

Living Word Lutheran Church LCMS

November 2009 Newsletter
"Communicating the Love of Jesus"

You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies.

You anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows. - Psalm 23:5



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...

"Have you scheduled the marriage retreat yet?"

As some of you know, Violet and I have been looking into the possibility of hosting a marriage retreat again this fall. After talking to people who have expressed interest in a retreat and getting quotes from resorts and Bible camps we decided against the weekend-long retreat format. Instead, we will host a study one night each month then send the participants off on a "date" for the remainder of that evening.

We chose the Fireproof study which is based on the popular movie that was in theaters last year. I know many of you have seen it and recommended it.

We will kickoff the Fireproof / Date Nights on Saturday, November 21. Couples will meet at our home at 6:00 for the study (and snacks), then we send everyone off on their dates.

It doesn't matter if you've been married 6 months or 60 years, you will find this study to be very helpful in strengthening your marriage and your commitment to each other.

Here are the topics that will be covered in the study:

- "He Said / She Said" - appreciating the God-designed differences between men and women
- "He First Loved Us" - God's love for you and how it enables you to love others



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- "Love for a Lifetime" - marriage as a lifelong covenant
- "Breaking Free" - freeing yourself from the temptations that can destroy marriage
- "Forgiveness" - Giving and receiving pardon
- "A Better Way of Loving" - Unconditional love

Please let us know if you plan to attend (we do have a big house, but the space is still limited). We'll also need to know how many participant books to order.

Thanks for asking,
Pastor David

Send your questions to pastor@livingwordlutheran.net

Upcoming Events...

Fall Voters' Assembly

Tuesday, November 17th @ 7:30 pm

West Central Singers in Concert

Sunday, November 22

"I've Got a Home on the Other Side" is the theme of the fall concert of the West Central Singers. The program is an eclectic mix of folk songs and spirituals, many of which include images of water. The theme is inspired by a line from Brian Tate's arrangement of "Hold Me, Rock Me". Other compositions highlighted are "Sing Me to Heaven" by Daniel Gawthrop and "Pilgrims' Hymn" by Stephen Paulus. The program also includes a set of spirituals arranged by Larry Fleming and pieces arranged by John Rutter and Rene' Clausen.

West Central Singers is directed by John Jahr. Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$5 for children and are available at the door. @ Church of St. Mary 11th Street and Kandiyohi, Willmar

Thanksgiving Eve Worship

November 25th @ 7:00

Sunday School Christmas Program

December 20th @ 5:00

What Do We Believe...

What Do Missouri Synod Lutherans Believe?

Pastor is planning a class that covers the basics of our faith. We'll tackle questions like the ones listed below and also attempt to answer whatever other specific questions you have about what we at Living Word believe.

- What do we believe about God ?
- What do we believe about prayer ?
- What are the goals of Living Word?
- What do we believe about the Bible ?
- What is the purpose of the Church ?
- What do we believe about heaven and hell ?
- What do we believe about sin and forgiveness?
- What do we believe about creation and evolution?
- What do we believe about baptism and communion?
- What do we believe about eternal life - who will get it and how?
- What do we believe about current issues facing Christians - like abortion and same-sex marriages?

This class also serves as the instruction class for those interested in discipleship (membership) here at Living Word.

Please talk to pastor if you have questions about the class or would like to attend. Then we'll find a class time that works for everyone.

Give us Your Favorite Songs of Praise and Thanksgiving

Wednesday evening, November 25, we will gather to thank God for all that He is and all that He does. In addition to saying "thanks" with our Thankofferings, we will also thank God with lots of songs.

We'd like to know which songs of praise and thanksgiving are your favorites. They can be traditional hymns or contemporary songs. We may not be able to use them all on Thanksgiving Eve, but we will try to include as many as we can. And we will use the rest in coming weeks.

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Thot for a day: When times are tough, you know what you can ALWAYS count on? Your fingers.

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NOTICE TO ALL VOTING MEMBERS...

Tuesday, November 17 @ 7:30 p.m.
Fall Voters' Assembly - Budget approval mtg.

LWML News...



Become Part of the Living Word's
LWML (Lutheran Women's Missionary League)

For Christ-Centered Women of All
Ages

The Mission of the Lutheran
Women's Missionary League:

is to assist each woman of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod in affirming her relationship with the Triune God, so that she is enable to use her gifts in ministry to the people of the world.

The Living Word LWML meets the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 for devotion and mission/ministry planning. Please join us next month.

Upcoming Events Include:

Bake Sale

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League will be organizing Living Word's participation in the Kandi Mall Bake Sale on December 5 and 12. We need people to donate these baked goods:

Lefsa, Krumkake, Rosettes, Bread, & Donuts

Please talk to one of the LWML members if you can make some of these items. Thanks!

Baby Shower

The LWML will be hosting a baby shower for Mikala Miller at the church. Check for date and time.

MEXICAN DINNER FUND RAISER

We served approximately 125 people and raised \$750 after expenses. Thanks to everyone who made the dinner a success!

E-Mail Wisdom...

A young and successful executive was traveling down a neighborhood street, going a bit too fast in his new Jaguar. He was watching for kids darting out from between parked cars and slowed down when he thought he saw something. As his car passed, no children appeared. Instead, a brick smashed into the passenger door of his Jag!

He slammed on the breaks and backed up to the spot where the brick had been thrown. Steam coming out of his ears, he jumped out of the car, grabbed the nearest kid, pushed him up against a parked car and shouted, "What the heck are you doing? This is a new car and that brick you threw is going to cost you a lot of money!"

The young boy was very apologetic. "Please mister... please, I'm sorry, but I didn't know what to do. I through the brick because no one else would stop..." With tears starting to stream down his face and off his chin the youth pointed to a spot just behind the parked car.

"It's my brother," he said. "He rolled off the curb and fell out of his wheelchair and I can't lift him up." Now sobbing, the boy asked the stunned executive "Would you please help me get him back into his wheelchair? He's hurt and he's too heavy for me."

The driver couldn't reply due to the lump that had formed in his throat. He hurriedly lifted the handicapped boy back into the wheelchair, then took out a linen handkerchief and dabbed at the fresh scrapes and cuts. A quick look told him everything was going to be okay.

"Thank you and may God bless you," the grateful child told the stranger.

Still too shook up for words, the man simply watched as the boy pushed his wheelchair-bound brother down the sidewalk toward their home. It was a long slow walk back to his car. The damage was very noticeable, but the driver never bothered to repair the damage to the dented door. He decided to leave the dent there as a constant reminder of this message:

"Don't go through life so fast that someone has to throw a brick to get your attention!"

Often God tries to get our attention with gentle whispers and soft-spoken words, but we keep ignoring him until He throws a brick at us. Keep your eyes open for those bricks. They really are not sent to hurt you.

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That for a day: When you get to your wit's end, you'll find God lives there.

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Operation Christmas Child...



In the next few weeks millions of caring people like you will be praying for children in the poorest areas of the world and filling shoe boxes with gifts for them. On Sunday, November 15, we will dedicate to the

Lord all the shoe boxes that we collect. The next day they will be delivered to the Youth for Christ office in Willmar. From there they will be transported to a large distribution center in the Twin Cities where they will be sorted and packaged for shipping to locations in over 100 countries.

Franklin Graham, President of Samaritan's Purse, says, "Sometimes people ask me how much difference a shoe box can make in the life of a child who is poor, sick, hungry or traumatized by war. I tell them that the gifts are only the beginning. Church partners who hand out the boxes on our behalf also reach out to the children and their families, sharing the hope of the Gospel. By God's grace, every year hundreds of thousands of these children receive Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior through the Gospel storybooks and discipleship program."

"Let me give you an example. In 1993 in snowy Bosnia, an 11-year-old girl named Lejla received one of our very first shoe box gifts. 'That's when I knew God loved me,' she said. Raised in a non-Christian home, she didn't know who Jesus was. When one of our team shared the Gospel with her, Lejla prayed to accept Christ as her Lord and Savior. Today, living in Pennsylvania after marrying a soldier who was in Bosnia on a peacekeeping mission, Lejla Allison is packing boxes for over 50 children, and we are planning to take her back to Bosnia this winter to help hand out gifts and minister to children in her homeland."

You can help with this special ministry by packing a shoe box for a girl or boy (you choose the age). The display at church has a list of suggested items to pack. Bring the shoe box to church on or before our Dedication Sunday. Thank you for your partnership in sharing the Gospel!

Simple Ways to Give Your Life A Spiritual Lift...

In our recent *Boundaries* study we learned a major lesson about life:

There are many situations in life you didn't choose to be in - many things you wish would never have happened. But there is one choice you ALWAYS have - even in situations you didn't choose: The choice of how you respond.

Here are two basic response choices you always have:

- 1) To give thanks for what God has given

OR 2) To complain about what he hasn't given.

It doesn't take a rocket-scientist to figure out which choice gives you a lift

and which choice brings you (and everyone around you) down.

In the Old Testament, people would set up piles of stones to help them remember what God had done for them at that place. (e.g. When they would pass that place, they'd see the pile of stones and it would remind them of what God had done.)

Don't wait until Thanksgiving Day to give thanks.

Start right now, so that by the time November 26 rolls around, you'll be into the thanksgiving habit and out of the complaining habit.



Take a moment to turn to the "My Thank You, God" List and write down the things God *has* given you. Don't forget the spiritual blessings like forgiveness and eternal life. And don't complain about what God *hasn't* given. Instead, **thank him for what he hasn't given - because if it was good for you at this time, he'd have given it.**

Cultivating an attitude of gratitude will give your spiritual life a lift!

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Thot for a day: He ate so much over the holidays that he decided to quit cold turkey.

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My “Thank You God” List

God does so many things for us, but it's easy to forget them, because we don't have visible reminders. Use the space below to write out your list of things to thank God for. Then tack it up someplace you will see it each day as a reminder of all God has done for you.

God, I thank you for...

[illegible]

Opportunities for Growth...

How would you change if you spent just a couple minutes a day getting to know God through His Word? Join us in finding out.

Check out the "What Does God Have to Say About...? Daily Readings. And make a commitment to find out how God will change you through reading just a couple minutes a day. (pages 16 & 17)

Tuesday Noon Study at Geneva Olson's in NL

Colossians: How does Jesus stack up against all the other religious ideas? That's not a question that has just recently surfaced. It was a question Christians had in the first century. The book of Colossians is an answer to that question.

Mom's Study - Wednesday mornings @ 9:30



"The Five Love Languages"

Based on a best-selling book by Gary Chapman, this study takes a look at the five basic ways to say "I love you," and helps you identify which of those ways speaks "I love you" loudest to you, your spouse and your kids.

Women's Study - Wednesdays @ noon

"Five Things God Uses to Grow Your Faith" What would it be like to have perfect faith? Find out in Andy Stanley's dynamic group study! The six sessions will spark discussion about approaching each day with unshakable confidence; belief in God's control; and trust in his purposes. Discover how God uses practical teaching, relationships, private disciplines, personal ministry, and pivotal circumstances to grow your faith. Starting **Wednesday, Nov. 11 at noon.**



Men's Revelation Bible Study

1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the Month @ 7:00 p.m.

Youth Bible Study

Wednesday, Nov. 4 @ 6:30

Anger - Deal With It (or it will deal with you)

Sunday Morning Adult Forum - 9:00

We'll continue to highlight the insights God gives us in our Daily Bible readings for the previous week. Join us even if you weren't able to do the readings.

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That for a day: When a freight train passes, no one says, "It sounded just like a tornado!"

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Lutheran Women's Missionary League

Meets Wed., Nov. 11 @ 7:00 pm (see page 5)

All Stars 4 Jesus

Wed., Nov. 18: A fun evening for 3-6th Graders

The Confirmation Students will again assist with Craft and Game time. Pastor will lead the Bible story time. Rides can be provided and friends can come. Just let us know. We'll start at 6:30 and conclude by 8:00

Parenting Young Children - 8:45 each Sunday

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

Confirmation Class

6:30 each Wednesday (meal @ 6:00)

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(See Matthew 14:14-21)

HONESTLY JESUS, YOU GIVE ME 5 PIES AND 2 TURKEYS AND EXPECT ME TO COOK FOR THE 5,000 GUESTS YOU'VE INVITED?!

So That The World May Know...

Building Plans Update

Recent Developments:

- District LCEF Rep. George Miller informed us at our October Mission and Ministry meeting that with current rates we could get a loan of \$117,000 for an \$800/month Principle+Interest payment. This would be a 20-year loan.

- Rev. Dave Strohschein, our District Mission and Ministry rep, informed our MMT group at the October meeting that the District would again budget for \$10,000 for mission support for Living Word in 2010. The goal is that we would not need support in 2011.
- Pastor David sent the following page (*Living Word Lutheran Mission - Building Update*) to each of the congregations in our circuit for them to include in bulletins and/or newsletters. He also sent a copy to the District office for them to include in their email newsletter that is sent to all District congregations.
- In an effort to see that their building gets used as a church, the Good Shepherd congregation in rural Appleton has voted to help us with a portion of the cost of moving the building to our site (they did not determine a specific amount).
- Our Building Agenda-Setting Committee will meet on Tuesday, November 10 to organize the information we have from bidders, put together a "where do we go from here" agenda and set a date for our next congregational building meeting.

We've received most of the cost estimates connected with moving the Good Shepherd Lutheran building from rural Appleton to our site on County Road 9. Here are the average bids in each expense category:

Excavating	\$ 9200
Well	\$ 4250
Septic	\$ 7200
Plumbing	\$18,387
Heating	\$32,000
Electrical	\$21,800
Masonry	\$32,000
Moving Company	\$41,500
Electrical Line Moving	\$40,000
Wheelchair lift	\$20,000
Parking & Driveway	\$ 9000
Other	\$10,000
Total Cost	\$245,337

With a building fund balance of \$60,000 and ability to obtain a \$117,000 loan we are left with a difference of \$68,337 to make up in reduced expenses and/or increased donations.

That for a day: why is "phonics" not spelled the way it sounds?

Building Update Letter...

Living Word Lutheran Mission - Building Update

After spending the better part of the past year making plans to erect a building on our 7 1/2 acres between New London and Spicer, the Lord has presented us with an opportunity to move an existing church building (currently located about 12 miles north of Appleton). It belongs to Good Shepherd Lutheran which is dissolving.

We've weighed the pros and cons of moving a building vs. starting from scratch. Some of the pros include ...

- The "character" features we'd never be able to afford building new (hardwood oak floors, stained glass, balcony, belltower),
- Publicity surrounding the move will serve to "get us on the map."
- Good stewardship using an existing bldg. will create goodwill for us in the area
- Traditional "country church" design ties in with our "traditional" Christian theology in a time when churches change to fit culture

The major "cons" have to do with functional design. It's easier to design a functional, energy efficient structure when you start from scratch. For example, moving a building will require us to have a lower-level walkout (basement) under the sanctuary, thus the need for a wheelchair lift. Build-new plans called for everything on one level. The current building also lacks the energy efficiency that can be built into a new structure.

After prayerfully considering all of these aspects (and many more), we feel that God has re-directed us down the 'move-a-building' road on purpose. Therefore, we need to head down that road until God re-directs, puts up a road-block or makes it happen. At the present time we are getting bids for moving/construction costs. Initial estimates show that we will need to cut expenses/increase donations in the neighborhood of 60-80,000 to make this financially feasible.

How you can help:


- 1) Please keep in your prayers this project and everyone involved in it. Above all else we want to do God's will and do, say or think nothing but what is pleasing to Him, gives Him glory and points people to Him.
- 2) Do you know someone who could donate services like excavating, electrical wiring, plumbing, sheet-rocking, mudding/taping, painting? If so, let us know (we could give them a receipt for the value of their services)
- 3) Do you know someone who would find this project something they would like help fund with a monetary donation? If so, please let us know.

Please go to www.livingwordlutheran.net for more info on our congregation and this project. If you'd like to offer services or make a donation, you can contact Pastor David @ 320-220-1816 or pastor@livingwordlutheran.net for more info on how to do either one.

Thank you for your prayers and support!

The Members of Living Word Lutheran Church

November 2009 - Living Word Church Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Nov 1 Daylight Saving Time Ends 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour Adult Forum - Key Chapters Sunday School Parents' Study 10:00 Worship w/Lord's Supper 11:15 Fellowship	2 Circuit Pastors' Conference @ Madison	3 NOON Bible Study "Colossians" @ Geneva Olson's	4 9:30 Mom's Study "The 5 Love Languages" Noon Women's Study "How We Got the Bible" 6:00 Meal 6:30 Youth Mtg & Study 7:00 Men's Study: Revelation	5 Noon NL-S Ministerial at Living Word 7:00 Elders Team	6	7
8 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour Adult Forum - Key Chapters Sunday School Parents' Study 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship Outreach Mtg.	9	10 NOON Bible Study "Colossians" @ Geneva Olson's 6:30 Building Agenda-Setting Committee	11 9:30 Mom's Study "The 5 Love Languages" Noon Women's Study "5 Ways to grow faith" 6:00 Meal 6:30 Confirmation 7:00 LWML	12	13	14
15 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour Adult Forum - Key Chapters Sunday School Parents' Study 10:00 Worship w/Lord's Supper 11:15 Fellowship	16	17 NOON Bible Study "Colossians" @ Geneva Olson's 7:00 M.M.T. 7:30 Voter's Assembly	18 9:30 Mom's Study "The 5 Love Languages" Noon Women's Study "5 Ways to grow faith" 6:00 Meal 6:30 Confirmation All Stars 4 Jesus 7:00 Men's Study: Revelation	19	20	21 6:00 Couples Fireproof Study / "Date Night" @ Dauk's
22 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour Adult Forum - key chapters Sunday School Parents' Study 10:00 Worship (Sunday school sings) 11:15 Fellowship	23	24 NOON Bible Study "Colossians" @ Geneva Olson's	25 9:30 Mom's Study "The 5 Love Languages" Noon Women's Study "5 Ways to grow faith" 7:00 THANKSGIVING WORSHIP	26 	27	28
29 Youth Lead Worship 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour Adult Forum - Key Chapters Sunday School Parents' Study 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship	30	Dec 1 NOON Bible Study "Colossians" @ Geneva Olson's	Dec 2 9:30 Mom's Study "The 5 Love Languages" Noon Women's Study "5 Ways to grow faith" 6:30 Youth Mtg & Study 7:00 Advent Worship	Dec 3 Noon NL-S Ministerial	Dec 4	Dec 5 9:30 Christmas Pgm Practice Bake Sale Fundraiser @ Kandi Mall

November - Daily Devotionals

We start the month with readings about FEAR - from the Psalms about it. We move on to WORRY and ANGER cousins of fear. Then PEACE, the opposite of fear and worry. Write down your insights....

Nov 1 **This week:** Instructions on FEAR from the Psalms

Nov 2 Psalm 23:1-4 _____

Nov 3 Psalm 27:1-6 _____

Nov 4 Psalm 46:1-11 _____

Nov 5 Psalm 31:19-20 _____

Nov 6 Psalm 118:5-9 _____

Nov 7 Psalm 111:10 _____

Nov 8 **What God Says About ... WORRY**

Nov 9 Matthew 13:3-7, 18,22 _____

Nov 10 Luke 10:38-40 _____

Nov 11 Matthew 6:25-34 _____

Nov 12 Luke 21:33-36 _____

Nov 13 Philippians 4:4-9 _____

Nov 14 1 Peter 5:6-11 _____

Nov 15 **What God Says About ... ANGER - and controlling it**

Nov 16 Psalm 37:1-9 _____

Nov 17 Proverbs 14:16-17 _____

"What Does God Say About...?"

Nov 18 Proverbs 19:11 _____

Nov 19 Ephesians 4:22-32 _____

Nov 20 Matthew 5:21-24 _____

Nov 21 James 1:19-25 _____

Nov 22 **What God Says About ... HAVING PEACE**

Nov 23 Psalm 119:163-168 _____

Nov 24 Proverbs 3:13-18 _____

Nov 25 Isaiah 26:1-4 _____

Nov 26 Isaiah 48:17-18 _____

Nov 27 Romans 5:1-11 _____

Nov 28 Philippians 4:4-9 _____

Nov 29 **What God Says About ... PEACE & CONTENTMENT**

Nov 30 Isaiah 32:17-18 _____

Dec 1 Proverbs 17:1 _____

Dec 2 1Thessalonians 4:11-12 _____

Dec 3 1 Timothy 2:1-4 _____

Dec 4 John 14:25-27 _____

Dec 5 Philippians 4:10-13 _____

Upcoming Schedules...

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

Scripture Readers

Nov 1	Lu Kiehm	979-0097
Nov 8	Janet Towner	444-0125
Nov 15	Tammy Wachter	796-6222
Nov 22	Duane Hansen	796-5605
Nov 29	Youth	

Dec 6	Allan Fuglie	796-6975
Dec 13	Scott Wachter	796-6222
Dec 20	Bryson Wachter	894-6378
Dec 27	Jack Kuppich	254-8355

Jan 3	Wendy Robbin	354-9049
Jan 10	Mona Hjelle	354-4315
Jan 17	Kevin Welsh	796-6840
Jan 24	Linda Dilley	235-0235
Jan 31	Phil Iverson	354-4932

Fellowship Servers

Nov 1	Janet Towner	444-0125
Nov 8	Wendy Robbin	354-9049
Nov 15	Nancy Jo Wendt	354-2398
Nov 22	Donna Peterson	354-5247
Nov 29	Pam Johnson	354-3545

Dec 6	Laurel Iverson	354-4932
Dec 13	Tammy Fuglie	796-6975
Dec 20	Mona Hjelle	354-4315
Dec 27	Stacy Olson	212-9647

Jan 3	Violet Dauk	220-0344
Jan 10	Lu Kiehm	979-0097
Jan 17	Linda Dilley	235-0235
Jan 24	Bonnie Hansen	796-5605
Jan 31	Youth	

Usher & Greeter Schedule

	Ushers	Greeter
Nov 1	Lonny Robbin & Jason Miller	Lu
Nov 8	Duane Hansen & Chuck Weffen	Laurel
Nov 15	Mark Fuglie & Brady Sharp	Janet
Nov 22	Janet Towner & Linda Dilley	Violet
Nov 29	Joe Johnson & Becca Dauk	Mariah W

Thot for a day: They say kids brighten the home. That's because they never turn the lights off.

Dec 6	Tim Geer & Allan Fuglie	Lu
Dec 13	Mona Hjelle & Pam Johnson	Laurel
Dec 20	Jamie Iverson & Phil Iverson	
Dec 27	Troy Hansen & Bryson Wachter	Violet

Jan 3	Jamie Iverson & Jason Miller	Lu
Jan 10	Jack Kuppich & Lonny Robbin	Laurel
Jan 17	Duane Hansen & Chuck Weffen	
Jan 24	Kevin & Noah Welsh	Violet
Jan 31	Joe Johnson & Becca Dauk	Mariah

Children's Church Schedule

Nov 1	Mariah Welsh	796-6840
Nov 8	Joe Johnson	354-3545
Nov 15	Mona Hjelle	354-4315
Nov 22	Kasey Nieland	354-2036
Nov 29	Becca Dauk	354-4103

Dec 6	Mona Hjelle	354-4315
Dec 13	Halee Lucas/Mykala Geer	354-5035
Dec 20	Emilie Fuglie	796-6975
Dec 27	Mariah Welsh	796-6840

Jan 3	Joe Johnson	354-3545
Jan 10	Kasey Nieland	354-2036
Jan 17	Becca Dauk	354-4103
Jan 24	Mona Hjelle	354-4315
Jan 31	Halee Lucas/Mykala Geer	354-5035

Elders

Nov 1	Jason Miller & Bryson Wachter
Nov 15	Troy Hansen & Kevin Welsh
Dec 6	Jason Miller & Bryson Wachter
Dec 20	Troy Hansen & Kevin Welsh
Jan 3	Jason Miller & Bryson Wachter
Jan 17	Troy Hansen & Kevin Welsh

Acolyte

We are in need of young people to light and extinguish the altar candles. Please talk to Pastor if your child would like to be an acolyte. Thanks!

November Discipleship Verse...



Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

1 Thes. 5:18



The LINK Update...

Advocacy & Resource Network-
November 2009 Update

Wildcat Wear Sale

We will be having a rummage sale for NL/S wildcat clothing on Saturday, Nov. 21 8am-11am at the New London Covenant Church. All proceeds from this sale will benefit The Link. You can drop off your Wildcat gear at the following locations: Focus Chiropractic in Spicer, New London Covenant Church, and both Prairie Woods Elementary and Jr/Sr High School offices. Volunteers are also needed for this event- great for youth groups and individuals!

Community Suppers

A meeting will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 10th at 6pm at Faith Lutheran in Spicer. If you are interested in being a part of this new project, please plan to attend! We will be exploring the idea of offering free meals on a weekly basis. Several churches in Willmar have been doing this for awhile with excellent results! This is a way to bring people together for food and fellowship.

Hope Care Pantry

**Item of the month: Laundry Soap

Hope Presbyterian Church operates a small care pantry where people can go to get household and toiletry items. Drop off your donation at Hope or at any area church. Items that are especially needed right now also include: feminine products, dish soap, diapers (sz. 5 and 6), baby wipes, lotion and men's deodorant.

Food Outreach Event

Bring a box, and fill it up with food! In partnership with Second Harvest Heartland and the Willmar Area Food Shelf, we will be hosting two outreach events that can serve up to 500 households!

- Friday, November 13th 5-7pm at Evangelical Free Church in Willmar
- Tuesday, December 8th 5-7pm at Faith Lutheran Church in Spicer

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That for a day: If it weren't for the last minute, nothing would get done.

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Volunteers are needed for both events. Contact The Link to sign up!

Current Needs

We are seeing several people per week with needs such as transportation, housing, employment, utilities, etc. We assist with these needs as well as provide referral and advocacy services. We also arrange connections for volunteers to connect with people for particular services like haircuts, home improvements/ repair, donated goods, etc. Each church has interest surveys available- please fill one out and get it to the office!

Contact Information:

Michelle Peterson, Director
320-796-2522
or flc_michelle@tds.net

Sunday School News...

Special Dates to Remember

November

22: Children sing during worship
29: 5th Sunday ~ Youth Service

December

5: Christmas Program Practice
12: Christmas Program Practice
19: Christmas Program Practice
20: Christmas Program 5:00 pm /
Christmas Dinner to follow

Christmas Eve Program

Christmas seems like a long way off, but it really is "just around the corner." Our Sunday School Christmas Program will again be the Sunday prior to Christmas, (December 20) at 5:00 p.m. **The first practice will be Saturday, December 5.** We'll hand out parts and get familiar with the program that week.

Thanksgiving Eve Worship...

A Special Thank-Offering Will Be Collected

God commanded the Israelites to come to the temple once a year for a joyful celebration of the blessings God provided in the harvest. This harvest festival was called The Feast of Weeks.

Then celebrate the Feast of Weeks to the Lord your God by giving a freewill offering in proportion to the blessings the Lord your God has given you.

Deuteronomy 16:10

In keeping with the example of the Israelites, this Thanksgiving Eve we will come together for a special joyful celebration of the blessings God has provided us. Each of us will be encouraged to bring a special freewill offering in proportion to how God has blessed us this past year.

If each of us thanked God for His blessings by giving Him a special thank-offering of just \$2 for each week this past year we could make up most of our current budget deficit.

Please pray about your Thank-offering proportion. Use the special Thank-offering envelope when you come on Thanksgiving Eve. If you aren't able to be here that Wednesday, you can give your Thank-Offering either the Sunday before or after Thanksgiving.

"But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand."

King David in 1 Chronicles 29:14

SINGERS NEEDED... For Community Thanksgiving Praise Service on **November 15**.

A mass choir made up of people from all area churches will be singing a number of songs of thanks and praise on Sunday evening, November 15 at Peace Lutheran in New London. **We will practice after worship on November 1 and November 15.**

(There will also be large-group practice at Peace Lutheran at 4:00 p.m. on both November 1st and 8th).

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Thot for a day: Do not believe in miracles...rely on them.

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A Message from Heidy...

Dear friends,

Hi! I am so glad to write and send you many greetings to you and your whole family. I hope you are in good health and I want you to know I finished primary school with good grades, so I am going to start high school. Pray for my family and for me to make good grades in high school and have a good relationship with my teachers. We love each other. Thank you so much for helping me. I am learning about God's word in a special course. Do you like soccer? I must close for now with much love and affection. Hoping to write to you again.

Heidy Haylis Vizueta Pluas

A Message from Heidy's Pastor...

Dear Friends,

Greetings in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ!

My name is William Pena, and I am the pastor of the "Iglesia Filadelfia" (Philadelphia Church - "Church of Brotherly Love") that develops ministries for children here in Ecuador and assists your Compassion-sponsored child. I want to show my gratitude toward you for helping children from this community through Compassion's Child Sponsorship Program. I praise God that you have chosen to share your love and blessings with Heidy Haylis Vizueta Pluas.

Our church is located in a rural area by the shore of one of the most important rivers in the country. Most people in this community work in agriculture. When we first arrived to this community, we brought the Good News of salvation to these people. Over time, our church expanded and we affirmed our vision, but also found strong needs in every area. Many people here suffer from lack of spiritual knowledge, unsanitary conditions, poor education, lack of basic services, moral-values crisis and dysfunctional families.

The children go through hazardous situations, such as psychological and physical abuse caused by their parents, malnutrition, as well as diseases. In regards to unemployment, the rate in this community is very high.

Families cannot depend on steady jobs, which can lead to the dissociation of some couples in order to migrate to larger cities to earn more money.

In spite of all the aforementioned issues, our alliance with Compassion's ministry has been an amazing blessing. Nearly 80% of the children from this community have benefited from the support provided by this sponsorship program.

Albeit, most members of our fellowship do not have large amounts of money, we still count on the contribution that comes from some brothers and sisters willing to support our ministry. Thanks to their constant cooperation, we have had our own Sunday School from the inception of the center. We have offered vocational workshops on electricity, baking, serigraphy and cake ornamentations as well. We have also taught children to make party decoration, work with computers as well as taught them basic sewing techniques.

As part of the work carried out by our church, we also monitor each child through annual health, psychological and dental screenings which have enabled us to improve the children's health in general.

As for the activities carried out at the center, our church counts on a team of volunteers who work with the children in order to develop their spiritual areas and strengthen their moral values. This team is also in charge of visiting families at their homes, and many of our sponsored teenagers have already joined this cause.

My vision as a pastor is to reach the entire community for Christ and train people through discipleship to increase the efficiency of our ministry. We believe discipleship will help us reach more children and to enhance our ministry within the church.

To me, the relationship between sponsors and sponsored children is incredibly significant, because it facilitates a sharing of feelings. I am quite sure that many children feel blessed just by knowing that their sponsors are there to reach out for them and willing to cover their needs.

I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for your sponsorship of Heidy. The truth is I feel like I

have known you forever, although we have never met. My church and I are committed to keep praying for you and your loved ones. Please do not forget to pray for these children and their families.

God bless you! Sincerely,
William Pena
Pastor

Thanks to Everyone Who Helps Support Heidy...

We have committed to \$32/month to sponsor Heidy's participation in programs like the ones her pastor described above. Thank you to everyone who has helped with that support. (Cash or checks payable to Compassion, Int'l can be placed in the box with Heidy's name by the door to the fellowship area.)

An Opportunity to Visit Heidy...

Dear Friends,

Take the most powerful journey of your life! See first-hand how your faithful support is changing lives in Ecuador. Register now for the Ecuador Sponsor Tour. Total cost for the trip is \$2,450 (plus air fuel surcharges). These tours fill up quickly, so hurry and reserve your spot online with a \$280 non-refundable deposit by December 9, 2009.

On a Sponsor Tour, you'll have the opportunity to:

- Spend time with your sponsored child.
 - Learn about your child's culture.
 - Visit Compassion-assisted child development centers.
 - See historic sites and shop the local marketplaces.
- We hope to see you in June 2010 for this life-changing experience! For more information, refer to our frequently asked questions page at

In Christ,
Leah Harrison
International Trip Specialist

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

Help Make a Meal for NL-S Ministerial Mtg -Nov 5.

Living Word is hosting the NL-S Ministerial. We will need a light lunch to be served for roughly a dozen people. Please talk to Pastor if you can help make or serve the meal. THANKS!

Sunday School Teacher Needed

... for 1st - 4th Grade class! Please speak with Rachel Tri, Pam Johnson or Mona Hjelle if interested.

Help with Support for Heidy

Heidy is the girl from Ecuador that we support monthly through Compassion International. We are a couple months behind in our support, so if you can help out, please make checks payable to Compassion International and put them in the "Heidy" box. Thanks!

"Secret Paul" Prayer Partner Program

PARENTS REMINDER: If you haven't already done so, please turn in a "Secret Paul" form for your kids Williams at 354-6089.

Operation Christmas Child

Our annual shoebox ministry. See page 7 for more details.

Be Part of our 'Make-a-Meal' Team

Do you have a heart for helping people in need? We're in the process of updating our list of people who can serve as either "meal makers" and "meal takers" (or both). Our "Make A Meal" program is a great way to show the love of Jesus. Please talk to Pastor David if you can serve on our Make A Meal Team. Thanks!

Plan and Organize Fellowship Activities

One of the goals we set for the coming year is to provide more opportunities for members to get to know each other outside of church. In order to accomplish that goal we need someone who enjoys organizing activities that "get people together." Things like 'fun nights' or service projects or outings. Please talk to Pastor David if you would like to help in this way.

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That for a day: Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass...it's about learning to dance in the rain.

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E-Mail Humor...

The minister's little six-year-old girl had been so naughty during the week that her mother decided to give her the worst kind of punishment. She told her she couldn't go to the Sunday School Picnic on Saturday.

When the day came, her mother felt she had been too harsh and changed her mind. When she told the little girl she could go to the picnic, the child's reaction was one of gloom and unhappiness.

"What's the matter? I thought you'd be glad to go to the picnic," her mother said.

"It's too late!" the little girl said. "I've already prayed for rain."

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson

REPENT.. for you may not know the day of our Lord's Return, but Thanksgiving is the last Thursday in November.



THE PURPOSE DRIVIN POULTRY - Passionate preaching to a congregation of turkeys (no pun intended) unwittingly near Judgement Day (Thanksgiving)

