

Living Word Lutheran Church LCMS

May 2009 Newsletter

"Communicating the Love of Jesus"



Worship Hours:

Christian Growth Hour: 8:45 a.m.

Worship Service: 10:00 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

What we aim to do:

Make disciples for Jesus - as we go, wherever we go.

What we aim to be:

A joyful, caring, Christ-centered family of God.

Question for Pastor...

What goes on at a District Convention ?

This past week Bryson and I represented Living Word at the 20th convention of the Minnesota North District of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod. Whenever I would mention that we were going to Brainerd for the district convention I would usually field a question like the one above. Maybe the best way to describe a district convention is to compare it to a congregational voters' meeting (like we will hold after worship on May 24). It is a gathering of pastoral and lay representatives (259 to be exact) from all of the congregations in the district. We meet to vote on positions that need to be filled, vote on resolutions, and hear reports from various ministries. We listen to speakers and have devotions. There are also times of fellowship and worship. In short it is a chance to be about the business of the district in a Christ-centered environment. Here are a few specifics:

- President Don Fondow of Park Rapids was re-elected to his third term as president of the district. The vote was an overwhelming 213-33
- We also elected vice presidents: Rev. Kirk Lee, Parkers Prairie; Rev. David Cloeter, Sauk Rapids, and Rev. Dan Abrahams, Detroit Lakes.
- We heard reports about various mission projects supported by the district Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) and Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM)
- Concordia St. Paul president Robert Holst gave us an update on Concordia University in St. Paul. He told us that

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there are only 1/4 as many 15-20 year olds in our churches now as compared with 1980. (Thus the university has needed a greater focus on attracting students from outside our churches. He told us of free tuition offered by CSP to any Iraqi war vets. He also offered to speak at any congregation that holds a Concordia Sunday celebrating the post-secondary education opportunities offered by synod's ten Concordia Universities.

- Representatives from Lutheran Island Camp presented their capital fund-raising campaign: *Make A World for Christ*. Through this campaign they have plans for a new kitchen (* and offered to donate some of their current equipment to Living Word if we are still in need of those items in 12-18 months). They also have plans to build a new retreat center geared more for adults and families. (i.e. not just bunk beds and bare walls)
- We heard a report from the director of LCMS World Missions and some of the amazing things God is doing through their efforts all over the globe.
- A representative of the seminaries told us about the need to be identifying and encouraging people who would be good candidates for the pastoral ministry.
- A pastor from Louisiana told about a special service project he leads that brings people to New Orleans to help with re-building from Hurricane Katrina

A representative from the Blue Ribbon Task Force on Synod Governance and Structure reported the recommended changes in the structure of the Synod that they are proposing. We filled out surveys that gave our feedback on those proposals. A sample of those proposals (designed to reduce cost and enable more mission work)

- To reduce the number of districts from the current 36 to 15-25.
- Seek to find a name for synod that emphasizes our Bible-based nature and highlights the fact that we are a national church body (not some lost sheep who have strayed from Missouri).
- Switch district and national conventions from a 3-year to 4-year cycle. (and reduce the number of delegates from 1225 to 650)
- Allow churches with over 1000 members to have and additional voting representative at conventions.

We voted on close to fifty resolutions. Here's a sampling:

- Approved raising funds for helping pastors who have been displaced from their congregations.
- Removed term limits on district positions
- Established an emergency fund for district preschools and elementary schools
- Directed district to provide leadership to congregations in the area of Family Ministry
- Directed district to provide materials and education to congregations in the area of domestic violence and abuse

Most of the resolutions encouraged congregations to take some kind of action. A few examples:

Congregations are encouraged to...

- Consider having the Lord's Supper at each worship service.
- Make a "Mission plan" of ways to reach out with the Gospel
- To provide a service to our community (e.g. Host a household item giveaway, like we will be doing at the end of June).
- Hold a special Reformation Sunday offering to be used for a special mission project
- Participate in a circuit-wide Witness Workshop every 3 years.
- Utilize the services of the Lutheran Church Extension Fund
- Utilize the district's Gift Planning services

We heard a report on the District finances: As is the case in local congregations, District income is running behind amounts pledged. **One result is that mission-funded congregations, like Living Word, will be receiving 10-15% less than was allocated for them.*

Synod President Gerald Kieschnick spoke to the assembly and reminded us to stand firm on the truth of God's word - especially on issues such as abortion and homosexuality that are becoming accepted by many other church bodies.

Thanks for asking,
Pastor David

Send your questions to pastor@livingwordlutheran.net

Vacation Bible School...

COME ON A "JOURNEY WITH JESUS"

That is our theme for this year's Vacation Bible School. We will encounter Jesus in His journey's and the journey's of His people in the Old and New Testament. All of the journey's have the same purpose, for they lead God's people, you and me, to our Savior and to our Home in Heaven.

VBS is scheduled for June 8-12, Monday through Friday, from 5:30-8:00p.m.

We will present the stories through puppets and skits, time for crafts, games and also singing. There will also be a light supper served each night.



If you feel you could help out in any of these areas we would appreciate the help, or if you could help out by picking up or dropping kids off, or even a cash donation would be great!

Start thinking of the kids that you could invite. Maybe the neighbor kids, or have the grandkids come stay for the week. This is a great way for the church to outreach into the community.

Pastor David would also like to take any interested kids to Lutheran Island Camp for their "one day VBS" the week of June 15-19. That day has not been determined as of yet.

We are praying for a fun-filled week of VBS and hope you can involve yourself in some way. As we get closer to the date more information will be passed on to you, as for now, I ask you to pray for a successful VBS!

Thanks, Mona Hjelle

May Discipleship Verse...



Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

Deuteronomy 6:5

E-Mail Humor... (in honor of Mother's Day)

The Next Survivor Series

Six married men will be dropped on an island with one car and three kids each for six weeks.

Each kid will play two sports and take either music or dance classes.

There is no fast food.

Each man must take care of his three kids, keep his assigned house clean, correct all homework, complete science projects, cook, do laundry, and pay a list of "pretend" bills with not enough money.

In addition, each man will have to budget money for groceries each week.

Each man must remember the birthdays of all their friends and relatives and send cards out on time--no emailing.

Each man must also take each child to a doctor's appointment, a dentist appointment, and a haircut appointment.

He must make one unscheduled and inconvenient visit per child to the Urgent Care.

He must also make cookies or cupcakes for a social function.

Each man will be responsible for decorating his own assigned house, planting flowers outside, and keeping it presentable at all times.

The men will have access to television only when the kids are asleep and all chores are done.

The men must shave their legs, wear makeup daily, adorn themselves with jewelry, wear uncomfortable yet stylish shoes, and keep fingernails polished and eyebrows groomed.

During one of the six weeks, the men will have to endure severe abdominal cramps and back aches and have extreme, unexplained mood swings but never once complain or slow down from other duties.

They must attend weekly school meetings and church and find time at least once each week to spend the afternoon at the park or a similar setting.

They will need to read a book to the kids each night and in the morning, feed them, dress them, brush their teeth, and comb their hair by 7:00 a.m.

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Thot for a day: The more you have, the less likely it is to be enough.

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A test will be given at the end of the six weeks, and each father will be required to know all of the following information: each child's birthday, height, weight, shoe size, clothing size, and doctor's name. He also must know the child's weight and length at birth, time of birth, and length of labor; and each child's favorite color, middle name, favorite snack, favorite song, favorite drink, favorite toy, and biggest fear. He also will know what they all want to be when they grow up.

The kids vote them off the island based on performance. The last man wins only if he still has enough energy to spend quality time with his spouse at a moment's notice.

If the last man does win, he can play the game over and over and over again for the next 18-25 years, eventually earning the right to be called Mother!

The Story Behind the Song...

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

The twenty-four elders fall down before him who sits on the throne, and worship him who lives for ever and ever. They lay their crowns before the throne and say:

[11] "You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being."
Revelation 4:10-11

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name,

[10] that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

[11] and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Philippians 2:9-11

The song written as a poem in 1779 by Edward Perronet is obviously based on the above verses. It highlights the fact that the One who died on the cross to take the punishment for your sins is in reality the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, God-in-the-flesh!

Here's a story of how God used that song:

Rev. E.P. Scott was a missionary to India. One day he saw on the street a man whose appearance was so strange that he inquired about him from the locals and found that he belonged to a wild mountain tribe. Christ had never been proclaimed to that tribe, so Mr. Scott prayed over the matter and decided to visit the tribe.

Upon reaching their mountain home, Mr. Scott was overtaken by a savage band on a war expedition. They seized him and pointed their spears at his heart.

At once the missionary pulled out the violin he always carried and began to play and sing in the native language, "All hail the power of Jesus' name!" He closed his eyes expecting it to be his last song. As he reached the third stanza nothing had yet happened to him, so he opened his eyes and was amazed to see that the spears had fallen from the hands of the warriors and big tears filled their eyes!

They invited Mr. Scott to their homes, and he spent two and a half years among them being used by God to bring many of them to faith in Jesus. When poor health compelled him to return to America, they followed him for thirty miles begging him to come back again. He did and continued to work among the tribe until his death.

**All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name!
Let angels prostrate fall;**

**Bring forth the royal diadem
and crown Him Lord of all.** (repeat line)

**Crown Him ye martyrs of our God
who from His altar call**

**Extol the Stem of Jesse's rod
and crown Him Lord of all.** (Repeat line)

**Ye seed of Israel's chosen race,
Ye ransomed from the fall**

**Hail Him who saves you by His grace
and crown Him Lord of all.** (Repeat)

**Sinners whose love can ne'er forget
the wormwood and the gall**

**Go spread your trophies at His feet
and crown Him Lord of all.** (Repeat)

**Hail Him ye heirs of David's line,
whom David "Lord" did call,**

**The God incarnate, man divine
and crown Him Lord of all.** (Repeat)

**Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe
on this terrestrial ball,**

**To him all majesty ascribe,
And crown Him Lord of all.** (Repeat line)

**O that with yonder sacred throng
We at His feet may fall!**

**We'll join the everlasting song,
and crown Him Lord of all!** (Repeat line)

Upcoming Events...

Wednesday, May 13 @ 9:30

A 4-Session Women's Study: "Coping With Stress"
Childcare will be provided.

Perfect for stay-at-home moms:

Please let Pastor know if you can attend. Thanks.

Wednesday, May 13

Baby Shower

For Autumn (Dilley) Foshaug

Will be held at Violet Dauk's at 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 17

Old Fashioned Sunday School Picnic

Crazy Games and Lotsa Food

Secret Paul prayer partners will also be revealed that day

Sunday, May 24 Spring Voters' Assembly

We will elect offices for these positions:

Vice Chairman;

Treasurer;

Congregational Outreach;

Christian Growth-Sunday School;

Three Elder positions.

If you have suggestions for any of these positions, please talk to someone from the Nominating Committee (Jamie, Scott, Pam)

NEW: Thursday, May 28

Church-League Softball Begins

We've had some interest in fielding a team. It's a fun time of fellowship. See details on the sign up sheet. Talk to Pastor David if you have questions.

Sunday, May 31

CTI Music Ministries

(Carpenter's Tools, Int'l)

Will provide music and drama for our worship.

June 8 - 12

Vacation Bible School: "Journey with Jesus"

5:30 - 8:00 p.m. Monday - Friday

Be praying about who you can invite or how you can volunteer

Confirmands' Faith Statements...

Kasey Nieland

What I believe about God (Father, Son and Holy Spirit)

I believe God the Father created the heavens and the earth - everything visible and invisible. He is our heavenly Father and also created us. He created all things out of nothing, simply by speaking His word. He continues to protect and defend me from all danger, and guide me. He is an *Amazing* person!

I believe that God sent His Son Jesus to the cross to die for our sins. His name means "the Lord saves." He is my Lord and Redeemer. Jesus is an *Incredible* person!

I believe that the Holy Spirit works faith in all our hearts by imparting to me the blessings of redemption. The Holy Spirit is amazing - how it works through my life.

What I believe about eternal life:

I believe I will get to heaven by believing, trusting and worshiping God. "Those who believe will receive."

What difference has God made in my life here on earth?

God makes a difference in my life here on earth by providing me with all I need for my body and life. He protects me from all evil. Life is a lot easier knowing that I can be forgiven for anything and that God knows what it's like to live on earth and will be there for me.

Why I want to "enlist" as a committed follower of Jesus Christ:

I believe in Him and intend to enlist as a committed follower for all He has done for me in my life and for my future.

What I would like to do with my life as a way of saying "Thanks" to God:

As a way of saying "Thanks" to God I would like to keep Him #1 in my life: praying, worshiping, spreading His word, being grateful for the things He has done in my life, and helping others - especially kids and people who are ill. I would like to be involved in Vacation Bible School and leading Children's Church.

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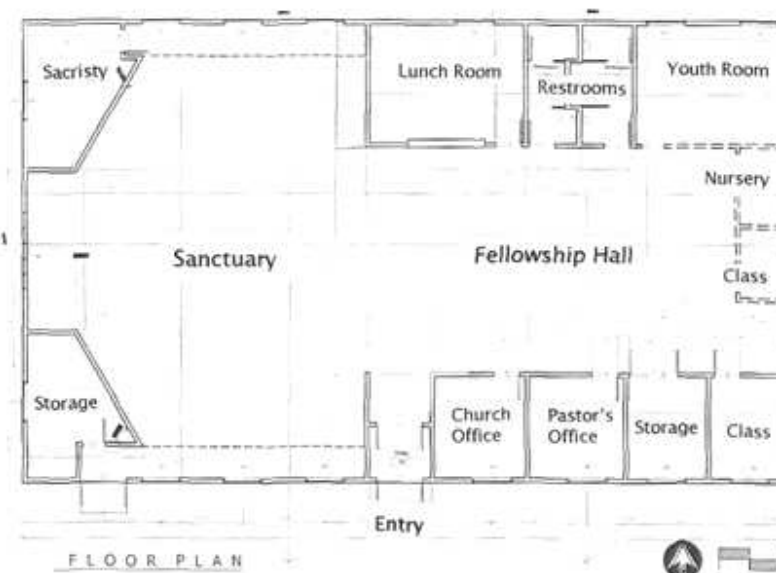
That for a day: What we see in others often reveals something about us.

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Building Update...

The "Almost Final" Design

(A couple minor changes have been made since this draft: An outside door was added to the kitchen; also a hallway between restrooms, so restrooms don't open into the fellowship hall)



May 2009 - Living Word Church Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May 3 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour Adult Forum - Key Chapters Sunday School 10:00 Worship w/ Lord's Supper 11:15 Fellowship	4	5 NOON Bible Study @ Geneva Olson's	6 Noon Study: Full Life 3:30 All Stars 4 Jesus 6:45 Men's Study 7:00 Youth Study & Mtg	7	8	9
10 MOTHER'S DAY 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour Adult Forum - Key Chapters Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship Outreach Team mtg after f-shp	11  HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY	12 NOON Bible Study @ Geneva Olson's	13 9:30 New Women's Study: Coping with Stress Noon Study: Full Life 6:00 Meal 6:30 Confirmation 6:00 LWML @ Dauk's 7:00 Baby Shower for Autumn Foshaug @ Dauks	14 7:00 Elders' Team	15	16
17 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour Adult Forum - Key Chapters Sunday School 10:00 Worship w/ Lord's Supper SECRET PAUL'S REVEALED 11:15 OLD FASHIONED SUNDAY SCHOOL PICNIC	18	19 NOON Bible Study @ Geneva Olson's	20 9:30 NEW Women's Study: "Coping with Stress" Noon Study: Full Life 6:30 Men's Study	21 7:00 Mission & Ministry Team	22	23 11:00 Cookie Outreach to RV Camp 
24 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship SPRING VOTERS' MTG.	25 Memorial Day 	26 NOON Bible Study @ Geneva Olson's	27 9:30 Women's Study: "Coping with Stress" Noon: Full Life Study 6:00 Meal 6:30 Confirmation	28	29	30 11:00 Cookie Outreach to RV Camp
31 CTI MUSIC MINISTRIES 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour Adult Forum - key chapters 10:00 Worship w/ Carpenter's Tools International providing music 11:15 Fellowship 6:00 New Neighbor Visits	June 1	June 2	June 3	June 4	June 5	June 6
		NOON Bible Study @ Geneva Olson's	9:30 Women's Study: "Coping with Stress" 7:30 Baccalaureate @ NL-S	Church League Softball		11:00 Cookie Outreach to RV Camp

May - 15-Minutes-A-Day

TODAY'S LIGHT BIBLE READING PROGRAM: We finish Jeremiah's prophecy to Israel, then turn to prophets Zechariah and Malachi. We fill in with some Proverbs then on to Acts after Pentecost

May 3 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

May 4 Jeremiah 29:1-31 (29:1-23) _____

May 5 Jeremiah 30:1-32:44 (30:1-40) _____

May 6 Jeremiah 33:1-26 (33:14-26) _____

May 7 Jeremiah 34:1-35:19 (35:1-19) _____

May 8 Jeremiah 36:1-37:21 (36:1-26) _____

May 9 Jeremiah 38:1-40:16 (38:1-28) _____

May 10 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

May 11 Jeremiah 41:1-43:13 (42:1-22) _____

May 12 Jeremiah 44:1-45:5 (44:1-23) _____

May 13 Jeremiah 46:1-49:39 (46:24-28) _____

May 14 Jeremiah 50:1-51:64 (50:1-20) _____

May 15 Jeremiah 52:1-34 (52:1-16) _____

May 16 Zechariah 1:1-2:13 (1:1-17) _____

May 17 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

May 18 Zechariah 3:1-10 (3:1-5) _____

May 19 Zechariah 4:1-14 (4:1-7) _____

Today's Light Devotional Readings

May 20 Zechariah 5:1-11 (-95:1-4) _____

May 21 Zechariah 6:1-16 (6:9-15) _____

May 22 Zechariah 7:1-14 (7:8-14) _____

May 23 Zechariah 8:1-23 (8:1-17) _____

May 24 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

May 25 Zechariah 9:1-10:12 (9:1-17) _____

May 26 Zechariah 11:1-12:14 (12:1-14) _____

May 27 Zechariah 13:1-9 (13:7-9) _____

May 28 Zechariah 14:1-21 (14:1-9) _____

May 29 Malachi 1:1-2:17 (1:1-14) _____

May 30 Malachi 3:1-4:6 (3:1-18) _____

May 31 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

June 1 Proverbs 10:1-11:31 (10:1-32) _____

June 2 Proverbs 12:1-13:24 (13:1-25) _____

June 3 Proverbs 14:1-15:33 (15:1-33) _____

June 4 Proverbs 16:1-17:24 (16:1-33) _____

June 5 Acts 1:1-26 (1:1-14) _____

June 6 Acts 2:1-47 (2:1-21) _____

Upcoming Schedules...

If you aren't able to serve on your Sunday, please call someone and switch with them. Thanks!

Scripture Readers

May 3	Jack Kuppich	254-8355
May 10	Tris Mische	354-9046
May 17	Wendy Robbin	354-9049
May 24	Mona Hjelle	354-4315
May 31	Youth	

June 7	Wally Abraham	354-2615
June 14	Kevin Welsh	796-6840
June 21	Allan Fuglie	796-6975
June 28	Linda Dilley	235-0235

July 5	Mark Fuglie	796-6975
July 12	Tammy Fuglie	796-6975
July 19	Lu Kiehm	979-0097
July 26	Janet Towner	444-0125

Fellowship Servers

May 3	Elaine Abraham	354-2615
May 10	Tammy Fuglie	796-6975
May 17	Janet Towner	444-0125
May 24	Mona Hjelle	354-4315
May 31	Youth	

June 7	Stacy Olson	212-9647
June 14	Violet Dauk	220-0344
June 21	Lu Kiehm	979-0097
June 28	Tris Mische	354-9046

July 5	Linda Dilley	235-0235
July 12	Bonnie Hansen	796-5605
July 19	Wendy Robbin	354-9049
July 26	Nancy Jo Wendt	354-2398

Usher & Greeter Schedule

Ushers		Greeter
May 3	Wally Abraham/Brady Sharp	Lu
May 10	Joe Johnson / Anthony Dauk	Laurel
May 17	Troy Hansen/Bryson Wachter	Janet
May 24	Janet Towner/Linda Dilley	Violet
May 31	Youth	Youth

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That for a day: The way some people love to find fault, you'd think there was a reward.

June 7	Mona Hjelle & Pam Johnson	Lu
June 14	Jamie Iverson & Lonny Robbin	Laurel
June 21	Duane Hansen & Chuck Wefflen	Janet
June 28	Jason Miller & Jack Kuppich	Violet

July 5	Mark Fuglie & Kevin Welsh	Lu
July 12	Joe Johnson & Anthony Dauk	Laurel
July 19	Wally Abraham & Brady Sharp	Janet
July 26	Janet Towner & Linda Dilley	Violet

Acolyte

May 3	Noah Welsh
May 10	Michelle Johnson
May 17	Phil Iverson
May 22	Mikayla Geer
May 29	Youth

June 7	Noah Welsh
June 14	Michelle Johnson
June 21	Phil Iverson
June 28	Mikayla Geer

Children's Church Schedule

May 3	Kasey Nieland
May 10	Becca Dauk
May 17	Emily Fuglie
May 24	Mariah Welsh
May 31	Joe Johnson

E-Mail Wisdom...

(A bit lengthy, but well worth your time)

I'll never forget Easter, 1946. I was 14, my little sister Ocy, 12, and my older sister Darlene, 16. We lived at home with our mother and the four of us knew what it was to do without many things. My dad had died five years before, leaving Mom with seven kids (4 others were home at that time) and no money to raise them with.

A month before Easter the pastor of our church announced that a special Easter offering would be taken to help a poor family. He asked everyone to save and give sacrificially. When we got home we talked about what we could do. We decided to buy 50 pounds of potatoes and live on them for the next month. This would allow us to save \$20 of our grocery money for the offering.

Then we thought that if we kept our electric lights off as much as possible and didn't listen to the radio, we'd save money on that month's electric bill. Darlene got as many house and yard cleaning jobs as possible, and both of us babysat as much as we could. For 15 cents we could buy enough cotton loops to make three potholders that would sell for \$1. We made \$20 on potholders.

I remember that month as one of the best of our lives. Every day we counted the money to see how much we had saved. At night we'd sit in the dark and talk about how the poor family was going to enjoy having the money the church would give them. We had about 80 people in our church, so we figured that whatever amount of money we had to give, the offering would surely be at least 20 times that much - after all, every Sunday the pastor had reminded everyone to save for the special offering.

The day before Easter Ocy and I walked to the grocery store to get three crisp \$20 bills and one \$10 in exchange for our change. We ran all the way home to show mom and Darlene. We had never had so much money before. That night we could hardly sleep. We didn't care that we wouldn't have new clothes for Easter; we had \$70 for the sacrificial offering (quite a large sum for 1946). We could hardly wait for church!

On Sunday morning rain was pouring. We didn't own an umbrella, and the church was over a mile from our house, but it didn't seem to matter how wet we got. Darlene had cardboard in her shoes to fill the holes in the soles. The cardboard came apart and her feet got wet, but we sat in church proudly. I heard some teenagers talking about the Smith girls having on their old dresses. I looked at them in their new clothes and I felt so rich.

When the sacrificial offering was taken, we were sitting in the second row from the front. Mom put in the \$10. Each of us girls put in \$20. As we walked home after church we sang all the way. At lunch mom had a surprise for us. She had bought a dozen eggs, and we had Easter eggs with our fried potatoes.

Late that afternoon, the minister drove up. Mom went to the door and talked with him for a couple minutes then came back with an envelope in her hand. We asked what it was, but she didn't say a word. She opened the envelope and out fell a bunch of money. There were three crisp \$20 bills, one \$10 and seventeen one dollar bills. Mom put the money back in the envelope. We didn't talk, just sat and

stared at the floor. We had gone from feeling like millionaires to feeling like poor, white trash.

I knew we didn't have a lot of things other people had, but I never thought we were poor. That Easter Day I found out that we were. The minister had brought us the money 'for the poor family', so we must be poor. I didn't like being poor. I looked at my dress and my worn-out shoes, and I felt so ashamed that I didn't want to go back to church. Everyone there probably already knew we were "poor." I thought about school. I was in the 9th grade and at the top of my class of over 100 students. I wondered if the kids at school knew that we were poor. I decided to quit school, since I had finished the 8th grade. That was all the law required at the time.

We sat in silence for a long time. Then it got dark, and we went to bed. All that week we girls went to school and came home, and no one talked much. Finally, on Saturday Mom asked us what we wanted to do with the money. What did poor people do with money? We didn't know. We'd never known we were poor.

We didn't want to go to church on Sunday, but Mom said we had to. Although it was a sunny day we didn't talk on the way. Mom started to sing, but no one joined in and she only sang one verse. At church we had a missionary speaker. He talked about how churches in Africa made buildings out of sun-dried bricks, but they need money to buy roofs. He said \$100 would put a roof on a church. The minister said, "Can't we all sacrifice to help these poor people?"

We looked at each other and smiled for the first time in a week. Mom reached into her purse and pulled out the envelope. She passed it to Darlene who gave it to me, and I passed it along to Ocy. When the offering was taken she put it in the plate. When the offering was counted the minister said there was a little over \$100. The missionary was excited. He hadn't expected such a large offering from our small church. He said, "You must have some rich people in this church."

Suddenly it struck us. We had given \$87 of the "little over \$100." We were the "rich" family in church. Hadn't the missionary said so? From that day on I've never been poor again. I've always remembered how rich I am, because I have the most important thing anyone can have: Jesus.

What is the "giving" lesson in that story?

What does it have to do with you?

Opportunities to Share the Love of Jesus In Practical Ways...

Make-a-Meal Program

You will notice special "PRAYER and CARE" cards in the worship attendance folders. Please use these cards to give us the names of people you know who could use a meal. (You can also use the cards to give prayer requests for Pastor and/or the Prayer Force prayer chain). The cards can be filled out and placed in the offering plate.

Bring Paper Plates and Napkins

On Saturday, June 27, Living Word will be hosting a household item giveaway (Sponsored by The Link). Each congregation is responsible for providing quantities of 300 of two of the items to be given away. We signed on to provide napkins and paper plates. We will be collecting those here at church each week until June 27. So, when you go shopping please remember to pick up some of each of those items. Thanks!

Take the Link Survey.

You read about it in the April Newsletter. Surveys are available on the ushers' table at church. Take just a minute to provide your input. Thanks

Make Some Cookies for Campers

Again this summer we will be providing cookies for the RV Campers at the RV park each Saturday as a way of welcoming them to our area and inviting them to worship with us on Sundays. Talk to Pastor or one of the Outreach Team if you can bake cookies for this outreach. Thanks!

Share the Love of Christ with a Card or letter:

1. To Heidy, the young girl from Ecuador we support through Compassion, Int'l. Letter forms are on the bulletin board. (p.s. Our support is paid up through June 15. If you can help continue that support after June 15, please put your donation in the "Heidy" box by the door. We pay \$32/month to help provide for Heidy.)
2. To Armed Forces Personnel. Simply place your letter of thanks in the "Treats for Troops" box. Thank

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"Secret Paul" Prayer Partner Program

Reminders

Secret Pauls: Don't forget to send your person a note if they have a birthday in May.

Parents: If you have specific things your kids need prayer for during the year, please place those requests in the Secret Paul request box. Thanks.

Provide a Scholarship ... For a Young Person to Attend Lutheran Island Camp

Camp offers great programs and we have folks who would like to attend. If you can help out by providing a scholarship, please talk to Pastor David. Thanks!

Help Chaperone (or drive) for Youth Day at Valley Fair

Please talk to Pastor David or Pam Johnson if you can help in either of these ways. Tentative plans are to go to Valley Fair Monday, June 22. Thanks!

Glen Oaks Bus Silent Auction

GlenOaks is pleased to announce that we are planning our first ever Ranch Rodeo fundraiser at the Lucky Buck Ranch on September 19. Please save the date and plan to attend if you can.

Our goal is to offer loads of family fun while raising money for a new bus with updated comfort and safety features our residents and clients need.

As part of the fundraising activities, we will hold a silent auction with items donated from community members and businesses. We would also like to let our area churches know if any quilters, crafters or anyone who may wish to donate an item please contact Stephanie Williams at 354-6089.

Thank you!

Graduation Open House

For Anthony Dauk at his home (5126 Co. Rd. 40 NE, New London) on Saturday, June 6 from 1-4 p.m. The congregation is invited.

Thot for a day: No matter how far you push the envelope, it'll still be stationery.

Opportunities for Growth...

Parenting Young Children

Sunday mornings @ 8:45

A special class for parents of pre-school through 4th grade children

Tuesday Noon Bible Study

Stories behind favorite hymns:

Anything is more meaningful when you know the story behind it. We take a look at the Bible passages and life-situations that prompted the writing of some of the favorite hymns. We gather at noon and share a light lunch and study. Please join us.

Wednesday NOON study:

Life to the Fullest

Jesus is obviously concerned about your eternal life, He died so you could have one. But one thing we often overlook is that Jesus is also concerned with our lives here on earth. As He said in John 10:10, *"I have come that they may have life and have it to the fullest."*

In our first session we learned that God's definition of "thriving" is quite simple: Knowing Him (as in a close, personal relationship of trust and obedience) = thriving. Upcoming topics will include:

- You Are What You Eat.
- Your Mind: What Goes In Is What Comes Out in Your Life
- What is a Friend - Developing Friendships
- Where You End - That's Where God Begins
- Focus for Your Future

Please join us at noon - and bring a friend.

Sunday Morning Forum

Join us at 8:45 Sunday mornings as we will continue to look at key chapters in our Today's Light Bible readings. You don't have to have read them in order to participate. Recent "Key Chapters" we've looked at: Jeremiah Chapter 2: We found that the current situation of declining faith in our country is nothing new. The very same things were happening in Israel in Jeremiah's day. God warned them of coming consequences. They didn't listen. Will we?

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Wednesday, May 13 @ 9:30

A 4-Session Women's Study: "Coping With Stress"
Childcare will be provided.

Perfect for stay-at-home moms:

Please let Pastor know if you can attend. Thanks.

Men's Study: "No Ordinary Men"

Meets on the first and third Wednesdays of the month. We will finish up our study of the Sermon on the Mount and then launch into a study of the book of Revelation. We will also try to work a service project into our schedule, so keep your eyes and ears open for needs we could help with.

Wednesday, May 6 @ 3:30

All Stars 4 Jesus

Annual Bike to DQ trip

Leaves from Middle School at 3:30

Lutheran Women's Missionary League

Meets the 2nd Wednesday in April, @ 7:00 pm

Thot for a day: Five out of four people have trouble with fractions.

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



Jesus told his disciples to "WATCH AND PRAY"... and the time honored tradition of sleeping in church was born. Mt. 26:36-46