

May 2013



Breeze Thru the Leaves

Tree of Life Lutheran Church

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be His people, and God Himself will be with them as their God." Revelation 21:3

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus,

Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!

As we turn the calendar once again and begin the month of May in the year of our Lord 2013, we are coming to the close of this year's Easter season. Sunday May 19th is Pentecost Sunday, the day we celebrate the fulfilling of the promise of the Old Testament prophet Joel of the pouring out of the Holy Spirit onto all flesh (Joel 2:28-32), and the promise of Jesus in the Gospel reading for the Fifth Sunday of Easter where He says, "When the Spirit of Truth comes, He will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak, and He will declare to you the things that are to come" (John 16:13). The dwelling of the Holy Spirit in our hearts and lives is the dwelling of God in and with us while we await the consummation of the hope we have in Christ Jesus. This hope is the guarantee of forgiveness, salvation and eternal life with God for all who believe and trust in Jesus Christ as Savior AND Lord. He is our Savior by virtue of His suffering, death and resurrection and gaining for us the victory over sin, death and the Evil One. He is our Lord by virtue of His rule throughout our lives in this

world through the dwelling of the Holy Spirit in all flesh. In the words of St. John in Revelation 21 "the one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he [she] will be my son [daughter]" (v. 7). It is to those who, by the power of the Holy Spirit dwelling in them, who, by drinking "from the spring of the water of life without payment" (Rev. 21:6b), remain steadfast in the gracious free gift of faith in Christ, are the dwell-



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Special Points of Interest:

- *From LCMS Mission Advancement, pg. 2*
- *LWML Workshop, pg. 4*
- *New Member Brunch, pg. 5*



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Please help us update the "picture board" and get a new picture made as soon as you can catch Jan or Ted running around with camera in hand. If you like the picture that is already up there, "the one where you look much younger", then you may choose to leave it as is; however, if your kids are graduating from high school and they look ten years old, then it may be time for a new one.

We would like to get this done as soon as possible.

Thank You from Senior Youth

Our Senior Youth Garage Sale was a huge success. We raised almost \$1,200. Putting that together with the Easter Breakfast and the \$500 of matching funds from Thrivent we raised over \$2,100! Thank you so much to everyone who donated items, who helped us set up and clean up, and to all who came and shopped or gave a donation! In addition to the money we earned for our trip, we also donated a van FULL of clothing, books and baby items to White Rock Center of Hope. Thank you Jan and Ted for delivering those items for us! We also donated half a panel truck load of furniture and miscellaneous items to the Vietnam Veterans Foundation of Texas and a large item to the Silent Auction which benefitted Good Samaritans of Garland. It was a great day and many people benefited.

We have now completed our fundraising for the National Youth Gathering this July in San Antonio. We are all very excited and looking forward to a wonderful and enriching experience. Thank you all so very much for your support!!! We couldn't do it without you!

Tree of Life Senior Youth

Spaghetti Dinner & Silent Auction

The Board of Outreach would like to thank everyone who participated in this event. We hope you enjoyed the dinner and appreciate your participation in the Silent Auction. As of April 24, all receipts have not yet been received. However, once we complete the count, we are assured of having a generous amount to benefit the Good Samaritans of Garland. Please note that some of the items are still on display and may be purchased (please see Shannon Murphy or Jan Keitch). Again, many thanks for your generosity and support !!

From LCMS Mission Advancement

Dear Members of Tree of Life Lutheran Church,

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you?

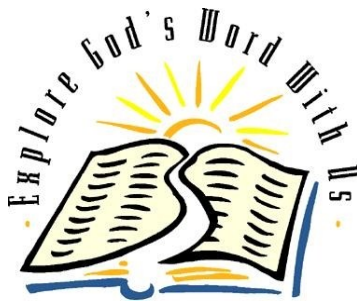
1 Thessalonians 3:9

Your generous donation is a marvelous witness of your trust in God, and your desire to share His forgiveness with others through the Witness, Mercy and Life Together efforts of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. Working together, we can accomplish more in the name of Jesus Christ than any of us could if we worked alone. Thank you for the trust you have placed in us through this sacrificial offering.

In service to our Lord, Jesus Christ,

Mark D. Hofman, Executive Director
Mission Advancement

(Sent in regard to donation to Ivan & Jennifer Rasch and Project Clean Water.)



Small Groups
Saturdays at 4:30 pm
We are studying
the New Testament
books of Timothy,
Titus and Philemon

From Concordia Seminary

Dear Friends in Christ,

Thank you for your wonderful donation of \$812.29! Your prayers and financial support are great blessings. Your gift is already at work on behalf of Concordia Seminary's ministry of preparing the church's future pastors, missionaries, deaconesses and leaders. On behalf of the entire seminary community, thank you!

The last weeks of the academic year are especially energizing. They include Call Day and graduation. Those you have prepared for the Holy Ministry will soon embrace their first calls. Still others will begin their vicarage assignments.

Spring also brings special spiritual growth and learning opportunities to campus. These include the Day of Homiletical Reflection and the Law Enforcement Chaplaincy workshop. We also bring wonderful resources to your home through the seminary's website: www.csl.edu.

Your prayers and gifts to Concordia Seminary are mightily blessed by our Lord. Direct gifts like yours provide over 60% of the seminary's support. This ministry would simply not be possible without caring Christians like you.

Most cordially yours,
Dr. Dale A. Meyer
President

Where Our Quilts Go

Many have asked "where do the quilts we make go?" The Quilters have placed a map of the world on the wall of the hallway to the classrooms. On this map you will find the number of quilts sent to countries worldwide. Take time to look at this map and see how far away we at Tree of Life can reach with God's comforting love simply by tying a few knots.

Thank you from the Meltons

Charlie and I would like to take this time to thank all of you for your prayers, cards and words of encouragement during our time of healing. We also appreciated all the food and money that was given to us over the past months. A special thank you to Pastor Scott for his calls and visits at the hospital and after we were home. We are truly blessed to have such a wonderful church family. God's blessings to each and every one of you.

Charlie & Gloria



Kathy Troxell 5-6
 Joshua Wendt 5-8
 Kelly Keitch 5-9
 Ed Mollenkamp 5-11
 Lyle Livingston 5-13
 Dusten Robins 5-13

Joe Green 5-17
 Doreen Becker-Watson 5-22
 Eugene Standifer 5-25
 Dorothy Moore 5-26
 Andy Nixon 5-27
 Dale Jander 5-28
 Jeanne Stelling 5-28
 Bryan Jander 5-29
 LaWanda Hunter 5-31
 Merita Hurst 5-31



Eugene & Brenda Standifer 5-15-76
 Larry & Wendy Karlin 5-17-69
 Chris & Amanda Maddox 5-18-96
 Stan & Lynn Lewis 5-22-76
 Albert & Caren Pankonien 5-22-76
 Mike & Barbara Morgan 5-23-71
 David & Kara Jander 5-29-93

LWML Texas Star Zone Workshop Thrivent News

Saturday, May 4
 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Our Savior Lutheran Church
 3003 Horizon Road
 Rockwall, TX 75032

All women in your congregation are invited to attend:

Workshop: no charge

Lunch: \$ 6.00 (reservations required)

Mite offering: free will donation

Nine out of 10 women are solely responsible for their finances at some point in their lives. From balanced spending and family protection to retirement and their legacy, it's important for women to understand their finances.

This financial educational workshop from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans is **NOT** sales-oriented. It is an informational workshop that teaches stewardship in a friendly, informal way.

Participants will receive tools and resources to make intentional choices on how to share, save and spend—with confidence.

Guests are asked to call Dorothy Hunger at 972-771-6506 or email hungerd@flash.net

If you are a Thrivent member (have Thrivent policies, funds, etc.) you may have Choice Dollars that can be donated to charitable organizations such as Tree of Life.

To direct Choice Dollars in the future, you have two easy options:

- 1) Log in to Thrivent.com/thriventchoice and select "Get Started."
- 2) Contact a representative from the Member Connection Center at 800-847-4836 and, when prompted, say "Thrivent Choice." When next prompted, say, "Choice Dollars."

Offerings and Attendance for March

DATE	8:45	11:15	SS	General Offering	Growing To the Future	Mission Tithe
3/3/13	65	47	51	\$9,754*	\$550	\$975
3/10/13	45	40	39	\$4,826*	\$400	\$483
3/17/13	52	46	42	\$4,420*	\$100	\$442
3/24/13	57	62	40	\$3,861*	\$500	\$386
3/31/13	52	101	NA	4,215*	\$400	\$422
Total for March				\$27,076*	\$1,950	\$2708

*Needed per week—\$4,738; Needed for March—\$23,690

Tell It on the Mountain

Where Jesus Christ Is Lord

Vacation Bible School
June 24th – 28th 6pm to 8pm.

Light meals from 5:30 to 6 Monday - Thursday.

Hotdog Cook out on Friday

Online Registration at www.treeoflifelcms.org

Please pray for VBS volunteers and to bring families to teach about Jesus Christ.

Things to donate for decorations:

Pine Cones

Trees (Christmas or other fake trees)

Fake birds / nests to put in the trees

Climbing rope

If someone could donate a climbing wall rental for Friday Night... that would be amazing for the kids!

Donation list coming soon.

New Member Brunch

Sunday, May 5th

10:00 a.m.

Please bring a breakfast item to share and come welcome our newest members:

Gary Acker

Beverly Becker

Carol Koffinke

Ed Mollenkamp

Lisa Theriot

Offerings and Attendance for April

DATE	8:45	11:15	SS	General Offering	Growing To the Future	Mission Tithe
4/7/13	53	48	43	\$5,165*	\$550	\$517
4/14/13	52	40	39	\$2,765*	\$400	\$277
4/21/13	51	68	44	\$5,825*	\$400	\$583
4/28/13						
Total for April						

*Needed per week—\$4,738; Needed for April—\$18,952



CALLING ALL GRADUATES

Do you have a high school or college student graduating this Spring? Please let the office know so we can honor their achievement!

Tree of Life Lutheran Church

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The loving family of Tree of Life, rooted
in God's Word, exists to share the joy,
love, and peace of Jesus Christ with you!



Pastor's Page, *continued from pg. 1* OneHarvest Food Ministries

ing place of God now and into all eternity. This is the promise of God the Father Himself as He declares from His throne: "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be His people, and God Himself will be with them as their God" (Rev. 21:3).

As we turn the calendar, wind down the current school year, and begin to prepare for summer schedules and vacations, let us be encouraged and strengthened in knowing that it is God's will and desire to make His dwelling place with us and that through the Holy Spirit living in our hearts, this promise is fulfilled now and will carry and protect us into eternity with Him. Glory be to God!

In Christ's Service
Pastor Scott

We had a successful first month with OneHarvest Food Ministry. We hope to grow this ministry and be an important resource for the community - not only for food but also for Spiritual guidance and support.

Please see the enclosed menu on the back of the May calendar. You can place **M a y o r d e r s o n l i n e** at www.oneharvest.com or here at Tree of Life through May 12th. Contact Kara Jander or Sandra Melton for more information.

Distribution day is Saturday, May 18th from 7:00-8:00 AM here at Tree of Life.

Please pray that this ministry may be a blessing to all involved.