

# Lord<sup>of</sup> the Lakes

We are a family of faith, celebrating Jesus Christ at work in our lives and actively inviting others to do the same.

6090 Harbour South, Winneconne, WI 54986



## Pastor Kevin Heffernan

Email:  
pastorkevin@lordofthelakes.net  
Phone:  
(920)582-2622

## SUNDAY SERVICE

Worship Services  
8:00am & 10:00am

Coffee Fellowship  
9:00am

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Sunday School  
9:00am

Sarah Walsh - Children's  
Ministry Coordinator

## SWAG - YOUTH MINISTRY

Youth Pastor Ryan Otto  
Wednesdays 6pm-8pm

Team Reach Code  
60900



## A MAGICAL TIME OF YEAR

### PASTOR KEVIN'S MESSAGE

There's no debating that the Christmas season is a magical time of year! Consider this quote from Terri Guillemets: "Even as an adult I find it difficult to sleep on Christmas Eve. Yuletide excitement is a potent caffeine, no matter your age." So true, isn't it?

We have had an amazing year as a church and I'm thrilled that it'll be capped off with our Christmas festivities. Beautiful music, gorgeous decorations, biblical readings we all know and love, inspiring sermons, opportunities to give back and a general sentiment of community and togetherness.

I've said it before and I always jump at the chance to say it again: It is a privilege to serve here at Lord of the Lakes. It is my hope that whether the holiday time is your favorite part of the year or your most challenging, that you'll invest in our church community. If Christmas brings with it feelings of melancholy, please know that my door is always open. I am here for you.

With that, Merry Christmas – and I hope to see you this Sunday, at our Advent services, and on Christmas!

*Pastor Kevin*



On behalf of B&G Team and in the spirit of giving thanks and then the birth of Jesus, a huge THANK YOU to many. You have allowed us to continue keeping our church building and grounds looking and working well. Thanks to members for supporting our budget and giving and thanks to solo donations to support larger projects.



Our Prayer Shawl team has been busy knitting and crocheting and soon we will be delivering the shawls to persons who need some extra warmth and prayers this season. Anyone interested in joining the team please add your name to the list on the kiosk.



## FAITH & FAMILY NIGHT

with the Wisconsin Herd

Time is running out to add your name to our list of folks who want to attend the Wisconsin Herd game on January 24, at 7PM. You must have your name on the list and tickets paid for by December 21. Tickets are only \$10 each. SWAG members are free because they will be paid for out of Youth funds account. For example, if you are a family of 5 and one of them is a SWAG member, you will only pay \$40 rather than \$50.

You may pay in cash or by check. Please put cash in an envelope along with your name and "Wisconsin Herd" on the envelope. If writing a check, make it out to Lord of the Lakes and on the memo line write "Wisconsin Herd".

We have a block of 40 tickets but if we need more, we are assured we can add to our group. Get on the list today! Questions – Deb Ruedinger (863)-634-9794 Event coordinator.

News from

## LIFE & GROWTH TEAM

The Life & Growth team meets quarterly to plan activities for our church that both enrich and grow our congregation. If you would like to be a part of this exciting team, please join us! New ideas and participation are always welcome! Our next meeting is December 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm in the narthex.



## PUT A LITTLE JINGLE IN YOUR CHRISTMAS!

All ladies young and old are invited to the TWIG's Christmas Party on Tuesday, December 9, starting at 5:30PM in the narthex of Lord of the Lakes hosted by Pam Ulness and Deb Ruedinger. If you are working, please drop in and join us when you can! You may bring an appetizer to share or your favorite luscious Christmas dessert. We will furnish punch, coffee and Hot Christmas Mulling Cider. For convenience, a sign-up sheet is on the kiosk, so we know what each other is bringing.

Many wonderful, fun activities are planned to challenge your brains, encourage laughter and ensure a good time that includes (among others) Christmas Trivia and a White Elephant Gift Exchange (this is your chance to get rid of that crazy something you have around your house!!). If you wish to participate in the Gift Exchange, please wrap your "White Elephant" and bring it along!

Some do not feel comfortable driving at night. If you live in outlying areas such as Winchester/Larson, Poygan, Omro, etc., and plan to drive, please let each other know so that those who cannot drive at night may still be able to participate. Questions? You may call or text Pam Ulness (920)450-0276 or Deb Ruedinger (863)634-9794.

## DECEMBER MEANS ADVENT SERVICES AND SOUP SUPPERS!

Advent services will be held on December 3, 10, and 17 at 6:30PM. Please join everyone for Soup Suppers starting at 5:30PM prior to each service. You may bring a pot of soup, sandwiches, salad or dessert to share and compliment the meal. All are welcome and this is a wonderful time for fellowship and get to know your Lord of the Lakes family! We have some fabulous cooks, and it is always exciting to see who is bringing what! All are welcome! Each week we post a sign-up sheet on the kiosk so that you can let others know what you plan to cook so that we have a good variety. Questions – text Pam Ulness (920)450-0276.





# GIVE

AND IT WILL BE GIVEN TO YOU

Luke 6:38



## When Jesus Calls You Home

A joyous meeting with Jesus and everlasting peace will come to some in our congregation, their family or friends this year. Yes, there will be sadness but also be happy for them and their new home in the heavenly kingdom. They will be free of earthly issues and possessions: eternal happiness!

What of those possessions and assets left behind? The Lord of the Lakes Endowment will gladly accept estate gifts. Donations to our endowment will go to our charitable community mission causes and provide funding for future needs of our church. Donations can be cash, securities, property and more.

As we grow the endowment through your special gifts we will have funding for the future. Our endowment is professionally managed by the Winneconne Area Community Foundation. To contribute, contact Pastor Kevin or the office. God bless you.



## Give of your talents

### Busy Hands

Busy Hands will meet on Tuesday, December 9 and December 23, 9:00 am to 11:00 am. We are working on patriotic quilts for donations to veterans. We are hoping to purchase a roll of 80/20 cotton/poly batting which works well for these quilts. The cost is approximately \$250 and is an unplanned expense for us that we would like to purchase. If anyone would like to contribute toward this, please consider making a donation and mark it, "Busy Hands – quilt batting. We would greatly appreciate it.

We have several "regular" participants who have left for winter get aways and we would welcome anyone interested to join "our ranks." No experience needed---we will train you. If you would like to sew, we do have some machines available. In addition, our projects involve a lot of simple "tying of knots" in the quilt assembly process. And don't forget snacks. At the end of our sessions we enjoy snacks and an inspirational devotion to help keep us all on our faith-filled journeys.



Lani Stanek

## Give of your Time

The greatest gift you can give someone is your time, your love, and your attention. Spend time with those you love, and also take moments to truly get to know the people you don't yet know—because every connection has the potential to brighten a life, including your own.



"We make a living by what get, but we make a life by what we give:" ~ Winston Churchill

# ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING



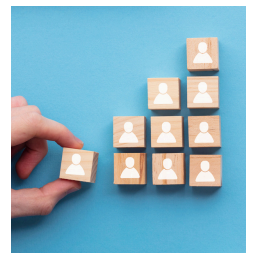
## MEETING REVIEW

Our annual budget meeting was held on November 16th, and three actions were taken at this meeting; Elected new council members, voted on 2026 church budget, and voted on amendments related to spending authority for the Buildings and Grounds Committee. First, nominees were presented for election to Council filling three vacant positions left by Rhonda Bricco, Lindsey Jurgenson, and Betts Nikolai. Rhonda & Betts' terms expired, and Lindsey Jurgenson resigned earlier this year. Betts Nikolai was eligible to seek election for a second three year term, and she chose to do so. Meet the two newly elected Council members for three-year terms: Misha Grenier and Andrea Peterson.

Misha has lived in Winneconne since 2014 and has been a member of Lord of the Lakes since 2022. She holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from UW Oshkosh and has taught both dance and art to children, experiences that have deepened her appreciation for creativity and growth. She currently serves on the Life & Growth team and looks forward to becoming more involved with our Sunday School program and youth. She has volunteered to be a member of our newly formed Children's Ministries Team. Misha gushes with excitement when she speaks of our church children and the things we can do to grow that program! She stated that she is honored to have been nominated for Church Council and hopes to bring a positive, caring and creative spirit to our shared ministry.

Due to multiple sclerosis, Misha is currently not working-she stated with humor, "if you should ever see me looking a little tipsy in church, it isn't because I have been into the communion wine early." She is learning to balance life a little differently these days. Her favorite passage of scripture is Luke 1:46-55, Mary's song of praise, which reminds her that God does great things even in quiet and humble circumstances.

## MISHA GRENIER



## ANDREA PETERSON



Andrea Peterson and her husband, Earl, have been members of Lord of the Lakes since 2021. In 2022 they, along with all of us, welcomed their son EJ into our church family. Andrea works as the Program and Communications Manager for the Nonprofit Leadership Initiative which provides leadership development and educational opportunities to nonprofit leaders and board members throughout the greater Fox Valley Area. Prior to this role, she served as the Director of Operations for another nonprofit and spent over a decade in the for-profit sector doing project management. Andrea enjoys trail riding, reading and solving crossword puzzles. Her biggest passion is travel. She states, "The world is a beautiful place and God's masterpiece deserves to be explored."

Andrea has served as an active member of our Life & Growth Team since its re-vamp this past year. You will also see her from time to time helping with the slides of our Power Point program during our 10AM service on Sunday mornings. She looks forward to growing her community, commitment, and service within this church she feels they have been so blessed to find.

The proposed 2026 General Operating Budget reflecting a deficit of \$14,079 was unanimously approved; two amendments to the Lord of the Lakes Constitution related to spending authority of Building & Grounds were approved. These changes have become necessary due to the rising cost of goods and services over the past twenty years and the difficulty in getting multiple vendors to come out and give quotes.

Amendment C13.07.02.I25 reads "The Team has spending authority of \$5,000 per planned occurrence available to be used to repair/replace items. Costs over this need to be approved by Council."

Amendment C13.07.02.J25 reads "Other planned repairs/replacements valued greater than \$5,000 shall require quotes from 2 vendors."



## Christmas Gifts for Church Staff

submitted by: Debbie Ruedinger

We are fortunate to have dedicated, hard-working individuals on staff at Lord of the Lakes. Most of them work at a below-market rate of pay. For those of you not familiar with the people who make up our staff, they are as follows:

Pastor – Kevin Heffernan  
Youth Leader – Ryan Otto  
Financial Operations Secretary/Administrative Assistant  
– Gail Gardner  
Financial Clerk– Susan Kaufman  
Administrative Asst., Communications Coordinator –  
Becky Jahnke  
Music Director – Jody Kell  
Housekeeping – Darlene Larson  
Building Maintenance – Brad Gasper

It has been a tradition at Lord of the Lakes for many years to collect money and give our staff a gift of money at Christmas. It is by no means expected or required; however, if you wish to do so, following is the way to do it.

If you would like to donate a monetary gift for them, please make your check out to “Lord of the Lakes” and put it OR your gift of cash in a separate envelope marked “Staff Gift”. You may put your envelope in the collection plate, or you may mail or drop it by the church office. We need to have all checks/cash in no later than Sunday, December 14. All gift checks from the congregation will be deposited and one check written and distributed to each Team member before Christmas. The proceeds will be divided equally.

May the true spirit of Christmas shine in your heart and light your path.

### MEET OUR NEWEST MEMBERS!

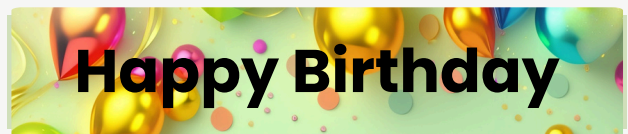
Last month we inadvertently left Pam & Jeff Jansen off of our new member list. We are excited to have them join Lord of the Lakes. Please help us welcome them to congregation.



### How do I become a worship assistant? submitted by Deb Ruedinger

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to help in these roles. It does not matter if you are a member or an active non-member. Our teens are welcome to participate as well. We appreciate all of you! We are low on Ushers for the 10AM service and we lost a couple of key members of our Coffee Fellowship Teams. We need more help!

I develop the schedules for all our Worship Assistants and Coffee Fellowship teams. If you would like to know more about these jobs or perhaps join us on one of these teams during January-April, please send me a text or call. I will be happy to talk to you and explain each role. I appreciate the new people who approached me at the annual meeting and volunteered! This is awesome! My cell phone number is 863-634-9794. If interested, please let me know by December 14 so that I may include you in the next rotation which will be January through April.



Celebrating December Birthdays  
(kids 1-17 & adults 70+)

12/2 - Madison Larson  
12/4 - Mary Selle  
12/5 - Lincoln Foster  
12/16 - Tyler Bostwick  
12/17 - Benson Hunt  
12/18 - Wayne Rudisill  
12/26 - Eleanor Adams  
12/28 - Sophia Stopar  
12/29 - Kristopher Walsh

# CHRISTMAS GIVING



Christmas Giving Team, Kate Fuller, Lani Stanek, Nancy Hereford, Jill Templin

## ABOUT



Most everyone LOVES to receive gifts. And many people also LOVE to give gifts! That is what makes this time of year at Lord of the Lakes so enjoyable. We are able to reach out to those in need to make this Christmas season especially meaningful to them. Giving to people the feeling that someone - who they don't even know - is thinking of them. Acts of love and kindness go a long way.

## HOW IT WORKS:



- The Christmas Giving team has put up a tree with tags that include items needed by Day By Day Shelter and Christine Ann Domestic Abuse Services.
- If you are able to help, please grab a tag, purchase the item, and place it unwrapped in the collection box by December 7. The Christmas Giving team will distribute the gifts. Monetary gifts or gift cards are also welcomed as the money goes towards larger items, bus passes, and the like. Please make checks payable to Lord of the Lakes with a memo: Christmas Giving

## WHO ARE WE HELPING?



**Day By Day Shelter** is a 50-bed shelter open 365 days a year. \$50 provides safe shelter for one guest for one night.

**Christine Ann Domestic Abuse Services** is a 64-bed emergency shelter with services available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.



## QUESTIONS CALL

Questions: call or text Kate (608)239-4293, Lani (920)594-3036, Nancy (920)420-2984 or Jill (920)427-0055.

Thank you for your kindness, and together we can make a difference!





# Ways to help our church & community



## Day By Day Shelter - December's meal is sloppy joes

The Day by Day Team appreciates the support you have given us the past several months. With your contributions of time, money and food items we have been able to provide a hot meal once a month for the Guests of Day by Day in Oshkosh.

December 11<sup>th</sup> is our next volunteer day and we will feature Sloppy Joes, chips, salad, fruit and dessert. For this meal we will need buns, three pounds of Sloppy Joe (if you can make a pound to donate that is very helpful), bags of lettuce, fruits and dessert. Monetary donations are also welcomed.

We also need people to help serve and if you would like to learn how to operate the dishwasher, we encourage you to join us on one of these nights to learn. It is not difficult at all! Contact Deb Ruedinger (863-634-9794) for information about dishwashing! For any other questions please reach out to our Day by Day coordinator, Sally Patterson at 920-279-2388.



## Thrift & Gift - Holiday Shopping, Shop Local & Support LOL

The first Saturday of each month Lord of the Lakes provides the volunteers to work at the Winneconne Thrift & Gift. In return we receive half the profits for the day. You may not know this but the Winneconne Thrift has some great new and like new items, as well as unique items, that may be perfect for someone on your list. Consider shopping local while supporting our church and stop in Saturday to shop with us.

We need a minimum of 6 volunteers, 2 of which must be at the donation door, to run the store. Jobs include cashier, donation intake, and a variety of other jobs. Our next volunteer day is:

**December 6th 10am-4pm**  
please note time change due to extended  
holiday hours.

Thank you to all our shoppers and volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Becky Jahnke at [beckyjahnke920@gmail.com](mailto:beckyjahnke920@gmail.com)

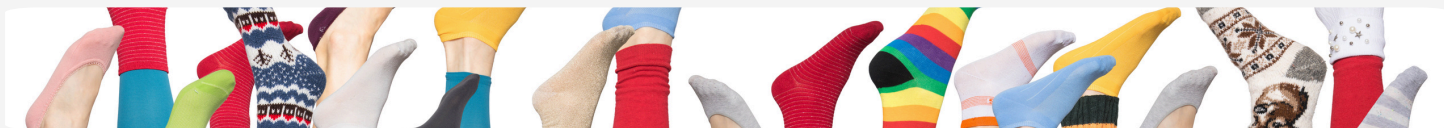
In October we earned \$620.17 from the revenue sharing program with the Thrift. Year to date earnings: \$7,246.82!!! Thank you to everyone who shops each month.



## Scrip Ministry - Preparing for Christmas

Are you planning a Christmas party for family and friends, or maybe even the office? Consider buying Scrip cards for your everyday shopping and holiday party planning needs. Scrip gift cards also make a great last minute Christmas gift for that hard to buy for person on your list. There are many store options available.

Our Scrip coordinator, Tammy Wright, and other volunteers are stationed by the entryway between services with their gift card display. The ones they have on hand are just a small sample of what is available. If you go to [Raiseright.com](http://Raiseright.com) and click on "Brands", you can view and browse all the different stores, restaurants, etc. that you could order gift cards from. Be sure to use the **enrollment code 37D492B534575** to register your purchases for Lord of the Lakes.



## SOCKTOBER

Socktober was a huge success ! We collected over 420 pairs of socks for Day by Day Shelter and Christine Ann center. Thank you for warming so many hearts and feet. Day by Day Shelter accepts gently used or new clothing all year long. Please put your donations in the bin in the entry way and they will be delivered to DbD. Thanks for being so kind to our neighbors. DbD team.



# December



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 3:30pm - Guitar Band 4:30pm - Bells 5:30pm - Soup Supper 6:00pm SWAG 6:30pm - Advent Service 7:00pm - Choir	<b>4</b> 4:00pm - Buildings & Grounds Meeting 5:30pm - Life & Growth Meeting	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 10am - 4pm Thrift & Gift  ** please note additional 2 hours**
<b>7</b> 8am & 10am Worship Services  Coffee Fellowship between services	<b>8</b> 5:00pm Narcotics Anonymous	<b>9</b> 9:00am Busy Hands 5:30pm - TWIG Christmas Gathering	<b>10</b> 3:30pm - Guitar Band 4:30pm - Bells 5:30pm - Soup Supper 6:00pm SWAG 6:30pm - Advent Service 7:00pm - Choir	<b>11</b> 8:30am Bible Study  LOL Prepares Meal at Day By Day Shelter	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 9:00 - Children's Program Practice
<b>14</b> 8am & 10am Worship Services  10:00 - Children's program  Coffee Fellowship between services	<b>15</b> 5:00pm Narcotics Anonymous	<b>16</b> 6:30 - Council Meeting	<b>17</b> 3:30pm - Guitar Band 4:30pm - Bells 5:30pm - Soup Supper 6:00pm SWAG 6:30pm - Advent Service 7:00pm - Choir	<b>18</b> 8:30am Bible Study	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 8am & 10am Worship Services  Coffee Fellowship between services	<b>22</b> 5:00pm Narcotics Anonymous  *Newsletter Articles due*	<b>23</b> 9:00am Busy Hands	<b>24</b> Christmas Eve Services 4:00pm & 6:00pm 	<b>25</b> Christmas Day Service at 9:00am 	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 8am & 10am Worship Services  NO Sunday School  Coffee Fellowship between services	<b>29</b> 5:00pm Narcotics Anonymous	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> No Music Practices or SWAG			





# December Worship Assistants

*indicates chairperson for coffee fellowship	
<b>December 7th 8:00am</b>  <b>Greeters:</b> Betts Nikolai & JoAnne Gehler <b>Reader:</b> John Ulness <b>Communion:</b> JoAnne Dallmann & Sally Patterson <b>Usher:</b> Brian & Trevor Bliske <b>Coffee Fellowship:</b> Pam Ulness*, Kim Zehner, Lorraine Papke & Trudy Strand	<b>December 7th 10:00am</b>  <b>Greeters:</b> Mark Kunde Family <b>Reader:</b> Jan Faust <b>Communion:</b> Ryan Otto & Debbie Williams <b>Usher:</b> Barb & Mark Jorna
<b>December 14th 8:00am</b>  <b>Greeters:</b> Todd & Nancy Herford <b>Reader:</b> Sally Patterson <b>Communion:</b> Jamie & Brian Bliske <b>Usher:</b> JoAnn Gehler & Paula Thurber <b>Coffee Fellowship:</b> Beth Melby*, Betts Nikolai, Anne Zillges, & Mark Kunde	<b>December 14th 10:00am</b>  <b>Greeters:</b> Allys & Wayne Rudisill <b>Reader:</b> Mark Kunde <b>Communion:</b> Wayne Ludkey & Cheryl Prosek <b>Usher:</b> Lauren and Ryan Otto
<b>December 21st 8:00am</b>  <b>Greeters:</b> Nancy Abraham & JoAnn Dallmann <b>Reader:</b> Barb Wachtendonk <b>Communion:</b> Ellen Smolinski & Betts Nikolai <b>Usher:</b> Chris & Jim Rescheske <b>Coffee Fellowship:</b> Deb Ruedinger*, Greta Wortman, Mimi Peterson, & Janet Kunde	<b>December 21st 10:00am</b>  <b>Greeters:</b> Gail Gardner & Paige Nikodem <b>Reader:</b> Jenni Groholski <b>Communion:</b> Paige Nikodem & Andrea Schell <b>Usher:</b> Janine Brantley & Barry Christianson
<b>Christmas Eve 4:00pm</b>  <b>Greeters:</b> Jon Walsh Family <b>Reader:</b> Wayne Ludkey <b>Communion:</b> Kimberly Radtke, Mark & Barb Jorna <b>Usher:</b> Ken & Mary Mueller and Pam & John Ulness	<b>Christmas Eve 6:00pm</b>  <b>Greeters:</b> Marie & Randy Walsh <b>Reader:</b> Jody Kell <b>Communion:</b> 2 people needed <b>Usher:</b> Karen & Lou Zwicky
<b>Christmas Day</b>  <b>Greeters:</b> Tom Zillges & Sally Patterson <b>Reader:</b> Darlene Larson <b>Communion:</b> Sally Patterson & Ellen Smolinski <b>Usher:</b> Randy & Marie Walsh	
<b>December 28th 8:00am</b>  <b>Greeters:</b> Phil Ruedinger & Ron Zehner <b>Reader:</b> Betts Nikolai <b>Communion:</b> Lisa Curtis & Todd Hereford <b>Usher:</b> Karen & Lou Zwicky <b>Coffee Fellowship:</b> Sally Patterson*, Dorothy Bain, Victoria Waters, JoAnne Dallmann, & Tammy Wright	<b>December 28th 10:00am</b>  <b>Greeters:</b> Lauren Otto & Family <b>Reader:</b> Ken Mueller <b>Communion:</b> Jenni Groholski & Jan Olson <b>Usher:</b> Jan & Verne Olson



**December Counters:** Jeff Jahnke & Barb Jorna  
**January Counters:**

Lord of the Lakes Church  
6090 Harbour South  
Winneconne, WI 54986

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## Contact Us

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6090 Harbour South  
Winneconne, WI 54986



**Call 2-1-1 [www.21now.org](http://www.21now.org)**

24/7 Mental Health Crisis Intervention  
Help Line:  
Oshkosh: 233-7707  
Neenah: 722-7707  
Don't let stigma stand in your way



## Prayer List

Please contact the church office or Pastor Kevin to add your request to our prayer chain. All concerns are kept confidential.