challenging experience.

Where do I go?  
What time does the service start?  
What's here for my children?  
What should I expect?

We want to put you at ease so that your first visit to Lord of Life is a refreshing and beneficial experience for your whole family.

### ***Warm, Welcoming Community***

We appreciate you checking us out. On Sunday mornings you will find a warm group of people to meet you as you enter the church. And just outside the main doors to the worship area you will find ushers to assist you and provide you with a worship bulletin.

### ***Pressure-free Zone***

Check us out at your own pace. If you provide us with your contact information on the information sheet we will follow up with you, but we won't pressure you.

### ***“Come as You Are”***

We do not have a dress code. We hope that you will be comfortable in what you wear.

### ***Meaningful Worship***

Our worship service combines the best of tradition with the best of the new. The music is upbeat and joyful. The message will be Bible-based, relevant and not even close to boring.

### ***Nursery***

A bright, clean nursery with loving staff will be available for your babies and toddlers. Ask one of the ushers for assistance.

### ***Intergenerational***

We love all kinds of people, including those who are very young and those who are great in wisdom and young at heart. Our church community is like a family, drawing upon the strength, enthusiasm and wisdom of people of every stage of life.

### ***Child-friendly***

We have a desire to worship across generations. Children are *welcomed* here, not endured. From September – May we start the service with music and announcements followed by the Children's Sermon. At the conclusion of the children's message children are welcome to transition to Faith Quest, our Sunday School program. During the summer, the children's message is before the Sermon. Afterward children are invited to transition to “Rainbow Time” where they work on children's bulletins. Or children are welcome to return to sit with their family and friends. Activity bags, which include hard-board reading books, coloring books and colors, are available for younger children in the church entryway.

### ***Communion***

Communion is offered at each worship service. We share an open communion. All who believe in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior are welcome to God's table of grace. A blessing is given to children who do not yet receive communion. We celebrate communion by using intinction, dipping the bread into the wine (first cup) or alcohol-free wine (second cup).

### ***Ministry Opportunities***

Within our worship services, we have opportunities for folks to help out. But, if that's not your thing, we can help you find other ways to utilize your gifts in service to God.

### ***Offering***

*When will they take the offering?*

*How much am I expected to give?*

*Do they want visitors to contribute too?*

We pass an offering basket during the service so that our worship may include bringing gifts to God. Children may bring the quarters and dimes their parents give them. Someone older may write a check. Another family may be giving online. All are remembering Jesus and giving their gift out of love for him. You may wish at first to learn more about our ministry before bringing your offerings to God through our church. But you are welcome to participate as your heart leads you to give.

### ***Membership***

Guests are always welcome and we rejoice in having our Christian brothers and sisters join us in membership. If you are interested in joining Lord of Life or would like more information, please indicate your interest on the information sheet, which is passed during the offering, speak with Pastor Jamie after church, or call or email him.

### ***A Final Thought***

We pray that this has helped answer some of your questions and alleviated your fears. Our goals as a congregation are quite simple. We want to grow in faith and share that faith with people like you. Everything we do is meant to accomplish these two goals. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or if there is anything we can do for you.

God's blessings to you, and we look forward to seeing you in church and making God first together!