

# **Living Word** **Lutheran Church** **LCMS**

**September 2011 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 County 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)

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...

*So, what happened at the planning weekend?*

Quite a bit, actually. With lots more to come. Here's a summary of what God accomplished through our Envisioning Weekend:

Rev. Mike Ruhl, Director of the LC-MS Center for US Missions facilitated a weekend of strategic planning here at Living Word the weekend of August 26-28. Pastor Ruhl grew up in Canada as the son of a church planter (pastor who starts churches). As director of US Missions he has done visionary planning with LC-MS mission churches around the United States for the past six years. He spends his time training and assisting congregations and pastors in mission churches.

Nine members of our leadership team participated in the planning weekend: Chairman Jamie Iverson, Secretary Tammy Fuglie, Elders Jason Miller and Kevin Welsh, Community Outreach Director Laurel Iverson, Children's Church Coordinator Mona Hjelle, Christian Education Director Violet Dauk, Youth Director Bryson Wachter and Pastor David.

**It was a very encouraging, energizing weekend** as we heard Pastor Ruhl tell us that he sees God has greatly blessed us with Christ-centered, visionary leadership and great opportunity for mission and ministry in our community. He was impressed by our congregation's age-diversity and the emphasis we have on small-group Bible studies. He encouraged us to add even more small groups with studies that can be led by lay people. Pastor Ruhl said that we have an excellent foundation many mission churches lack. He told us that he normally spends quite a bit of the planning weekend helping congregations develop Core Values (beliefs and attitudes that "drive" us) and a Mission Statement (our basic

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purpose). He didn't feel the need to do that here as we already have the right Core Values (listed below) that need just some minor "tweaking" to update. In addition, he felt our Mission Statement (also below) was "right on target" with God's purpose.

**The main focus of our weekend was on creating the basics of a vision** - things we see God doing at Living Word three years from now. Here's a first-draft vision statement that includes many of those basics.

*We see a new, multi-functional, family-friendly, kid-friendly building that is also available for use by other groups in the community when not used for our worship, studies and meetings. The building is situated on our land, which is home to a large playground and community garden and is also available for use by community groups. We are expanding our outreach ministry through more small group studies, our Make-a-Meal program, Sunday school, fellowship activities for young families, youth activities and by providing transportation to and from church for those who can't drive. We have a prayer group that meets regularly. We also see people of all ages growing closer to their Lord and to each other. Many of them are involved in worship using their talents in music and skits and visuals that enhance the message - a message that remains true to the Bible and focused on Jesus Christ as risen Lord and Savior. We are looking beyond ourselves and planning for a mission/ministry 'outpost' (possibly in Paynesville)*

**Being in a new building was foundational to that vision**, and Pastor Ruhl encouraged us to "get right on" putting a building on the land we have. He said that in spite of the many bumps along the way we are ready for that next step. When the question came up about whether we were in a position to afford to build, Pastor Ruhl told us that in looking at our finances we are ready and that he sees no reason why we can't do it. He told us to get a new building committee formed immediately. Based on his experience with mission congregations he recommended that the Mission and Ministry Team appoint a small, 4-5 person committee that will solicit input from the congregation but whose meetings would not normally be open to anyone but the committee members.

**Our leadership team will be meeting** to put those "basics" of our vision into a complete vision statement in the coming month. That vision statement will serve to give direction to our plans for mission and ministry. You can also look forward to goals for each of the Core Values we have listed below, and a sermon series highlighting each of them. We discovered that in order for our

Core Values to be valuable, everyone needs to know what they are.

#### **Living Word Lutheran Church Core Values:**

- BIBLE-BASED AND CHRIST-CENTERED preaching, teaching and reaching
- MAKING COMMITTED DISCIPLES through small-group ministries
- BIBLE-STUDY, PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP & OUTREACH in our small groups
- CHRISTIAN EDUCATION where God's Children of All Ages grow in faith
- SERVANT-ORIENTED OUTREACH with the love of Jesus in practical ways
- POINTING PEOPLE TO JESUS, not To Ourselves
- CELEBRATING IN WORSHIP - Every Sunday truly a "Mini-Easter"
- PEOPLE PRAYING for each other, their community and world
- A YOUTH FOCUS that treats youth as part of the church today, not just the future of the church tomorrow
- A FUN PLACE to KNOW Jesus, GROW closer to Jesus and GO with Jesus
- PLANTING MORE CHURCHES as a way of expanding God's kingdom
- MAKING THE TRUTH OF GOD RELEVANT to lives Of people
- HUMILITY - Remembering we are imperfect people in need of the forgiveness of our perfect God.

#### **Living Word Lutheran Church Mission:**

We aim to bring God glory ...

**Making disciples**

**as we go - wherever we go -**

**by being a joyful, caring, Christ-centered family of God**

With God's help we seek to accomplish this mission by modeling the first Christian congregation in Acts 2:42-47: Being devoted to Prayer, Bible Study, Fellowship, Service, Worship and sharing the love of Jesus in practical ways through Small Group Ministry and Community Outreach.

Thanks for asking,  
Pastor David

Send your questions to [pastor@livingwordlutheran.net](mailto:pastor@livingwordlutheran.net)

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**Thot for a day:** Children are natural mimics who act like their parents, despite every effort to teach them good manners.

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## **E-Mail Wisdom... (received via e-mail)**

**"I CHOOSE"** By Michael Halleen

"I will say of the Lord, 'He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.'" (Psalm 91:2)

Mrs. S. had lived alone for many years and got out only with the help of a wheelchair. Every Sunday she wheeled herself into the side aisle of our sanctuary (one without handicap access) where she worshiped enthusiastically. She always seemed to be "up." People smiled when they were around her.

One evening Mrs. S. spoke to the youth of the church and was asked how she could always be so alive, so full of joy. She responded, "Because I \*choose\* to. I had no choice about living the last half of my life as a widow or having one of my sons killed in the Korean War. And I certainly I didn't choose to have to ride around in this chair for the past ten years. But one thing I did choose - to be happy. I decided to make the best of every day and to see the best in every person."

A friend who had been a missionary in South America told me of taking some American visitors through his city. One of them spotted a beautiful, large poinsettia tree in front of a small house as they passed by. The visitor wanted to take a picture and, not realizing that the plant was brittle, reached up to pull down a branch for the camera. A six-foot length of flame-red poinsettia snapped to the ground.

At that moment the woman of the house stepped out of the door and confronted the gringos standing there, poinsettia branch in hand. Humiliated, they offered to pay for her loss. But they could no more fix the personal damage than they could repair the tree. Still, instead of adding to their embarrassment, the woman cheerfully asked them in for tea. She chose to forgive them, to overlook their clumsy behavior. She chose to offer them grace.

Nothing is more crucial to the quality of our lives than the choices we make about how we approach the circumstances and relationships of each day. In the end it is that attitude which largely determines the outcomes we will find. The Lord made today, but it is we who decide how we will live in it. I \*choose\* God as my refuge . . . I \*choose\* to trust . . . I \*choose\* to find a way.

You can contact Mike at [mhalleen@mediacombb.net](mailto:mhalleen@mediacombb.net). Also check out Mike's book "You Are Rich: Discovering Faith in Everyday Moments":

Copyright 2007 Dr. Michael A. Halleen.





## The LINK Update...

Linking people.  
Building community.

**News from The Link Sept. 2011**  
*Creating a community where neighbors share the love of God through service to each other.*

**From the director...** Update on challenge grant: We are in the process of raising \$20,000 in order to earn an additional \$10,000! We need your help!!!

For each dollar donated between June 30, 2011 and Sept. 30, 2011, The Thrivent Foundation will supplement by 50 cents up to \$10,000. This means, if our donors collectively donate \$20,000, we will receive an additional \$10,000 grant!

**Send donations** c/o of The Link's fiscal host, Faith Lutheran Church, 310 Medayto Dr, Spicer, MN 56288. Designate your check for The Link.

If you have any questions or concerns contact Naomi Mahler, the director at 320-796-2522 or [fic\\_naomi@tds.net](mailto:fic_naomi@tds.net)

### "JUST THE BASICS"

Household Item Distribution Event

ALL FREE OF CHARGE- NO PROOF OF INCOME REQUIRED  
First Come-First Serve!

**Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup> from 9am-11am**  
**Faith Lutheran Church**  
**310 Medayto Dr, Spicer**

Come and receive over **20 different items** that we all need to stock our shelves at home! Bring your own box and fill it with things like:

> paper towels



> toilet paper  
> laundry detergent  
> toiletries, and more!

Be watching for the collection at your church!

have spent over \$28,500 on outreach expenses helping our neighbors with things like rent, utility bills, car repairs and insurance. The need is great!

In gratitude for your support,  
Naomi Mahler, Director The Link

 Find The Link on Facebook!

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**Thot for a day:** Children seldom misquote you. In fact, they usually repeat word for word what you shouldn't have said.

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Special Thanks to Grace, Michelle, Eve, Alison, and Hailey for sharing in the fun and learning. Thanks for being the ones to get messy and crazy. Please come to another event soon and bring more people with you.

### Laughing With God - Lock In

We had lots of fun on Saturday night, as you can tell from the pictures.

Please spread the word about upcoming events including the Youth Night coming up. At every event there will be lots of fun and learning about Jesus- EVEN THE STUDIES. Please come join me at one of the events that are in the near future. Hope to see you there.

### Upcoming Youth Dates

**September 9th:** Campus Life Kickoff @ Peace- 7pm grades 5-8

**September 11th:** Sunday Morning Study

**September 14th:** Post Confirmation Study

**Sept 16:** Youth Mtg after church

**September 24th:** 1st Monthly Youth Night

Please contact youth leader Bryson @ 894-6378 or [brysonwachter@gmail.com](mailto:brysonwachter@gmail.com) for more information or for upcoming events. Also find me on facebook.

### You can help with our Support of Heidy

We have committed to \$32/month to help pay for basic needs and Christian education opportunities for Heidy. Donations may be placed in the "Heidy" box on the usher table at church.

Thank you!

## Upcoming Events...

### Rally Sunday "Receive the Crown of Glory"

We kick off our Christian Growth Year with Rally Sunday on September 11th at 9:00am. Our Rally Sunday Theme is based on 1 Peter 5:4 'And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.'

We'll start the morning with a lesson and singing. We will continue with a craft where the children will make a 'crown of glory.' The day concludes with games where the students can win jewels to put on their crowns.

Following the worship service we will have a pot luck. (Bring a dish to pass, please.) There will be a banquet table decorated special for the kids. Luke 14:15 'Blessed is the one who will eat at the feast in the Kingdom of God.'

### Fall Men's Softball Team

The Living Word softball guys will begin play on Tuesday, September 6, at 8:30. Fall League plays at the Spicer Fields each Tuesday evening for five weeks. Talk to Bryson Wachter if you'd like to play.

### Mexican Fiesta Dinner / Fall Festival

Saturday, October 1

This year our Mexican Fiesta Dinner will be on October 1. The dinner will be served at our normal 4:30- 7:30 time. Lots of volunteers are needed to make this a successful outreach.



YOU ARE INVITED!  
MAIN STREET NEW LONDON  
THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup> 2PM-4PM

**OPEN HOUSE**  
**COMMUNITY OUTREACH BUILDING**

 THE WILLMAR AREA FOOD SHELF

 THE LINK

 THE COMMUNITY CLOSET

COME SEE WHAT IS GOING ON IN YOUR COMMUNITY!  
JOIN US FOR COOKIES AND LEMONADE  
FIND OUT ABOUT THE WORK OF THESE ORGANIZATIONS  
AND LEARN HOW YOU CAN BE A PART OF WHAT THEY ARE DOING

Sponsored by the Willmar Area Food Shelf, 235-2641 • The Link 796-2522 • The Community Closet 354-2445

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Thot for a day: I totally take back all those times I didn't want to nap when I was younger.

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## Thanks !!!

.... To Rev Mike Ruhl for leading us in our Envisioning Weekend, and to all of our leaders who set aside their weekend plans to participate.

.... To Pam Johnson for organizing our Pie and Ice Cream Outreach last weekend. And thanks to Everyone who helped with pies, donations, advertising and serving. The participation was Great and we took in \$1169 !

.... To Bryson Wachter for organizing (and staffing) the Youth Lock-In on August 27

.... To Violet Dauk for accepting the position of Director Christian Education - Sunday School.

If you have someone you'd like to thank for serving, please email their name and how they served to [pastor@livingwordlutheran.net](mailto:pastor@livingwordlutheran.net)

## E-mail Inspiration...

Jacob was a cheater,	Peter had a temper,
David had an affair,	Noah got drunk,
Jonah ran from God,	Paul was a murderer,
Gideon was insecure,	Miriam was a gossip,
Mary was a worrier,	Thomas was a doubter,
Sarah was impatient,	Elijah was moody,
Moses stuttered,	Zaccheus was short,
Abraham was old and	Lazarus was dead.

Now..... what's YOUR reason for thinking God won't use you?  
God CAN use you where you are...if you let him! :)

## E-Mail Humor...

"Daddy, where did I come from?", seven-year-old Rachel asked.

It was a moment for which her parents had carefully prepared. They took her into the living room, got out several other books, and explained all they thought she should know about sexual attraction, affection, love, and reproduction. Then they both sat back and smiled contentedly.

"Does that answer your question?" the mom asked.

"Not really," the little girl said. "Judy said she came from Detroit. I want to know where I came from."

## September- Daily Devotionals

"The Book of Psalms expresses thoughts and emotions about specific situations in life - situations and emotions we can relate to. That's why people love them. As you read, list Emotions (E) demonstrated, Principles (P) about God and life that are taught, Mental Pictures (MP) that stick in your mind, and the Life-Situation (L-S) you would find this psalm helpful for.

\*\* Psalms with asterisks have songs or hymns based on them. See if you can figure out what the songs/hymns are.

Wk of Sept 4 DAILY READINGS ... God's Hymnal - the PSALMS

Sept 5 Psalm 1\*\* E: \_\_\_\_\_ MP \_\_\_\_\_  
P: \_\_\_\_\_ L-S: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sept 6 Psalm 2 E: \_\_\_\_\_ MP \_\_\_\_\_  
P: \_\_\_\_\_ L-S: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sept 7 Psalm 4 E: \_\_\_\_\_ MP \_\_\_\_\_  
P: \_\_\_\_\_ L-S: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sept 8 Psalm 8\*\* E: \_\_\_\_\_ MP \_\_\_\_\_  
P: \_\_\_\_\_ L-S: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sept 9 Psalm 13 E: \_\_\_\_\_ MP \_\_\_\_\_  
P: \_\_\_\_\_ L-S: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sept 10 Psalm 19 E: \_\_\_\_\_ MP \_\_\_\_\_  
P: \_\_\_\_\_ L-S: \_\_\_\_\_

Wk of Sept 11 DAILY READINGS ... God's Hymnal - the PSALMS

Sept 12 Psalm 23\*\* E: \_\_\_\_\_ MP \_\_\_\_\_  
P: \_\_\_\_\_ L-S: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sept 13 Psalm 27\*\* E: \_\_\_\_\_ MP \_\_\_\_\_  
P: \_\_\_\_\_ L-S: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sept 14 Psalm 32 E: \_\_\_\_\_ MP \_\_\_\_\_  
P: \_\_\_\_\_ L-S: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sept 15 Psalm 34 E: \_\_\_\_\_ MP \_\_\_\_\_  
P: \_\_\_\_\_ L-S: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sept 16 Psalm 37 E: \_\_\_\_\_ MP \_\_\_\_\_  
P: \_\_\_\_\_ L-S: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sept 17 Psalm 42 E: \_\_\_\_\_ MP \_\_\_\_\_  
P: \_\_\_\_\_ L-S: \_\_\_\_\_

Wk of Sept 18 DAILY READINGS ... God's Hymnal - the PSALMS

Sept 19 Psalm 46\*\* E: \_\_\_\_\_ MP \_\_\_\_\_  
P: \_\_\_\_\_ L-S: \_\_\_\_\_

## "The Hymnal in the Bible"

Sept 20 Psalm 51\*\* E: \_\_\_\_\_ MP \_\_\_\_\_  
P: \_\_\_\_\_ L-S: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sept 21 Psalm 53 E: \_\_\_\_\_ MP \_\_\_\_\_  
P: \_\_\_\_\_ L-S: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sept 22 Psalm 62 E: \_\_\_\_\_ MP \_\_\_\_\_  
P: \_\_\_\_\_ L-S: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sept 23 Psalm 64 E: \_\_\_\_\_ MP \_\_\_\_\_  
P: \_\_\_\_\_ L-S: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sept 24 Psalm 67 E: \_\_\_\_\_ MP \_\_\_\_\_  
P: \_\_\_\_\_ L-S: \_\_\_\_\_

Wk of Sept 25 DAILY READINGS ... God's Hymnal - the PSALMS






Sept 26 Psalm 70 E: \_\_\_\_\_ MP \_\_\_\_\_  
P: \_\_\_\_\_ L-S: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sept 27 Psalm 84\*\* E: \_\_\_\_\_ MP \_\_\_\_\_  
P: \_\_\_\_\_ L-S: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sept 28 Psalm 91\*\* E: \_\_\_\_\_ MP \_\_\_\_\_  
P: \_\_\_\_\_ L-S: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sept 29 Psalm 96\*\* E: \_\_\_\_\_ MP \_\_\_\_\_  
P: \_\_\_\_\_ L-S: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sept 30 Psalm 98\*\* E: \_\_\_\_\_ MP \_\_\_\_\_  
P: \_\_\_\_\_ L-S: \_\_\_\_\_  
Oct 1 Psalm 100\*\* E: \_\_\_\_\_ MP \_\_\_\_\_  
P: \_\_\_\_\_ L-S: \_\_\_\_\_

Wk of Oct 2 DAILY READINGS... God's Hymnal - the PSALMS

Oct 3 Psalm 103\*\* E: \_\_\_\_\_ MP \_\_\_\_\_  
P: \_\_\_\_\_ L-S: \_\_\_\_\_  
Oct 4 Psalm 107 E: \_\_\_\_\_ MP \_\_\_\_\_  
P: \_\_\_\_\_ L-S: \_\_\_\_\_  
Oct 5 Psalm 111 E: \_\_\_\_\_ MP \_\_\_\_\_  
P: \_\_\_\_\_ L-S: \_\_\_\_\_  
Oct 6 Psalm 116 E: \_\_\_\_\_ MP \_\_\_\_\_  
P: \_\_\_\_\_ L-S: \_\_\_\_\_  
Oct 7 Psalm 118\*\* E: \_\_\_\_\_ MP \_\_\_\_\_  
P: \_\_\_\_\_ L-S: \_\_\_\_\_  
Oct 8 Psalm 121 E: \_\_\_\_\_ MP \_\_\_\_\_  
P: \_\_\_\_\_ L-S: \_\_\_\_\_



# September 2011 - Living Word Church Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>4</b> 9:00 Growing in Christ Hour - Adult Forum: 10:00 Worship w/ Lord's Supper 11:15 Fellowship	<b>5</b> 	<b>6</b> 6:00 Men's Group 8:30 Men's Softball vs Eagle Lawn	<b>7</b> 9:30 Moms' Study Noon Bible Study	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11 RALLY SUNDAY</b> 9:00 Growing in Christ Hour - Adult Forum: - Rally Day Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:15 Rally Sunday Potluck 5-Minute Outreach Mini-Meeting	<b>12</b> Circuit Pastors' Conference at Willmar	<b>13</b> 7:45 Men's Softball vs Bolton Menk	<b>14</b> 9:30 Moms' Study Noon Bible Study 6:30 LWML 6:30 Confirmation	<div data-bbox="1312 483 1906 743" data-label="Complex-Block">  <p><b>CTI Music Ministries "2011-2012 Send Off Concert"</b>            Friday, September 16th, 2011 @ 7:00 pm            The Rock on 8th (1708 8th Street SW, Willmar, MN)            Concert admission is FREE!            Come on out to send off CTI's teams for 2011-2012!</p> </div>		
<b>18</b> 9:00 Growing in Christ Hour - Adult Forum: - Sunday School 10:00 Worship w/ Lord's Supper 11:15 Fellowship	<b>19</b> 	<b>20</b> 6:00 Men's Group 7:15 Elders Mtg 7:30 Men's Softball vs Eric Frank Const.	<b>21</b> 9:30 Moms' Study Noon Bible Study 6:30 Confirmation	<b>22</b> 6:30 Sunday School Mtg 7:00 Mission & Ministry Team	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour - Adult Forum: - Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 6:30 Men's Softball vs Queen Bee	<b>28</b> 9:30 Moms' Study Noon Bible Study 6:30 Confirmation	<b>29</b> 	<b>30</b>	<b>Oct 1</b> 4:30 - 7:30 <b>Annual Mexican Fiesta Dinner</b>
<b>Oct 2</b> 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour - Adult Forum - Sunday School 10:00 Worship w/ Lord's Supper 11:15 Fellowship	<b>Oct 3</b> 	<b>Oct 4</b> 6:00 Men's Group 6:30 Men's Softball vs Walts	<b>Oct 5</b> 9:30 Moms' Study Noon Bible Study 6:30 Confirmation	<b>Oct 6</b>		<b>Oct 8</b>

## Upcoming Schedules...

### Scripture Readers

Sept 4 Tammy Fuglie  
 Sept 11 Tammy Wachter  
 Sept 18 Duane Hansen  
 Sept 25 Scott Wachter

Oct 2 Bryson Wachter  
 Oct 9 Wendy Robbin  
 Oct 16 Mona Hjelle  
 Oct 23 Phil Iverson  
 Oct 30 Kevin Welsh

### Confirmation Meal

Sept 14 Marcia Welsh  
 Sept 21 Julie Bajari  
 Sept 28 Vicky Nelson

Oct 5 Pam Johnson  
 Oct 12 Marcia Welsh  
 Oct 19 No Class  
 Oct 26 Vicky Nelson

### Fellowship Servers

Sept 4 Elaine Abraham / Mona Hjelle  
 Sept 11 Violet Dauk / Laurel Iverson  
 Sept 18 Linda Dilley / Bonnie Hansen  
 Sept 25 Marcie Welsh / Pam Johnson

Oct 2 Wendy Robbin / Stacy Olson  
 Oct 9 Nancy Jo Wendt / Tammy Fuglie  
 Oct 16 Tammy Wachter / Sarah Miller  
 Oct 23 Elaine Abraham / Mona Hjelle  
 Oct 30 Violet Dauk / Laurel Iverson

### Children's Church Schedule

Sept Leaders Needed

Oct Leaders Needed

### Usher & Greeter Schedule

#### Ushers

Sept 4 Brady Sharp & Wally Abraham  
 Sept 11 Duane Hansen & Chuck Weffen  
 Sept 18 Jason Miller & Bryson Wachter  
 Sept 25 Troy Hansen & Brandon Sharp

#### Greeter

Bryson W  
 Laurel I  
 Bonnie H

Oct 2 Lonnie Robbin & Jason Olson Bryson W  
 Oct 9 Mark Fuglie & Time Geer Laurel I  
 Oct 16 Linda Dilley & Mona Hjelle Bonnie H  
 Oct 23 Kevin & Noah Welsh  
 Oct 30 Jamie & Phil Iverson

\*Fill-in Greeter Bonnie Hansen 796-5605

### Elders

Sept 4 Jason Miller & Troy Hansen  
 Sept 18 Kevin Welsh & Brady Sharp  
 Oct 2 Jason Miller & Troy Hansen  
 Oct 16 Kevin Welsh & Brady Sharp

## Sharing the Love of God In Practical Ways...

### Immediate Need for Children's Church Leaders

We are in immediate need of Children's Church Leaders. The only pre-requisite is a love for Jesus and for His kids. You read a Bible story or Object Lesson, take prayer requests from the kids and lead them in prayer; and do an activity with the kids that reinforces the lesson. Lessons are provided. You simply show up and lead. Please talk to Pastor David if you could help lead Children's Church once every 6 weeks or so.

### Need for More 'Make a Meal' Volunteers

We frequently have people going through difficult circumstances who could use a meal. Can you fix one for someone? We are updating our list of "Make-A-Meal" volunteers. Let Pastor know if you could occasionally fix a meal for someone. Thanks!

The Youth for Christ Music Ministry Department would like to invite all 7th-9th grade musicians to come be a part of fast forward, Youth for Christ's "junior high" music ministry team. There will be a Fall Retreat kick-off event on Friday, September 9 - Saturday, September 10 at First Covenant Church in Willmar. Regular rehearsals begin Saturday, September 17th from 1:00 to 3:00 pm at the First Street Warehouse in Willmar. For more information and to register for Fall Retreat, contact director Rebecca Gardner - becca@yfcminnesota.com or call the YFC office at (320)235-0119. THANKS!

## September Discipleship Verse...



*But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.*

2 Peter 3:18



## Opportunities for Growth...

### The Daily Bible Readings ... FAVORITE PSALMS

"The Book of Psalms was the song book for the nation of Israel. Songs are poetry, and poetry expresses thoughts and emotions about specific situations in life - situations and emotions we can relate to. That's why people love songs.

Join one of our small group studies this month as we go through some favorite Psalms finding:

- 1) Emotions demonstrated,
- 2) Principles about God and life that are taught,
- 3) Mental Pictures each psalm creates and
- 4) the Life-Situation in which you would find this psalm helpful.

p.s. If you can't join us in person, use the September Daily Readings to join us in spirit.

### So You Say Poetry Isn't Your Thing.... Really? - Part 2

As we brought summer to a close in our small group Bible studies, we have looked at some members favorite poems (radio songs) that remind of God

Here are a just a few that have been shared:

- Long Black Train
- Signs
- Gotta Serve Somebody
- Temporary Home
- Three Wooden Crosses
- If Heaven Weren't So Far Away
- Put Your Hand in the Hand
- Turn, Turn, Turn
- God's Not Done With Me Yet
- Lead Me
- I Can Only Imagine

Check out this actual poem (not a song) that someone shared as a favorite:

When you get what you want in your struggle for self  
and the world makes you king for a day  
Just go to the mirror and look at yourself  
and see what that man has to say

For it isn't your father or mother or wife  
who judgment upon you must pass  
The fellow whose verdict counts most in your life  
Is the one staring back from the glass.

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Thot for a day: Why don't tomb, comb, and bomb sound alike?

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Some people may think you a straight-shooting man  
and call you a wonderful guy  
But the guy in the glass says you're only a ham  
if you can't look him straight in the eye.

He's the fellow to please never mind all the rest  
for he's with you clear up to the end  
And you've passed your most dangerous, difficult test  
if the man in the glass is your friend.

You may fool the whole world down the pathway  
of life and get pats on the back as you pass  
But your final reward will be heartaches and  
tears, if you've cheated the man in the glass.

This month in our studies as continue to look at some of God's poetry: The Psalms we will find that we really like poetry a lot more than we think.

### Men's "Bible and Burgers" Study

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays @ 6:00 p.m.

Guys: Join us for our study.

### Wednesday Morning Mom's Study

Wednesdays @ 9:30

Childcare is provided

### Wednesday Noon Study

Open to anyone who can attend - guys and gals of all ages.

### Sunday Morning Study

Sunday mornings at 8:45

In our Sunday morning study we will be looking at some of the chapters you would "tear out and keep if you could only have one page.

## Congratulations!...

- Cody & Kim Strohbeen - Married August 13
- Brandon and Shanna Sharp - Married August 19
- Donna Peterson - On your new home in Willmar
- Marion Dille - On your 90th Birthday

If you have "congratulations" to pass along for someone, please email Pastor: pastor@livingwordlutheran.net Thanks!

## Practical Wisdom...

### ... FOR HEADING BACK TO SCHOOL

From Focus on the Family

Dear Friend,

My colleague Stuart Shepard was in Walmart® last weekend shopping for back-to-school supplies for his son when he encountered some rather provocatively Christian notebooks and folders. One of them read: "God Recycles. He made you out of dust." Another read: "John 3:16. This message is illegal in 53 countries."

Usually when we report on Christian expression in the public schools, it has to do with some official trying to kick religion out of school. But when the country's largest retailer stocks school supplies with openly religious messages like this, we regard it as a pleasant change.

Such messages are perfectly legal and they conform with court rulings that give wide latitude to students who want to express religious views in public schools. Many times teachers have the mistaken impression that anything religious is not allowed in school, and they make on-the-spot decisions that religious items need to go. They are wrong. Some school boards have even adopted official policies that inhibit student-initiated religious expression. But these policies also are inconsistent with what the relevant laws actually say.

That's why Focus on the Family has developed website initiatives for parents and students such as True Tolerance™ and Day of Dialogue™, which equip parents and students with knowledge of their rights and ways to legally express their beliefs in our public schools. These programs have effectively helped families across the country

Tom Minnery

Senior Vice President, Government & Public Policy,  
Focus on the Family

### Your Input is Needed

... to help us determine fellowship opportunities to offer.

Congregational Outreach Director Linda Dilley is putting together a survey of possible activities/events/outings where Living Word members can get together and have a fun day/evening/weekend.

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That for a day: A child's greatest period of growth is the month after you've purchased new school clothes.

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## Sunday School News...

Rally Sunday is almost here! Where did the summer go???

Our theme for Rally Sunday and the Sunday School Year is 'Charting Our Journey as we GROW' with an emphasis on growing our heavenly treasures through:

- Reaching our friends for the Lord;
- Bible reading and prayer;
- Memory work;
- Fellowship events; and
- Service projects

Or theme verse for the year is  
Psalms 84:5 - Blessed are those  
who find strength in you. Their  
hearts are on the road (journey)  
that leads to you.



### Sunday School Leaders:

As the new Sunday School Chairperson I am really excited about our upcoming Sunday School year. We have a great group of people who are passionate about kids and helping them grow closer to the LORD.

Chair/Co-Preschool Teacher – Violet Dauk  
Co-Preschool Teachers – Jason and Sarah Miller  
Elementary Teacher – Tim Geer  
Youth Director and Teacher – Bryson Wachter  
Parents and Two's Class (new this year) – Tammy Wachter  
Music – Shanna Sharp  
Helper/Planner - Donna Peterson  
Helper/Planner – Amanda Sharp  
Helper/Planner – Alida Sawatzky  
Children's Church Chair and Helper/Planner – Mona Hjelle

### Sunday School Schedule: 9:00 – 9:45

9:00-9:30 – Bible Story, Lesson and Craft  
9:30-9:35 – Memory Work  
9:35-9:45 – Music and Closing

Thanks to everyone for their love for God's kids.

Violet Dauk  
Director, Christian Education - Sunday School

## Meet Your Mission & Ministry Team...

A new section to introduce you to the leaders of the Living Word Lutheran Church. This month we would like to introduce...

### Elder Jason Miller

My name is Jason Miller. I am an elder here at Living Word. My wonderful wife and glue that keeps our family together is Sarah. We have three children: Noah, Levi and Mikala. Our family has two dogs, Bailey and Ava and a cat named Shay. I was born in Litchfield, MN and spent my younger childhood in Eden Valley, MN. We moved to New London when I was in the third grade, and I graduated from NL-S. When Sarah and I got

married we moved to Penock, MN where we still live today. I am currently working for Farm Bureau Financial Services as a Property Claims Adjuster. Our family enjoys camping, fishing and spending time together enjoying the outdoors.

Our family was attracted to Living Word by the closeness of our congregation and the family-type atmosphere. I'd list the story of Moses as my favorite Bible story. God uses ordinary people to do extraordinary things. Moses knew he didn't

have the gifts God needed, but God gave him the gifts to go and prove that it was only through God he could succeed. Also, through the story of Moses we God's patience with us.

One of the ways I see God working in our church is through our small group ministry. We have a very good turn-out in our Bible classes and they seem to be continually growing. One of the things I am looking forward to seeing is the future growth of our congregation and unity of our church family. The result will be growing in our outreach to unbelievers.

I feel God will use me in this congregation and will give me the gifts I need to help me with the young people of the congregation and also to help this church grow by helping in outreach to others



### PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY AT 11:09 EVERYDAY

(inspired by Luke 11:9: "So I say to you, Ask and it will be given to you; Seek and you will find; Knock and the door will be opened to you")

Remember to take a time-out to be "impudent" and PRAY for things like...

- For a great Christian Growth year for kids and adults
- The Holy Spirit to grow your faith
- For God to do what you can't.
- Pray for God to give you faith and courage to do what you can.
- For wisdom to know the difference between what only God can do and what He calls you to do.
- Pray for God to empower us to take our Envisioning Weekend plans and make them a reality

## Story Behind The Song...

### "On Eagle's Wings"

In recent Bible studies we have been looking at favorite songs that contain Christian messages. Right in the middle of the Bible is a book filled with such songs. We know it as The Psalms. But we have somewhat of a problem in that only the words - not the musical notes - were written. Many people have remedied that situation by taking the words from the Psalms and setting them to music. *On Eagles' Wings* is a great example. Whenever I ask people for favorite songs, *On Eagles' Wings* typically makes the list. The verses are based on Psalm 91, with the title and chorus coming from Isaiah 40:31.

*On Eagles' Wings* is a devotional song composed by Michael Joncas, a Catholic Priest, in 1979 after Vatican Council II, when the Catholic Church began using vernacular hymns at Mass. It quickly proved to be quite popular as a contemplative song at Catholic Masses as well as at Protestant services; it is now sung in churches of many denominations including Pentecostal churches and was performed at many of the funerals of victims of September 11.

The huge difference an apostrophe makes...

Fr. Joncas has stated that his preference for the title would be "On Eagle's Wings," (apostrophe *before* the "s") indicating that the wings belong to a single Eagle - meaning God. But he said he could make an argument for "On Eagles' Wings," (apostrophe *after* the "s") indicating that wings belong many eagles, since there would be many eagles needed to lift up the multiple people in covenant with God.



The Song:

**You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,  
Who abide in His shadow for life...  
Say to the Lord, "My refuge,  
My Rock in who I trust.**

Chorus: **And He will raise you up on eagle wings...  
Bear you on the breath of dawn  
Make you to shine like the sun,  
And hold you in the palm of His hand.**

**The snare of the fowler will never capture you,  
And famine will bring you no fear...  
Under His wings your refuge,  
His faithfulness your shield. (Chorus)**

**You need not fear the terror of the night,  
Nor the arrow that flies by day;  
Though thousands fall about you,  
Near, you it shall not come. (Chorus)**

**For to His angels He's given a command  
To guard you in all of your ways  
Upon their hands they will bear you up,  
Lest you dash your foot against the stone.**

#### The Verses:

Isaiah 40:31 But those who hope in the LORD  
will renew their strength.  
They will soar on wings like eagles;  
they will run and not grow weary,  
they will walk and not be faint.

Psalms 91

1. Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.
2. I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."
3. Surely he will save you from the fowler's snare and from the deadly pestilence.
4. He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.
5. You will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that flies by day,
6. nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness, nor the

- plague that destroys at midday.
7. A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you.
  8. You will only observe with your eyes and see the punishment of the wicked.
  9. If you say, "The LORD is my refuge," and you make the Most High your dwelling,
  10. no harm will overtake you, no disaster will come near your tent.
  11. For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways;
  12. they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.
  13. You will tread on the lion and the cobra; you will trample the great lion and the serpent.
  14. "Because he loves me," says the LORD, "I will rescue him; I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name.
  15. He will call on me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honor him.
  16. With long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation."

THE BACK PEW - Jeff LARSON



Pray for those who persecute you..  
and SACK YOU! Mt. 5:44