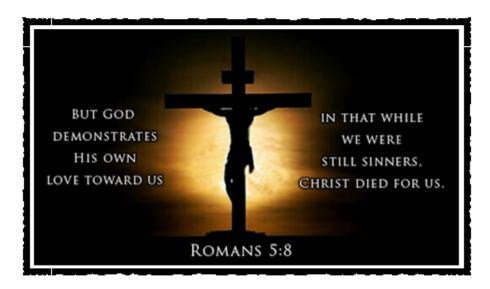


February 2014 Newsletter



"Communicating the Love of Jesus" Worship Hours:

Christian Growth Hour: 9:00 a.m.

Worship Service: 10:00 a.m.

# Living Word Lutheran Church

PO Box 242, New London, MN 56273

Located north of the New London Township Hall on Cty Rd 9 NE

Phone: 320-354-4637

Email: pastor@livingwordlutheran.net 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 is your favorite book in the New Testament?

This will finish the "favorite book" series of questions - at least for now. Picking favorite books of the Bible is kind of like picking favorite foods or colors or songs. The answers change as your life situation changes. So the book I might turn to more often next year could be different from the one I find myself using most at this point in time.



After the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) twenty one of the remaining twenty three books of the New Testament are actually letters that were written to churches or individuals. Thirteen of those were written by the apostle Paul. Here are my six finalists and why...

Acts - This is the only "history" book in the New Testament. The Acts of the Apostles recounts the history of the growth of the Christian church in the first decades after Jesus ascended to heaven. Included are the accounts of the Holy Spirit being poured out at Pentecost, the persecution of the early church that God used to spread the Gospel beyond the confines of Jerusalem; the conversion and subsequent mission trips of the Apostle Paul. As a history book, the focus is on actual events that happened in the lives of real people - the early followers of Christ.

Romans - The Apostle Paul's longest letter (to the church at Rome) contains some of my favorite chapters in the entire Bible. In Romans 1 were are reminded that there is evidence for the existence of God - all around us. We also find a very 'point-blank' answer to the question of what God thinks of homosexuality. In Romans 5 we find a great reminder of the depth of God's unconditional love: He sent His Son to DIE for us while we were "powerless," "ungodly," "sinners" who were "enemies" of God. That's love! And in what may be at the top of my

#### Page 3

list of "favorite chapters of the Bible" (Romans 8), Paul reminds us that "there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus," "the Spirit helps us in our weakness and ..intercedes for us," "in all things God works for the good of those who love Him," "If God is for us who can be against us?" and "nothing in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Ephesians - Is a book of very practical encouragement on how to deal with the challenging relationships in the church and in our individual lives. It includes the great reminder that God has saved us by His grace and not by anything we can do. Ephesians 3 reminds us of this great truth: God is able to do immeasurably more than all we can ask or imagine." In Ephesians 4-5 we find some great instruction on resolving conflict: Speak the truth in love... put off selfishness... put off falsehood (including exaggerations like 'you always' and 'you never')... don't let the sun go down on your anger... don't let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouth, but only what will build others up... be kind and compassionate... forgive as Jesus forgave you... imitate God by living a life of sacrificial love. And in chapter six Paul reminds us of the armor and weapons God has given us to fight and defeat Satan.

James - is a shorter book similar to the book of Proverbs found in the Old Testament. It's filled with practical wisdom for everyday life including nuggets like: When you ask you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives.

Revelation - This final book in the Bible brings HIStory to a close with two things people love: A story about a victory for your team. And accounts that tell us what will happen in the future. (Hint: Really bad stuff for those who reject Jesus and REALLY amazing stuff for those who hang in there with faith in Him.)

That leaves this finalist that gets the nod today (again, ask me tomorrow and the answer may be different): Philippians. As I mentioned with my Old Testament favorite, I like short books - ones that I can read from beginning to end in 15 minutes or less. (I just read the four chapters in Philippians in half that time!) I love the book, because it emits joy and peace from beginning to end - and who doesn't need joy and peace in the midst of a world that encourages us to throw ourselves a pity party filled with plenty of anxiety. Philippians is a great "attitude adjuster" reminding us that even though we can't always (often?) control our circumstances, we have control of our attitude 100% of the time.

Thanks for asking Pastor David

Send your questions to pastor@livingwordlutheran.net

#### Bake Sale Fundraiser...

#### for 1001 Orphans - February 9

The Confirmation students will be holding a bake sale the second Sunday of every month to raise funds to support one (or more) of the million-plus children orphaned in Kenya, Africa. Anyone else who would like to bring baked goods for these monthly fundraisers is most welcome to. (Check out the poster on the north Sunday school classroom wall.) Here's some info about the project....

#### 1001 Orphans

1001 Orphans is an opportunity to reach out with Christ's love to orphans and disadvantaged children. The goal: to reach 1,000 children, "plus one lost sheep" - a reminder that there is always one more child who needs care and that the church's work is never done.

In its first phase, there is a special emphasis on orphans and disadvantaged children living in Kenya. We hope the Kenya program is so successful that 1001 Orphans can expand into other regions of the world.

1001 Orphans is Coordinated by The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS); and carried out by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya (ELCK), an LCMS partner church.

#### About Kenya:

About 1.4 million children in Kenya are orphaned by AIDS, and an estimated 8 percent of Kenyan adults are living with the HIV virus. Poverty (65 percent live on less than \$1/day), drought (three years) and negative attitudes among communities exacerbate the orphans' situations. Most drop out of school because they cannot pay the country's mandatory tuition and are forced into child labor or sexual exploitation.

Through 1001 Orphans, ministry partners aim to guide at-risk children into the homes of loving families and under the wing of Evangelical Lutheran Church of Kenya (ELCK) congregations to help youngsters become educated, responsible Christian adults.

Support to a Kenyan or phan or disadvantaged child provides one year of:

- Family and spiritual-care support, by placing each child with a Christian family with ties to a local Lutheran congregation;
- Economic support, by providing money or food to supplement the already stretched-thin resources of families caring for an orphan;

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 And Education support, by providing funds so each orphan can attend school.

# The Daily Dozen of Christian Parenting

The class is finished, but the parenting never stops, so we'll have excerpts of things we learned in this and future newsletters.



#### DAILY DOZEN #4

Last month we were reminded that "You can't begin to meet the needs of your children, until your needs are taken care of."

This month we are reminded of some of the needs your children have that God has given you as parents the privilege and responsibility of helping with.

Our children NEED...

- A daily time to talk to God (prayer) and listen to Him (Bible)
- Your leadership. (Your kids need you to be a parent more than to be a friend)
- You to listen to them validate the feelings they express.
- Time to play.
- Physical activity (that's not limited to "flying fingers" in front of a video screen)
- Sleep Toddlers 12-14 hours.

Preschoolers 11-13 hours. Elementary 10-11 hours Teens 8.5-9.5 hours (Adults - 7-8 hours)

Time (yours). Children spell love "T-I-M-E"

Which of the above do you need to help them get ?

# Thank God For...

You've seen our sign board out by the road with the beginning of a sentence: "Thank God For..." Each week we'd like to change the ending of that sentence to encourage people who drive past to remember that God is the giver of all good things - especially things we take for granted. This

week we thanked God **That Your Mom Chose Life**. Let Pastor know how you'd complete that sentence next week.



### Meet Our New Members...

On December 1st we celebrated another "New Member Sunday" and welcomed four new members to our Living Word family: Keith and Laurie Hanson, Mike Von Rueden and Mike Knutson. To help you get acquainted with them, we asked them to tell a little about themselves. We've heard from Keith, Laurie and Mike Von Rueden, This month we meet ...

#### Mike Knutson

My name is Mike Knutson, I am married to Brooke and we have three daughters: McCartney - 10, Alexa - 6, and Ella - 4. We live north of New London. I grew up in Bird Island and graduated



from BOLD High School.

My hobbies include spending time with family, friends, and our animals (horses, dogs, etc.). I am an active 4-H parent and a member of the Dog Project PDC Board, going on my 3rd year. I enjoy working on cars (helped my dad restore an Olds Cutlass), going to car shows with our 80's Monte Carlo, and taking 4-wheeler trips.

My wife started attending Bible Study at Living Word a couple years ago, and we were drawn to the church because of the close-knit, family friendly community. My favorite Bible passage is John 3:16

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

#### Congratulations!

 John & Daenarys England on your baptism into Christ's family

Please email <u>pastor@livingwordlutheran.net</u> if there's someone you'd like us to extend congratulations to.

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#### Celebrating our 2013 accomplishments (by the numbers)!

Meals served through Tuesday's Table: 7,026 people Household Exchange: basic linens/house wares 178 households/ >\$8,500 in donated goods

"Just the Basics":

basic household/hygiene items 300+ people assisted

Advocacy and outreach services profile: 253 households

Household make-up: 45% children

55% adults

Race: 94% white

5% Native American

1% Black

Ethnicity: 14% Hispanic

86% Non-Hispanic



# Tuesday's Table in February:

February 4th: Our Lady of the Lakes Catholic Church February 11th: Evangelical Covenant Church February 18th: Faith Lutheran Church February 25th: Peace Lutheran Church

The purpose of Tuesday's Table is to build relationships among all of God's people.

Donors and volunteers hundreds of neighbors working together! Thank you for your support!

Here's a story: Just yesterday, the Link received a frantic call from one of our neighbors. He was in desperate need of gas to get to the cities for an emergency surgery. With only \$20 and his SNAP (food stamps)

benefits, he knew that he couldn't make the trip without some help. He receives Medical Assistance from the county and is eligible to receive a reimbursement after he makes his trip. The Link provided two \$25 gas cards that were donated during the Christmas season to help him get to his surgery. In return, he has offered to "pay if forward" with his reimbursement for someone else. This is just one example of the impact the Link is able to make with the support of our community.

Warmest Blessings, Rhonda Otteson Link Director

#### Household Exchange

We are looking for more volunteers to haul, pick up or deliver items. Call 894.1681 to get signed up!

Thot for a day

# Opportunities for Growth...

#### New Men's Study:

Tuesdays @ 6:30pm

Starting February 5: The Great Deceiver (Satan)



It should come as no surprise that an adversary fit to be called the "god of this world" and the "power of darkness" is a force to be reckoned with. And so he is. In The Great Deceiver explores a being so diabolical he will stop at nothing to separate us from God.

Mom's Study: Wednesdays at 9:30

Childcare is Provided

The Case for Faith: A Six-session Investigation of







#### Sunday Morning Study:

Sundays @ 9:00

#### and Wednesday Noon Study:

Wednesdays at noon

This month we conclude our video study of Paul the Apostle and begin a study of the book of Ro-

mans written by Paul.

#### Confirmation:

Wednesdays @ 6:30

This month we find out the truth to fight popular myths about God (in our Don't Check Your Brains At the Door book)



Make baked goods for bake sale Feb 5:

Host: Pam Johnson

Feb 12: Don't Check Your Brains at the Door

Host: Tim Geer

Feb 19: . Don't Check Your Brains at the Door

Host: Pastor David

Feb 26: Don't Check Your Brains at the Door

Host: Julie Bajari

Sign up to have this newsletter sent directly to you by e-mail. Send your email address to:

newsletter@livingwordlutheran.net

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# Coming In March...

#### "Soul Detox "

for the entire congregation

Just as there are all sorts of unseen things that our "toxic" for our physical bodies, there are many things - also unseen - that



are toxic to our spiritual lives. Lent begins March 5 this year (Easter is really late - April 20). During the six week of Lent we will have small group studies and a sermon series designed to help us identify these spiritual toxins and "detoxify" our souls.

Could You Host a "Soul Detox" Study During Lent?

Small group studies are a key part of this Lenten series. All you need to be able to host is a DVD player and a willingness to facilitate a study. Videos and study guides are provided. Please talk to Pastor David if you could host a study at your home or at church, Thanks!

# LWML News...

We will gather together again on Wednesday, February 12th @ 6:30



# Sunday School News...

 Class Time: 9:00 - 9:45 every Sunday morning Teachers: Preschool - K: Amanda Sharp

> 1-3 grade - Jason Miller 4-6 grade - Violet Dauk

Substitutes still needed. Please talk to Mona if you can help.

- This month we continue learning about the names & titles of Jesus.
- Friendship Sunday (Feb 16) all students are encouraged to bring friends. We will focus on being a friend like Jesus (Ephesians 5:20) And have some fun with games and crafts (see page 19 for more details)
- Our **Bowling Outing will be re-scheduled** for a Sunday in March
- SS teachers' meetings: After worship on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month



# February - Daily Devotionals

This month we prepare for Valentine's Day with two weeks of readings about Love. We've had requests for examples of miracles in the Bible, so we finish with Miracles in the Old Testament and in the Gospels of Mark and Luke.

Audio Recordings of each reading can be streamed from www.livingwordlutheran.net

Record your insights from these chapters on the lines provided.

Wk of Feb 2 Daily Readings What God says about LOVE Feb3 Psalm 136\_\_\_\_\_ Mark 12:28-34 \_\_\_\_\_ Luke 6:27-36 John 15:9-17\_\_\_\_\_ Romans 5:1-11\_\_\_\_ Romans 8:28-39 Wk of Feb 9 Daily Readings: What God says about LOVE Feb 10 Romans 12:9-21\_\_\_\_\_\_ Feb 11 1Corinthians 13 Feb 12 Ephesians 5:25-33\_\_\_\_\_ Feb 13 2 Timothy 3:1-5 \_\_\_\_\_ Feb 14 1 John 3:11-24 \_\_\_\_\_\_ Feb 15 1 John 4:7-21 Wk of Feb 16 Daily Readings About MIRACLES in the OLD TESTAMENT Feb 17 Exodus 4:1-9

Feb 18	Exodus 13:7-14:31
Feb 19	Exodus chapter 16
Feb 20	Numbers 21:4-9
Feb 21	Numbers 22:21-33
Feb 22	Joshua chapter 3
	Wk of Feb 23 Daily Readings Miracles in the OLD TESTAMENT
Feb 24	Joshua 6:1-20
Feb 25	Joshua 10;1-15
Feb 26	Judges chapter 7
Feb 27	1 Kings chapter 17
Feb 28	1 Kings 18:16-46
Mar 1	2 Kings chapters 4 & 5
	Wk of March 2 Daily Readings Miracles in MARK & LUKE'S GOSPELS
Mar 3	Luke 1:26-38
Mar 4	Luke 5:4-25
Mar 5	Luke 7:1-15
Mar 6	Luke 8:22-56
Mar 7	Mark 7:24-37
Mar 8	Mark 8:1-26

# February 2014 - Living Word Church Calendar of Events

Tebradiy 2011 Elving Word Charen Calcilladi of Events						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9:00 Adult StudyPaul the Apostle Paul the Apostle 10:00 Worship w/Lord's Supper 11:15 Fellowship 4:00 Youth Group	3 8:30 Circuit Pastors @ Redeemer	6:30 Men's Study "Great Deceiver"	9:30 Mcms' Study Defending your faith noon Wed. Noon Study Paul the Apostle 6:30 Confirmation Michelle hosts	6	7	8 10:00 -?? CRAFTING / SCRAPBOOKING DAY
9 FOOD SHELF SUNDAY (Bring items for NL Food Shelf) 9:00 Adult Study - Romans Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship "1001 Orphans' Bake Sale 11:30 Elders' Team & SS teachers	30kg Solg	6:30 Men's Study "Great Deceiver"	9:30 Morns' Study Defending your faith Noon Wed. Noon Study Romans 6:30 LWML 6:30 Confirmation - Gracie hosts	• s	's Supper Dates In unday, February 2nd unday, February 16th	
16 FRIENDSHIP SUNDAY  9:00 Adult Study: Romans Sunday School  10:00 Worship w/Lord's Supper  11:15 FRIENDSHIP BUNCH  4:00 Youth Group	FRIENDSHIP BRUNCH	6:30 Men's Study "Great Deceiver"	9:30 Morns' Study Defending your faith Noon Wed. Noon Study Romans 6:30 Confirmation Pastor hosts	6:30 Mission & Ministry Team	Cauples Dyner party	6:30 COUPLES' DINNER
9:00 Adult Study - Romans Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship	24	6:30 Men's Study "Great Deceiver"	9:30 Morns' Study Defending your faith Noon Wed. Noon Study Romans 6:30 Confirmation Eve hosts.	(inspired by Luke 11:9	r to Pray At 11:09  o: "So I say to you, Ask will find; Knock and the	and it will be given
March 2  9:00 Adult Study - Romans : Sunday School  10:00 Worship w/Lord's Supper 11:15 Fellowship  4:00 Youth Group	3	6:30 Men's Study "Great Deceiver"	5 ASH WEDNESDAY  9:30 Morns' Study     Defending your faith noon Wed. Noon Study     Romans  6:00 Confirmation  7:00 ASH WEDNESDAY     Worship w/communion	+ Continued wisdom f + The power to LOVE + Safe travel for every + An overturn of laws + Courage to take a st + Protection from the	me-out to be "impuden or guidance and decisio like Jesus did - uncondi one in the winter weatl that promote and enco and for Jesus at school deceitful messages Sata g in the lives of your frie	ns (BIG and small) tionally. her urage abortions and work. an sends your way

# Upcoming Schedules...

Scripture Readers

Feb 2	Tammy Wachter
Feb 9	Eve Bajari
Feb 16	Scott Wachter
Feb 23	Bryson Wachter
Mar 2	Wendy Robbin
Mar 9	Mona Hjelle
Mar 16	Phillip Iverson
Mar 23	Kevin Welsh
Mar 30	Linda Dilley

#### Fellowship Servers

Feb 2	Linda Dilley / Bonnie Hansen
Feb 9	Marcia Welsh / Pam Johnson
Feb 16	Wendy Robbin / Alida Sawatzky
Feb 23	Nancy Jo Wendt / Tammy Fugli
Mar 2	Tammy Wachter / Sarah Miller
Mar 9	Mona Hjelle / Elaine Abraham
Mar 16	Violet Dauk / Laurel Iverson
Mar 23	Linda Dilley / Bonnie Hansen
Mar 30	Marcia Welsh / Pam Johnson

#### Usher Schedule Feb 2 Mi

Feb 2	Mark Fuglie & Tim Geer
Feb 9	Linda Dilley & Mona Hjelle
Feb 16	Kevin & Noah Welsh
Feb 23	Jamie & Phil Iverson
Mar 2	Duano Hancon & Chuck Wo

Mar 2	Duane Hansen & Chuck Weflen
Mar 5 (Asl	h Wed)Jason Miller & Bryson Wachter
Mar 9	Lonny Robbin & Jason Olson
Mar 16	Joe Johnson & Brady Sharp
Mar 23	Mark Fuglie & Tim Geer

#### <u>Nursery</u>

#### (more volunteers needed, please talk to Mona)

Mona Hjelle
Eve Bajari
Grace Geer
Michelle Johnson
Mona Hjelle
Eve Bajari
Grace Geer
Michelle Johnson
Helper Needed

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#### <u> Altar Guild</u>

February Mona Hjelle March Nancy Jo Wendt

#### Make A Meal Volunteers

Feb Bonnie Hansen & Gerri Strohbeen Mar Michelle Johnson & Sarah Miller

#### Custodian

February Brent & Alicia Sawatzky and Mike Von Rueden

March Duane & Bonnie Hansen

#### <u>Elders</u>

Feb 2	Kevin Welsh & Brady Sharp
Feb 16	Mark Fuglie & Scott Wachter
Mar 2	Kevin Welsh & Brady Sharp
Ash Wed	Mark Fuglie & Scott Wachter
Mar 16	Kevin Welsh & Brady Sharp

#### Acolyte (little brothers & sisters can help)

Feb 2	Andrew Sharp
Feb 9	Levi Miller
Feb 16	Eli Sharp
Feb 23	Lance Sawatzky
Mar 2	Andrew Sharp
Mar 9	Levi Miller
Mar 16	Eli Sharp
Mar 23	Lance Sawatzky
Mar 30	George Arends-Schmidt

#### Accompanying Musicians

Feb 2	Sharon Willen
Feb 9	Scott Wachter
Feb 16	Pam Johnson
Feb 23	Scott Wachter
Mar 2	Sharon Willen
Mar 9	Scott Wachter
Mar 16	Pam Johnson
Mar 23	Scott Wachter

# February Discipleship Verse...



"But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8

# Miscellaneous Notes...

#### Jan - March Portal of Prayer Daily Devotionals

Are available in your mailbox and on the "Free Stuff" table.

#### Need Assistance with Heating Bills?

In response to the increases in propane and heating oil costs, additional federal resources have been allocated to Minnesota through the LIHEAP program, also known as energy assistance.

A hotline has been set up where you can get information about local resources. In our area, the hotline number is 1-800-657-3504.

#### Now Available: Direct Deposit for Your Offerings

Living Word is pleased to announce the introduction of **an electronic option for making regular offerings**. Contributions can now be debited automatically from your checking or savings account.

Our new electronic giving program offers convenience for you and much-needed donation consistency for our congregation.

If you are currently giving on a weekly basis, you will no longer need to write out 52 checks a year or prepare 52 envelopes. And, when travel, illness or other circumstances prevent you from attending services, this program will allow your weekly offerings to continue on an uninterrupted basis.

An authorization form and a "Frequently Asked Questions" flyer are available from the church office.

#### Free Dental Appointments for Kids

Rice Regional Dental Clinic and a team of local dental volunteers will be providing free dental appointments to local children in need on Friday, **February 7.** Please check the News Release by Pastor's Office for details.

#### Job Opening: Assistant Cook

**Green Lake Lutheran Ministries** is searching for an individual to fill the role of Assistant Cook. This position is full-time mid-May through Aug. and part-time the remainder of the year. Salary based on experience; benefits included. A full job description and application can be found at www.qllm.org.

#### Let Us Do The Driving

Kandiyohi Area Transit's (KAT) Senior Transportation Program utilizes volunteer drivers using their personal vehicles. These volunteer drivers provide safe, reliable transportation to various

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appointments, shopping and emands. Anyone who lives in Kandiyohi County and is at least 60 years of age qualifies for this program. The program runs Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and may be used up to three (3) times per week. This program utilizes a cost-share sliding-fee scale. Please call (320) 235-8413 for more information.

#### Volunteer Drivers Needed

Kandiyohi Area Transit (KAT) is looking for volunteers to use their own personal vehicles to provide transportation to people in need. Volunteers are able to make their own schedule and help others when they are available. Mileage is reimbursed. Please call us today at (320) 235-8413!

#### Daily Readings Now Available in Audio

If you are among the folks who find it easier to listen to the Bible than to read it, you will be glad to hear that Pastor David has recorded the December Daily Bible Readings. You will find the audio recordings of those daily readings on our website <a href="https://www.livingwordlutheran.net">www.livingwordlutheran.net</a>.

#### Birthdays and Anniversary Dates Needed

The Stewardship Committee would like to request birthday and anniversary info for all members that belong to Living Word Lutheran Church - as well as those who are not members but attend regularly. We'd like to have these dates to keep track of when to send our 'congratulations' and also possibly put into the church directory.

Give your Birthdays and Anniversary dates to Jason Miller in church or just email them to <u>jason.miller@fbfs.com</u>

#### 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.

#### Email Humor...

It was Super Bowl Sunday and the time for the collection of tithes and offerings was approaching.

The minister, a true sports enthusiast, reached into his pocket, took out a quarter, flipped it into the air, glanced at it as it landed, then in typical referee fashion joyfully announced:

"The ushers have elected to receive!"

# Thot for a day: If you want to travel

#### Sharing the Love of Jesus in Practical Ways...

#### Please Fill Out an Orange "Opportunities to Serve" Insert...

...if you haven't done so yet. You can place it in the offering plate

#### A Great Month to Use Our Make-A-Meal Program

One of the best (and simplest) ways to share Jesus' love is by making a meal for someone who is going through a tough time. Please use the Prayer and Care cards in the attendance pad at worship or call Pastor David or Meal Coordinator Linda Dilley if you know of someone who would appreciate a meal. Thanks! Our February Make-a-Meal volunteers: Bonnie Hansen and Gerri Strohbeen.

#### Food-Shelf Sunday - February 9

Bring Food Shelf Items Every Second Sunday
The women of our LWML will be collecting canned and dry goods
the second Sunday of each month. These will be delivered to the
New London Food Shelf that is sponsored by the Link.

#### Purchase Some Baked Goods Every Second Sunday

Our confirmation students will be selling baked goods after worship the 2nd Sunday of each month. They are raising funds to support an orphaned child in Kenya. Their goal is to support at least one child (\$33/month)

#### Help With Serving or Food Prep for Couples Dinner

Our FIRST EVER Couples Dinner is Saturday, February 22. We need 3 people to help serve and one person to help Linda Dilley with food prep. Talk to Linda if you can help in either way. Thanks!

#### Be a Part of Our New Pre-Worship Skit Team

On non-communion Sundays we will be doing short 2-3 minute "humorous skits with a message" to help us prepare for worship. We need 4-5 people who can be part of our Skit Team. Talk to Scott Wachter if interested.

#### Be Custodian of the Month

Our Custodian of the Month schedule is over half-way filled for 2014. We still need volunteers for the following months: July, August, October, November and December. If you (or your whole family) could provide the necessary cleaning one of those months,

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please talk to, call or email our Trustee Lonny Robbin. 320-354-9049 or wfrobbin@tds.net ( A check-list of duties is posted by the mailboxes.) Thanks!

#### Help With Our Nursery

We still need volunteers to help with our during-worship nursery (2-4 year olds). Please talk to Mona Hjelle if you=d like to help out one Sunday a month. Thanks!

#### Who Can You Invite?...

February's theme is LOVE. One way we can share Jesus' love is by making a simple invitation to church or a church group or function. Here are four special opportunities to invite people this month:

#### Crafting / Scrapbooking Day

SATURDAY, February 8 @10:00 a.m.
Bring your projects and enjoy a day working and conversing.

#### Friendship Sunday - February 16

As always, our annual "Friendship Sunday" is a great opportunity to invite some friends to come and meet Our Greatest Friend - Jesus!

#### Special Friendship Sunday Events:

- Worship celebrating our Greatest Friend
- Valentines Brunch after worship (prepared & served by the men of Living Word)

Fish Fry, Swedish Meatballs, Bread, Cole Slaw, Desserts Milk / Juice

Games and Crafts for Sunday School kids focused on Ephesians
 5:2 "Walking in Love" Showing our families, friends and classmates the same love and forgiveness that Jesus has for us.

#### Couples' Dinner - Saturday, February 22 @ 6:30

This is a Brand NEW EVENT sponsored by our Fellowship team.

Menu: Baked Rock Cornish Game Hen, Stuffing, Herbed

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Wild Rice, Salad, Dessert

Still Needed: 3 people to help serve

1 Person to help with food prep

RSVP attendance or assistance to Linda Dilley or Pastor David by Feb16<sup>th</sup>.

#### Any of our New Studies

We have some great new studies beginning this month.

You can find them on under "Opportunities for Growth" on page 8.

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# Wednesday, February 12 6:30pm at Living Word Lutheran Church

St. Valentine's Day is all about expressing our love -as well as God's love -- for each other. You are invited to come to this women's get-together to enjoy each other's company, have a little fun and get to know your Church friends a little better. There will be a chance to visit, have a snack, play some bingo and maybe even win a prize. Feel free to bring a friend to join in the fun.

Be sure to: 1) Come dressed in Red and

2) Bring a homemade Valentine to exchange

Please direct any questions to Pam Johnson



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

It Costs \$4,000,000.....

it's over in 30 seconds, and it may not be remembered the next morning. It's a Super Bowl commercial. Something else cost more than all the money in the world. It will never be over, and it will be remembered for all eternity. It's your salvation. "You were redeemed . . . with the precious blood of Christ, a Lamb without blemish or defect" (1 Peter 1:18-19).

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# Story Behind The Song...

#### Jesus Loves Even Me

The words and tune were composed by Philip Bliss who was born in a log cabin in Pennsylvania. His father was Mr. Isaac Bliss, a practicing Methodist, who taught the family to pray daily. Isaac loved music and allowed Philip to develop his passion for singing.

In 1869 at age 29, Bliss formed an association with evangelist Dwight L. Moody in Chicago and others urged him to give up his job at a musical publishing company and become a missionary singer. In 1874, Bliss decided he was called to the task of winning souls. He then became a full-time evangelist. Bliss made significant amounts of money from royalties and gave them to charity and to support his evangelical endeavors.

On December 29, 1876, Bliss and his wife were traveling on a Pacific Express train that was in the process of crossing a trestle bridge near Ashtabula, Ohio. The bridge collapsed and all the rail carriages fell into the ravine below. Bliss escaped from the wreck. but the wooden carriages caught fire, and Bliss returned to try to pull his wife from the wreckage. No trace of either body was discovered. Ninety-two of the 160 passengers are believed to have died in what became known as the Ashtabula River Railroad Disaster.

The Blisses were survived by their two sons, George and Philip Paul, then aged four and one, respectively. A monument to Bliss was erected in Rome, Pennsylvania.

"I think it was in June, 1870, that ' Jesus Loves Even Me ' was written," remembers Civil War-major-turned-evangelist Daniel Whittle who authored the Memoirs of Philip P. Bliss . "Mr. and Mrs. Bliss were at that time members of my family in Chicago. One morning Mrs. Bliss came down to breakfast and said, as she entered the room: 'Last night Mr. Bliss had a tune given to him that I think is going to live and be one of the most useful that he has written. I have been singing it all the morning, and I cannot get it out of my mind.' She then sang the notes over to us."

Mr. Bliss said that this song was suggested to him by hearing the chorus of the hymn Oh, how I love Jesus, repeated very

frequently in a meeting which he attended. After joining in the chorus a number of times the thought came to him, Have I not been singing enough about my poor love for Jesus, and shall I not rather sing of his great love for me? Under the impulse of this thought he went home and composed this, one of his most popular hymns."

Here are the words penned by Bliss. You'll note the last three verses are not typically sung today.

I am so glad that our Father in Heav'n Tells of His love in the Book He has giv'n; Wonderful things in the Bible I see, This is the dearest, that Jesus loves me.

Chorus:

I am so glad that Jesus loves me Jesus loves me, Jesus loves me. I am so glad that Jesus loves me, Jesus loves even me.

Though I forget Him, and wander away, Still He doth love me wherever I stray; Back to His dear loving arms I do flee, When I remember that Jesus loves me.

Oh, if there's only one song I can sing, When in His beauty I see the great King, This shall my song through eternity be, "Oh, what a wonder that Jesus loves me!"

Jesus loves me, and I know I love Him; Love brought Him down my poor soul to redeem; Yes, it was love made Him die on the tree; Oh, I am certain that Jesus loves me!

If one should ask of me, how can I tell? Glory to Jesus, I know very well! God's Holy Spirit with mine doth agree, Constantly witnessing Jesus loves me.

In this assurance I find sweetest rest,

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Trusting in Jesus, I know I am blessed; Satan, dismayed, from my soul now doth flee, When I just tell him that Jesus loves me.

Editor's note: Remember the distinctive voice of Burl Ives? Hear this song at http://youtu.be/mV4TitlJAIE

#### REMEMBER...

#### We Have New Today's Light Bibles

- 1) For our Bible Studies
- 2) To take home or give to someone who needs a Bible

These were given in memory of Geneva Olson by her family.



# The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



The I HATE WINTER scripture 2

People ruin their own lives by their own foolishness, and then are angry at God.

Ps 19:3 (meaning... don't blame God cuz you chose to live in Minnesota)

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