

# **Living Word Lutheran Church LCMS**

**February 2006  
Newsletter**

**"Communicating the Love of Jesus"**



**Traditional Worship : 8:00 a.m.  
Christian Growth Hour: 9:15 a.m.  
Contemporary Worship: 10:30 a.m.**

## Living Word Lutheran Church

Located on the West of Spicer on Cty Rd 10  
in old Prairie Meadows building  
PO Box 242, New London, MN 56273  
Phone: 320-796-0742  
Website: [www.livingwordlutheran.net](http://www.livingwordlutheran.net)

### Questions from Pastor...



**How have you experienced God bearing fruit at Living Word this year?**

This was a question I asked on Charter Sunday (Jan 15) as we celebrated our first official year as Living Word Lutheran Church. The mission (purpose) of Living Word is to "As we go, wherever we go, make disciples." One of the "marks" of a disciple is "bearing much fruit" by staying connected to the Vine (Jesus). We "bear fruit" when we do something that "nourishes" the life of someone else or when we do something that attracts them to the Vine. So, I asked "How have you seen God bearing fruit through Living Word this past year?" Here's what people answered:

Make and take a meal program (5)	Bible studies (2)
40 Days of Purpose (4)	I pray more regularly
Prayers for each other (2)	email prayer chain
Sunday Bible study	Youth Group Bible study
Growing closer to God through small group studies	
The word I hear	Service to others
Reading the Bible to understand more about God	
Smooth transition from two congregations to one	
Kindness	Encouragement
My interest in the Gospel has increased	
It's a place where truth is preached	
Monday Women's Bible Study	
Supporting our troops - sending things overseas (2)	
Sunday school	Rally Sunday
VBS	Youth gathering
National youth gathering	Youth inviting friends
The positive influence Shelli & Ryan have on youth	
Acquire the Fire	The Revolve Tour
Christmas Dinner after Christmas program	
Blessed by Christmas eve	Candlelight worship

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Mexican supper	Contemporary music
God used me to speak to others about Him	Tris
Friendships	Friends who are members
The blessing of my family	All Stars 4 Jesus
Having a gym to play in	Bigger kids are coming
People getting involved and helping out	
The church is growing with more people coming	
Bringing new members close to God	
A growing church membership	I like church more
Amanda bringing me to church	Your church is close by
People are inviting others to church (2)	
Violet, Butch, Pam bringing roses	
Continuity, strength, courage everyday	
I am willing to speak up more for Jesus	
Growing through my hospital stay	
Mom and Mickie getting better	
God brought me closer through my family	
On-Call concert brought interest in Jesus	
All getting along and working together	
I learned more about God and Jesus	
God strengthened my faith through teaching others	
The blessing of eagerness and ideas of ways to share the message of our Savior	
New people have come to Sunday School and VBS after being invited by a friend	
Having Christmas program before Christmas Eve allowed more people to come	

Thanks for asking,  
AND thanks for bearing fruit!  
Pastor David

### THANK YOU...

To our 2006 Polar Plunge Team who raised money for the Special Olympics by jumping in Green Lake.



David Geer, Shari Geer, Emily Fuglie,  
Allan Fuglie, Tammy Fuglie, Vince  
Mische, Alyssa Wachter, Kristina  
Schott, Penni Schott, Pastor David  
(coordinator), and Cole Erickson  
(sweatshirt designer)

## Opportunities to "Share the Love of Jesus in Practical ways"...

### Make A Meal

The only requirement is ability to cook a meal (or go out and buy one).

One of our most successful ways of sharing the love of Jesus is by bringing a meal to someone going through a tough time.

If you could take a turn making and delivering a meal once in awhile, please sign up on the "Make A Meal" sign up sheet or talk to "Make A Meal" coordinator Jack Kuppich or Pastor David

And please remember to tell Jack or Pastor David when you know of someone whose going through a tough time and could use a meal. Thanks!

### Serve As An Usher

Hand out worship folders, collect the offering, usher people to communion.

It's not difficult at all, but we need people to help.

Bryson Wachter is scheduling ushers for both services for the coming year. Indicate which service and time of year you prefer to help. Thanks in advance!

\_\_\_ 8:00 or \_\_\_ 10:30 \_\_\_ Season of the year

### Pray

This is something everyone can do.

We are updating our Prayer Force list. You will receive special requests for prayer via email or phone (you choose which).

My email \_\_\_\_\_

My phone # \_\_\_\_\_

### Help Out With Children's Church Once A Month

The only pre-requisite is a love for Jesus and for His kids. You read a Bible story or Object Lesson, say prayers and do an activity that reinforces the lesson. Lessons are provided. All you do is show up and lead. Please talk to Violet Dauk if you can help in this way. Thanks!-

### Be an Alter Guild sub for 2 Sundays in Feb.

All that's needed is to "take down" after communion; clean and put away the communion ware. Please talk to Mona if you can help Feb 5 & 19.

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## New Booklets...

### New Booklets (a whole bunch of them) from Lutheran Hour Ministries

Check out this list. Find the booklets in our booklet display in front of the office. Take home the ones that relate to your situation.

- Your Place in God's Plan
- Forgiveness is For Giving
- Stressed But Connected
- No Need to Fear
- For Better... For Worse
- Take Heart in Your Grief
- Raising Your Children With Respect
- Dealing with Depression
- So You Prayed for a Miracle...
- How to Know What's Right and Do It
- What A Man Needs
- Break Free - Finding Self-Control in an Addictive World
- Out of the Shadows
- Pornography and the Search for Intimacy
- THHPPTT! And Other Practical Ways to Manage Anger
- Talking With God
- The Purpose of Living... The Purpose of Dying
- When in Doubt... Read the Book!

Look for these in our Project Connect booklet rack. Give one to a friend.

### **REMINDER:**

Go to [www.livingwordlutheran.net](http://www.livingwordlutheran.net)

Click on "Pastor's Notes" for Pastor David's comments on the daily Bible readings. You can add your own insights by clicking on "comments" below Pastor's comment



## Welcome New Members!

We officially received these new members on January 15:

- Ryan, Shelli and Jamison Block and Cole Erickson
- Amanda Dickinson
- Jamie, Laurel and Philip Iverson
- Donna Peterson
- Lonnie Robbin
- Edith and Arlo Sweeter
- Brian, Rachel Matthew and Gennaveve Tri

They will be introducing themselves to us in upcoming newsletters - like in the article below from the Sweepers. If you haven't met any of these new members yet, please introduce yourself and welcome them when you see them.

### Edith and Arlo Sweeter



#### Some background info to help us get to know you...

Edith: I was born near Clarissa and went to high school there. Grade school was a country school - grades 1-8 in one room. After high school I went to South Dakota, met and married my former husband, raised nine children, moved to Willmar where he died. Later I married Arlo and have been in the Spicer area ever since.

Arlo: I grew up and lived in Raymond for 49 years. I have

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lived near Spicer since leaving Raymond. I work repairing small engines and lawn and garden equipment out of my shop north of Spicer.

#### What do you like to do in your free time...

Edith: Swimming, reading and crocheting are my most favorite pastimes. In the past traveling was most enjoyable - being able to see family and extended family on both East and West Coasts of the U.S. Being able to see other countries like Germany (family), Australia and Israel was fantastic!

Arlo: I like the lakes and wild animals and good people in the area.

#### What is a favorite Bible story and why...

Edith: It is difficult to pick a favorite Bible story. There are so many lessons to be learned from all of them, however, Abraham "believe God and it was counted to him as righteousness." Abraham had no written Bible to help him and apparently no Christian fellowship, yet he followed God.

Arlo: My favorite is the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm, because I was going through "that valley" when I was in the St. Cloud hospital this past summer.

#### What attracted you to Living Word...

Edith: We came to Living Word after looking for a church home for some time. Knowing Ruth Carlquist and attending her funeral was beneficial. Later, when Arlo was hospitalized and after - the meals provided for us, pastoral calls and willingness of Janet and Jim Towner to volunteer to drive Arlo to his dialysis

Arlo: The people and God's word.

## February Discipleship Verse...







*"God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners Christ died for us."*

**Romans 5:8**



# February

## Living Word Lutheran Church - Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>January 29</b>  8:00 - Traditional Worship 9:15 - Sunday School 9:15 - Bible Study "Personal Witnessing" 10:30 - Contemporary Worship	<b>Jan 30</b>  11:00 Women's Study "Living Free"	<b>Jan 31</b>  9:30 - Bible Study - Ephesians @ Agape'  6:30 - Women's Study "Breaking Free" @ Millers'	<b>Feb 1</b>  6:00 Meal 6:30 + All Stars 4 Jesus + 7-8th Confirm'n + 9th Confirmation  7:30 + 10-12th Gr Study	<b>2</b>  6:00 Elders' Team	<b>3</b>  	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b>  8:00 - Traditional Worship w/ Lord's Supper 9:15 - Sunday School 9:15 - Bible Study "Personal Witnessing" 10:30 - Contemporary Worship w/ Lord's Supper	<b>6</b>  11:00 Women's Study "Living Free"	<b>7</b>  9:30 - Bible Study - Ephesians @ Agape'  6:30 - Women's Study "Breaking Free" @ Millers'	<b>8</b>  6:00 Meal 6:30 + All Stars 4 Jesus + 7-8th Confirm'n + 9th Confirmation  7:30 + 10-12th Gr Study	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>  	<b>11</b>
<b>12 FRIENDSHIP SUNDAY</b>  8:00 - Traditional Worship 9:15 - FRIENDSHIP BRUNCH (Games for S.S. afterward) 10:30 - Contemporary Worship w/ music by "Fast Forward"  Afternoon - Fun Outing	<b>13</b>  11:00 Women's Study "Living Free"  	<b>14</b>  9:30 - Bible Study - Ephesians @ Agape'  6:30 - Women's Study "Breaking Free" @ Millers'	<b>15</b>  6:00 Meal 6:30 + All Stars 4 Jesus + 7-8th Confirm'n + 9th Confirmation  7:30 + 10-12th Gr Study	<b>16</b>  6:00 Sunday School Teachers  7:00 - Mission & Ministry Team	<b>17</b>   Youth Rally at the Target Center	
<b>19</b>  8:00 - Traditional Worship W/ Lord's Supper 9:15 - Sunday School 9:15 - Bible Study "Personal Witnessing" 10:30 - Contemporary Worship W/ Lord's Supper	<b>20</b>  11:00 Women's Study "Living Free"	<b>21</b>  9:30 - Bible Study - Ephesians @ Agape'  6:30 - Women's Study "Breaking Free"	<b>22</b>  6:00 Meal 6:30 + All Stars 4 Jesus + 7-8th Confirm'n + 9th Confirmation  7:30 + 10-12th Gr Study	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>  Circuit Pastor's	<b>25</b>  5:30: PROGRESSIVE SUPPER
<b>26</b>  8:00 - Traditional Worship 9:15 - Sunday School 9:15 - Bible Study "Personal Witnessing" 10:30 - Contemporary Worship	<b>27</b>  11:00 Women's Study "Living Free"	<b>28</b>  9:30 - Bible Study - @ Agape  6:30 - Women's Study "Breaking Free"	<b>Mar 1</b>  6:00 Meal 6:30 + All Stars 4 Jesus + 7-8th Confirm'n + 9th Confirmation  7:30 + 10-12th Gr Study	<b>Mar 2</b>  6:00 Elders' Team	<b>USHERS:</b> 8:00 Troy Hansen 10:30 Chuck Weflen Jack Kuppich Jr. Usher: Allan Fuglie  <b>GREETERS:</b> Jim & Janet Towner Jr. Greeter: Sierra Cobb	<b>CHILDREN'S CHURCH</b> 5, 19 - Violet Dauk 12, 26 - Tris Mische  <b>HELPERS</b> 5-Amanda 12- Sierra 19- Becca 26-Alicia



## A Minute for Parents...

### TEACHING THE FAITH - PART 6

Jesus told us to "Bear fruit." We've learned that we naturally produce the fruit of whatever we are attached to. If we are attached to Jesus we'll naturally produce things like love, joy, peace, patience, faithfulness, etc... Today we are reminded:

**Your actions (not your words) show what you are attached to.**

This means, first of all, that our actions must match our words. Our kids will do what we do - not what we say. For example, if we tell our children it's important for them to go to Sunday School or confirmation to learn about God, but we never go to church or attend Bible class, our children will learn that finding out about God really isn't that important - or you'd do it yourself.

I'm reminded of the story of a father who was taking his two sons, aged four and six, to a movie. Children five and under were admitted free of charge. The cashier asked the father the ages of his kids. The father said, "Six and four." The cashier leaned over and whispered, "You could've saved yourself three bucks. I'd have never known the difference if you'd have told me the oldest one was five." The father replied simply, "No but my kids would've known."

In that one act of honesty, the father taught a memorable lesson that doing as the Lord would want is more important than money. Had he lied in order to save \$3, all future talks about honesty would've meant nothing to his children. The father's actions would have showed his sons that he was really attached to money even though he may have *claimed* to be attached to Jesus.

Our children will become what we are (not what we say we are). If you want your children to trust in Jesus, then you need to trust him instead of worrying. If you want your children to go to church, then you need to go to church. If you want your children to follow Jesus' teachings, then you need to follow Jesus' teachings. Or as we've said before, *"The legacy you leave is the legacy you live."*

What are some things you need to become "detached" from in order to be more attached to Jesus? Take a moment right now to ask God's help to do that....

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## February 5-Minutes-a-day Devotional Readings

**This Month's Readings:** More "Bible Overview in 125 readings (plus Psalm & Proverb)

Remember, you can go to [www.livingwordlutheran.net](http://www.livingwordlutheran.net) and click on "Pastor's Notes" to read His comments about the passages (click on "Comments" to add your own insights)

Jan 29 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

Jan 30 John 3:1-21

Jan 31 John 4:1-42

Feb 1 Psalm 84

Feb 2 John 8:1-11

Feb 3 John 9:1-38

Feb 4 Proverbs

Feb 5 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

Feb 6 John 11:1-44

Feb 7 John 14:1-31

Feb 8 Psalm 91

Feb 9 John 15

Feb 10 John 18:1-27

Feb 11 Proverbs 12:23-28

Feb 12 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

Feb 13 John 20:24-31

Feb 14 Acts 2:1-47

Feb 15 Psalm 96

Feb 16 Acts 5:17-42

Feb 17 Acts 8:26-40

Feb 18 Proverbs 13:18-24

Feb 19 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

Feb 20 Acts 9:1-31

Feb 21 Acts 11:1-18

Feb 22 Psalm 100

Feb 23 Acts 16:11-40

Feb 24 Romans 1:16-32

Feb 25 Proverbs 14:12-17

Feb 26 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

Feb 27 Romans 3:1-31

Feb 28 Romans 5:1-11

Mar 1 Psalm 103

Mar 2 Romans 7:14-25

Mar 3 Romans 8:1-39

Mar 4 Proverbs 15:1-10

## Mark Your Calendars...

### Friendship Sunday February 12

A great opportunity to invite some friends to come and meet the ultimate Friend: Jesus.

Special Events on Friendship Sunday:

- Worship service celebrating our Greatest Friend - Jesus
- Brunch between services - prepared by men of the congregation
- Games after brunch
- Music by Youth for Christ's "Fast Forward" group at 10:30 worship
- Fun afternoon outing - bowling maybe ??

Mark your calendars and start praying about friends you can invite. (Special "Friendship Sunday" invitations will be available.)

### 2006 Progressive Supper

Saturday, February 25th @ 5:30 pm

We need some homes to host: Appetizer, Soup/salad, Main dish and Dessert. Menu's are up to the hosts! We also need adventurous people to drive and eat!

Sign up with Tammy Miller or sign up is posted by the mail boxes at church.

Questions? Call Tammy at 354-4161 It's always a fun event

### Ash Wednesday

Traditional Service of Ashes

The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday. Ashes symbolize our frailty, our mortality, humiliation and need for repentance before God (people in ancient times showed their repentance by putting on sackcloth and ashes). Ashes also suggest a need for cleansing by the blood of Christ and renewal by His Holy Spirit.

During our Ash Wednesday service, ashes will be applied to the foreheads of all worshipers in the form of a small cross. Please join us for this special service, **Wednesday, March 1 @ 7:30pm.**

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## Opportunities for Growth...

Daily Bible Readings - see "5-Minutes a day readings" page

Sunday School Classes: 3 years to 9<sup>th</sup> grade 9:15 -10:15

Sunday Morning Adult Study:

*"Out of the Salt Shaker—Personal Witnessing"*

February 5th, 19th, & 25th

Women's Daytime Bible Study: *"Living Free"*

11:00 - noon Mondays

Women's Evening Bible Study: *"Breaking Free"*

6:30 p.m. Tuesday evenings

@ Tammy Miller's, 202 Pine St SW, New London

Tuesday Prayer and Bible Study -

9:30 @ Agape' Coffeehouse

Join us for a great time of fellowship and walking through books of the Bible. We begin a new study: *"How to Live in the family of God"* A study of Ephesians

Men's Group -

7:00 p.m. Tuesdays

All Stars 4 Jesus (4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> Graders)

Wednesday -6:30 p.m.

Join us at 6:00 for a light supper followed at 6:30 by lots of fun growing closer to Jesus.

7-8th Graders: Confirmation classes -

6:30 p.m. Wednesday

We get to know God by reading His Diary (the Bible)

Join us at 6:00 for a light supper before we study at 6:30

9th Graders: 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays

We study at 6:30 how to become "Just Like Jesus"

Join us for a light supper at 6:00 before we study.

10-12 Graders: 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays

Join us as we continue to learn what it takes to become "Just Like Jesus" You're welcome to join us for supper at 6:00 and just hang out until we study.

### Confirmation & All Stars Parents:

Meal Makers... are needed for our March and April suppers. Sign up on the Sanctuary door. Thanks!



## Opportunities to Learn...

### New Women's Daytime Bible Study : *Living Free*

Beth Moore's *Living Free: Learning to Pray God's Word* combines key concepts from Beth's best-selling *Breaking Free* study with prayer practices taught in her book *Praying God's Word* for a more in-depth look at Christian freedom.

*Living Free* begins by defining false strongholds, then focuses on five key benefits for every believer, including how to find satisfaction in God and experience God's peace. As the subtitle suggests, participants can learn how to develop a God-ward focus in life, while beginning to incorporate the key benefits in their lives through practices of prayer and Bible study.

*Living Free: Learning to Pray God's Word* is a six-session study that will meet Mondays @ 11:00

### Women's Evening Bible Study: *Breaking Free*

Do you want to know God and really believe him? Do you want to find satisfaction in God, experience His peace, and enjoy His presence? Do you want to make the freedom Christ promised a reality in your daily life?

In *Breaking Free*, best-selling author and popular Bible teacher Beth Moore takes you on a journey to discovering true spiritual freedom by identifying spiritual strongholds and removing all obstacles that hinder you from enjoying the benefits of a relationship with God. Learn to make the freedom in Christ a daily reality through the truth of God's Word...truth that will set us free.

The *Breaking Free* bible study begins Tuesdays at 6:30pm starting on January 31st. We will meet at Tammy Miller's home at 202 Pine St SW New London

The study guides will be about \$15.00. Please call Tammy at 354-4161 for more information or to sign up. this will be a 10 week study.

### Sunday Morning Adult Study: *Out of the Salt Shaker*

Do you know people that don't know the Lord? Do you want to tell them about God? Are you confused about exactly how to talk about God with others?

Now you don't have to be. This in depth study will use the Bible and the book *Out of the Saltshaker* to uncover the basics of evangelism as well as how each person can put them into practice. The study will also cover examples of how to start reach-

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ing other people. The goal is to make evangelism easy and practical for everyone.

This is a study that will be beneficial for everyone whether they are discovering how evangelism works for them or how to refine their tools.

Please make the effort to better your life as well as others' by attending this study and using evangelism in a positive way. Don't let someone live without Christ any longer. Learn how you can be the one to reach them and change their lives without stress or worry affecting you.

## A Minute for Men...

### Lessons From Bible Guys: The Wise Men

Last month the "Wise Men" taught us the lesson to persevere in seeking God - trusting in His promise that when we seek we will find.

The wise men also set another example for us as indicated in these verses:

*"Having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route."*

They received a warning from God and - here's the important part - they heeded the warning.

The Bible is filled with God giving His people warnings.

Warnings to stay away from things that would hurt them.

Warnings to stay away from things that will lead them away from God. Warnings to repent and leave the things that are already hurting them and taking them away from God.

God gives those warnings, because He loves us and doesn't want us hurt (and He knows what's going to hurt us). But warnings do no good unless we do like the wise men and heed them.

Where do you look for warning signs? Sometimes God gives warnings in things that happen (a near-miss accident might be a warning to slow down). Sometimes God gives warnings through friends. But one place you can always look to for warnings is God's Word - the Bible. He plainly tells us what to stay away from and what to run away from.

Is there a warning God is sending your way? Be a "wise man" and heed it.