



Voices of the Valley

The Monthly Newsletter of Lord of the Valley Lutheran Church

"That You May Know, Live, and Share the Love of Christ."

September 2018

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ALL ARE WELCOME

As a community of the people of God, the people of Lord of the Valley Lutheran Church are called to welcome all people, regardless of age, economic status, ethnic background, gender, physical or mental ability, race or sexual orientation. We affirm that in Christ *"there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female."* - Galatians 3:28

Lord of the Valley Lutheran Church

PO Box 843 Granby, CO 80446 (970) 887-9252

Email: lotvoffice@lordofthevalley.org website: lordofthevalley.org

Church Office Hours – Monday – Thursday 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM

Rev. Brian Bergum – Pastor (970-531-4312)

pastorb@lordofthevalley.org

Kris Kuhnle - Newsletter Editor / Office Administrator

Church Council Members:

John Price 970-406-1698

Susan Odneal 816-210-4792

Chris Tinkum 725-3440

Pat Edwards 970-406-8108

Jane Fisher 970-302-9067

Tom Mark 303-949-7214

Raymond Covington 970-846-9187

Suzanne Gerhart

Greg Orzech 720-810-4966

Alicia Scott 303-946-2180

The church council meets the second Monday of each month. All church council meetings throughout the year are open to anyone. If you have something that you would like to present in front of the church council, or an item of concern please contact one of the church council members listed above.

The next Church Council Meeting is on Sunday, September 10th at 6:30 pm.



Our Children's Sunday School during worship will begin again on Sunday, September 16th. The children are excused for class after the Children's Sermon. We use the Sunday School Curriculum "Whirl". The children explore their faith through interactive activities, games, colorful leaflets, creative art projects and music. The lessons relate to the Bible readings from the worship service. We invite your children to be part of Sunday School this year. Cathy Childress, Sharon Waggoner and Shana Roehrs will be taking the lead as teachers. If you are interested in helping with our Sunday School program please contact the church office 887-9252.



Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Thank you! For the time you provided me in Sabbatical. I had a wonderful experience all around. There was quiet time, and creative time. Karen and I traveled to some beautiful and interesting places. We visited with family and friends and met some very interesting people.

I have heard very positive reports of your time with Pastor Ken and Marlys Thurow who were here at LOTV in my absence. Pastor Ken and I had a little time to visit near the end of the sabbatical. He shared his experience and the joy they had in being part of the congregation for three months. I was so pleased they could be here on that first Sunday I was back. It was a full day with the annual meeting and picnic.

I am planning sometime to visit specifically about the sabbatical in these next few months. I will host a coffee hour at 10:00 am on Monday, September 10th and on Wednesday, September 26th. These will be informal visits. I will also prepare some presentation for October and I am scheduled to participate in our travel series in November.

Early in the sabbatical I spent time reading. I took Moki with me to Sky Ranch for a couple weeks in mid-May. I read through the Psalms while also reading Walter Brueggemann’s book, “Praying the Psalms.” Brueggemann focused on the honesty of the Psalms and how they give up permission to be open and honest with God in our experiences of pain or injustice as well as celebration.

Two books on Photography and prayer encouraged slowing down and shifting from the thought of “taking” or “shooting” a photograph to receiving an image as a gift. It calls for a change of attitude about photography so one sees it as a process more than a task.

Slowing down, taking some deep breaths, and meditating is not something that comes easily for me; perhaps not for most people, and particularly in our

Looking For a Way to Deepen Your Worship Experience?
For many people, looking at the Bible readings before Sunday helps put the message in context of their lives. As you read the lessons, ask yourself: Is there anything in the readings that relate to your life right now? Is there anything that surprises you in the readings? Disturbs you? Try doing this for a couple of weeks, see if following this on a weekly basis strengthens your personal faith life, and deepens your worship experience.

The Lessons for Worship in September

These are the Bible readings that we will hear during our worship services this month. They are provided that you might use them for personal devotion and meditation.

September 2nd – 15th Sunday after Pentecost Deuteronomy 4: 1-2, 6-9 James 1: 17-27 Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23	September 9th– 16th Sunday after Pentecost Isaiah 35: 4-7a James 2: 1-10 [11-13] 14-17 Mark 7: 24-37
September 16th – 17th Sunday after Pentecost Isaiah 50: 4-9a James 3: 1-12 Mark 8: 27-38	September 23rd – 18th Sunday after Pentecost Jeremiah 11: 18-20 James 3: 13-4:3, 7-8a Mark 9: 30-37
September 30th – 19th Sunday after Pentecost Numbers 11: 4-6a, 10-16, 24-29 James 5: 13-20 Mark 9: 38-50	

Ministers of Worship in September

<u>September 2</u> Greeters – Jerry and Edna Anderson Ushers –John Price, Bill Tetlow Readers –Edna Anderson, Bill Tetlow Communion Assistant –Susan Price, Jerry Anderson Acolyte –Mackenzie Moyer	<u>September 9</u> G –Greg and Lori Orzech U –Greg Orzech, Bob Means R – Ben Kuhnel, Kathy Means CA – Charlene Heins, Kathy Means, Kris Kuhnel A – Joey Gagnon
<u>September 16</u> G - Raymond and Carmen Covington U – Steve Peters, Raymond Covington R –Carmen Covington, Chris Tinkum CA –Chris Tinkum, Susan Price, Carmen Covington A – Gunner Bjerken	<u>September 23</u> G – Jerry and Edna Anderson U – Steve Gall, Paul Gerhart R –Marla Gall, Jerry Anderson CA – Suzanne Gerhart, Marla Gall, Jerry Anderson A –Josie Nance
<u>September 30</u> G - Greg and Lori Orzech U – Greg Orzech, Bill Tetlow R –Pat Edwards, Bill Tetlow CA –Pat Edwards, Lori Orzech, Charlene Heins A – Auggie Roehrs	

If you are unable to help be a worship minister on the particular day, please try and find a replacement to take your place or to switch days with you. Thank you for sharing in the ministry of Lord of the Valley.



**Lord of the Valley's
Health and Wellness Ministry**



Blood Cancer Awareness Month

*September is blood cancer awareness month –
Leukemia, Lymphoma and Myeloma.*

Blood Cancers are cancers of the blood, bone marrow or lymph nodes that affect normal blood cell production or function. Today, nearly 1.3 million people in the United States are living with, or are in remission from, leukemia, lymphoma or myeloma. Blood cancer can affect anyone, at any time. There is no way to prevent or screen for most blood cancers, so we are focused on finding cures. Blood cancers are the third leading cancer killer of Americans. Every three minutes someone in the United States is diagnosed with blood cancer. Leukemia is the most common cancer in children and teens.

Most common blood cancers:

Leukemia – A cancer of the bone marrow and blood.

Lymphoma – A cancer that starts in cells that are part of the body's immune system.

Myeloma – A cancer of plasma cells, which are a type of white blood cells.

Myelodysplastic Syndromes (MDS) – A group of diseases of the blood and bone marrow.

Monthly Blood Pressure Checks

Don't forget that we offer free blood pressure checks following our worship service once a month. The next free blood pressure check will be on Sunday, September 2nd.



time. I did learn that there are some places in my life where this can happen with greater ease than others. Sitting in a cabin overlooking a small stream was very conducive to quiet prayerful time. But of course in my regular routine that is not where I find myself most days. But I do have places close by that can encourage a more meditative, prayerful time in my days; like the sanctuary right outside my office door. Or the back deck of our home.

So I am setting some new goals for my routine, post-sabbatical, to find more quiet. One piece that seems especially helpful is removing Facebook from my phone. Another is to keep reading and spend less time on screens. It will take some effort and I will have to start over time and again. But this is descriptive of our life of faith. We keep at it. When we get sidetracked by events in life, we adjust and start again.

I will say one thing more. I was ready to come back to work at LOTV. I was and am looking forward to our life as a congregation. I believe this means my time in sabbatical was restful and renewing, as it was hoped and intended to be. I look forward to visiting more about it with you, and share some of the images I received through the lens of my camera. Thank you again for the blessing of time apart in sabbatical.

Peace to you in Christ!

Pastor Brian Bergum

Coffee Time with Pastor

Join Pastor Brian for coffee and conversation related to his sabbatical. Pastor will host two opportunities in September on Monday the 10th and Wednesday the 26th. Meet in the Fellowship Room at 10:00 am and enjoy some storytelling, some photographs, and maybe some coffee cake!





The Women's Bible Study sessions continue in September on Tuesday, September 4th and 18th at 11:00 am. All women of LOTV are invited for a time of sharing, study and support while enjoying a light lunch. For more information please call Pat Edwards at 970-406-8108, Carolyn Stahl 887-9352 or Mary Mulholland 303-898-6743.

Men's Ministry

On Wednesday mornings at 7:00 am we have a group of men who gather at Lord of the Valley for breakfast, conversation, prayer and study. This group welcomes men to join them whether for a week or two, a season or year round. They take turns providing breakfast for each other. Sometimes the conversations linger, but they understand if some need to leave earlier. They seek to offer an encouraging, supportive time together. Everyone is invited to participate.

Sunday Morning Fellowship

We would like to thank those who have generously hosted Sunday morning fellowship in the past few months. It is an important part of our ministry as it is a time to share in conversation and welcome guests. We have a few Sundays available in September and October for those interested in hosting Sunday morning fellowship. Please see the signup sheet at the back of the sanctuary as well as a list of responsibilities.

Home Devotions / Living Lutheran Magazine

Located on the table at the back of the sanctuary are home devotionals you are invited to take and use at home. They are free, and they are a simple way to spend a few minutes each day focusing on your relationship with God. Also, at the table you will find information relating to our ministry at LOTV and the September issue of the Living Lutheran Magazine. Feel free to take what you might find useful.

Appreciating God's World

Many members of our congregation have had the opportunity to travel to many parts of the United States and the world. We are continuing a program where members of the congregation share their travel experiences with other LOTV members and the community. The 30-40 minute presentations will be at 2:30 pm on the third Friday of the month. Afterwards, there will be time for questions. Attendees / presenters may bring appetizers to share. **Our first presentation will be on September 21st. Julie and Joe Cunningham will share their experience in Cuba.** Please contact Jerry and Edna Anderson with any questions, 970-887-9773.



Mission Nicaragua Team

On September 20th our Mission Nicaragua Leadership Team will meet at Lord of the Valley at 2:00 pm. The team will discuss plans for next year and the direction we would like to take with our Mission Nicaragua at LOTV. If you have any thoughts and ideas you would like to share please contact Carmen prior to the meeting so they may be discussed at the meeting.



Mission Nicaragua Fair Trade Coffee Sales

Fair Trade Coffee and Chocolate available for purchase on September 9th and 23rd in the Fellowship Room following church services. Your purchase supports our Mission Team to purchase supplies.

New Member Welcome

Lord of the Valley will welcome new members in October! We are blessed to have some households expressing interest in joining our membership. If you or someone you know is interested in joining Lord of the Valley as a member or parish partner, please talk with Pastor Brian. If you would like to help plan this welcome celebration, let Pastor know.



**Money and Church:
For the Life of the World**

Join Bishop Gonia in a gathering of members from our Mountainside of West Metro Conference in Glenwood Springs on Saturday, October 6. The Better Together Summit will focus on money and faith and our personal and collective experience with it. Each congregation in our conference is encouraged to bring 3 to 6 people to gather for conversation around this sometimes awkward topic of money and faith. Those attending are asked to do a little preparation prior to the summit. Pastor Brian will be attending and has room for others to join him. You can learn more about this summit and register at rmselca.org. Visit with Pastor Brian if you are interested.

Enjoy the Convenience of Electronic Giving

We want to remind you that we offer electronic giving as a way to automate your regular weekly offering. Electronic giving offers convenience for our members and provides donation consistency for our congregation. Direct Debit Giving is used to automatically transfer funds from your checking or savings account to the church's bank account. As you contemplate future contributions, please consider electronic giving. Authorization forms are available at the back of the sanctuary. Please call the church office for more information, 887-9252.

Lord of the Valley Annual Meeting

Thank you to everyone who attended the Annual Meeting on Sunday, August 12th. A thank you to Bob Means and Penny Dibble who have completed three two year terms for a total of six years. Newly elected to church council are Pat Edwards and Suzanne Gerhart. Reelected are Greg Orzech, Chris Tinkum and Raymond Covington. At the council meeting following the Congregational Meeting Greg Orzech was elected president, John Price was elected vice president and Alicia Scott was reelected as secretary.

Confirmation Class

Confirmation Class for our 6th and 7th graders will begin on September, 16th. This year we will be studying key Biblical stories and connecting them with our Lutheran theology and faith practices. Please let Pastor Brian know if you have any questions or if your son or daughter will be participating in our Confirmation Classes.

City Market Community Rewards

Thank you to our families who have signed up for the City Market Rewards program. If you haven't signed up go to: www.citymarket.com. Once there, click on City Market Community found under the Explore tab. On the next page click Enroll Now and sign in to your account or create an account. Once you sign in to your account you will have the opportunity to View all Organizations and select Lord of the Valley Lutheran Church. This is a quick and simple way to support Lord of the Valley Lutheran Church while doing your grocery shopping! A reminder, your enrollment in the Community Rewards will expire after one year. It is easy to re-enroll by signing into your account.

