

Living Word

Lutheran Church

LCMS



August 2015 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...

I saw where a strawberry farm gave their "first fruits" to the food shelf this year. I thought that was neat. It made me wonder how "first fruits" translate into today's world if I were to attempt to give a "first fruit" offering from our garden. Would it be the first of each type of plant as it matures - or just the first harvest of the season? Do I give the entire first picking or a tenth like a tithe? Do I give it to the church or a food shelf?



That's a great question I received via email several weeks ago from one of our members.

In the Old Testament God instructed His people to bring "firstfruits" on several occasions. The first was when they entered the Promised Land. They were to bring a basket of some of the "firstfruits" of the various things they raised as a way of acknowledging that God had kept His promise to bring them into a good land - and that the fruits the land produced were a gift from and made possible by God. (Deuteronomy 26)

He also instructed them to bring the "firstfruits" of the barley harvest at the end of their annual Festival of Unleavened Bread and the "firstfruits" of the wheat harvest - baked into bread - at the start of the annual Festival of Weeks. (Leviticus 23 & Numbers 28)

No quantities are specified, only the instruction to "Bring the best of the firstfruits of your soil to the house of the Lord your God." (Exodus 23:19)

It seems the important thing about the various firstfruit offerings is that they were all designed to impress upon the people that the harvest was made possible by God and was a gift from Him.

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Bringing Him some of the best of the firstfruits was a way of saying, "I'm giving You back what comes from Your hand to show that I know it rightfully belongs to You and that you have blessed me with it as a gift - not something I can take credit for."

Giving away the best of the "firstfruits" is also a way of showing that you trust God will continue to provide *additional* fruits for you to keep and use for yourself and family. i.e. When you give God the *first* of the harvest, there is no guarantee that a hailstorm won't come and wipe out the crop the next day leaving you with nothing. Giving Him that first fruit is a great way to show that you do indeed trust that God will continue to provide you and your family with all you need when you put Him first and give Him the first.

Maybe the bottom line on "firstfruits" is this:

Giving some of the best of the first fruits that come from your garden is a great way to acknowledge God as the giver of those fruits. Whether you bring them to share with folks at church or take them to the foodshelf is up to you.

Depending on the timing of your "firstfruit" harvest, you could actually bring them both to church and to the food shelf. August 9 is our "Foodshelf Sunday" for August, so you could bring your "firstfruits" to church for delivery to the food shelf. That may even inspire some other folks to do the same.

On page 21 in this Newsletter you will find a page from the Willmar food shelf about how to donate produce from your garden. The *New London* Food Shelf (sponsored by The Link) is open Tuesday and Thursday afternoons.

Thanks for asking
Pastor David

Send your questions to pastor@livingwordlutheran.net

Military Bible Stick Fund Raiser Results:



We collected \$450 which will purchase 18 Bible Sticks for military personnel as well as an mp3 Bible for 18 families back home in the states. Due to a special challenge donation our \$450 was matched, so we actually made 36 Bible Sticks possible! Thanks to everyone who donated!

Summer Reading Program for Kids...

We are in the last leg of our New SRP4K program this summer. Here's a sampling of the books available - appropriate for all ages of Sunday School students - to check out from the library at church:



- Chronicles of Narnia
- The Sugar Creek Gang
- The Case for Christ for Kids
- The Cul-de-sac Kids
- Arch Books



Look for these new books:

- BOXCAR CHILDREN 1-4 set;
- GIRL'S GUIDE TO MAKING REALLY GOOD CHOICES;
- BOY'S GUIDE TO MAKING REALLY GOOD CHOICES;
- TEN GIRLS WHO CHANGED THE WORLD;
- TEN BOYS WHO CHANGED THE WORLD;
- IF I COULD ASK GOD ANYTHING- AWESOME BIBLE ANSWERS FOR CURIOUS KIDS.



Each student earns points for books read (or books read to them) Older kids can earn points for reading to their younger siblings too. These points can be redeemed at the end of summer for special prizes!

THANKS...

...to everyone who helped at the Tuesday Table last month!



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That for a day: You're nobody's fool! (But maybe somebody will adopt you.)

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FFAA Night...

Fun For All Ages night on August 5th



Our final FFAA Night for the summer will be on Wednesday, August 5 at 6:30.

Once again there will be a Bible skit, games, and bonfires for the kids. Rumors of another horseshoe tournament for adults have been floating around since last month's FFAA. (Bean bag toss for those who prefer).

If you could help by organizing one of the games or providing food (buns / chips) please talk to Amanda Sharp, Mona Hjelle or Pastor.



We will also introduce more new books for the "Summer Reading Program 4 Kids" (see examples on the SRP4K page)

THANKS...

...for Supporting the Food Shelf! Thanks to everyone who has generously supported the New London Food Shelf through your donations! Donation amounts for July: 5 pounds plus a box full of fresh garden produce! **Please continue to bring your donations on Food Shelf Sunday is August 9** (always the 2nd Sunday of each month).

THANKS...

... from the Parade Outreach To...

- Amanda Sharp for organizing the effort this year.
- Mike Knutson for driving the float.
- Jim Knutson for providing the 4-wheeler and trailer.
- Mona Hjelle, Brady, Andrew, Eli, Jonah & Anna Sharp, Becky & Alison Sarsland, Kari & Rya Sharp, McCartney Knutson and Pastor David for handing out the goodies

Miscellaneous Notes...

Choir Choir Choir

Rehearsals start again August 23 and 30th after coffee fellowship. Everyone is welcome to join us. We will be singing in worship on September 6.



Summer - A Great Time to Begin Direct Deposit for Your Offerings

Summer schedules frequently have us out of town on the weekends. Direct-deposit can ensure your offerings are still supporting our mission while you are away. Thrivent Financial sponsors Simply Giving, a direct-deposit program that you can set up to have offerings automatically transferred from your bank account to the Living Word's general fund. Please see Stewardship Chair Jason Miller for more details.



Check out our "Free Stuff" Table

Here's just a sampling of what you'll find :

- + NEW: Read With Me Bibles for toddlers
- + NEW Today's Light Devotional Bibles
- + NEW July - Sept Portals of Prayer - daily devotionals
- + Christian magazines
- + Videos
- + July Living Word newsletters
- + 2015 Lutheran Island Camp schedules
- + Magnet reminders
- + A devotional book
- + Local coupons

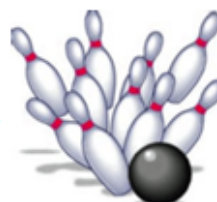
YOU CAN PLAY HANDBELLS

It's really not that difficult. If you can count, you can play! We have the opportunity to form a Bell Choir to play for worship. Please talk to Jason or Sarah Miller if you'd like to be a part of it!



Church-Bowling League

Plans are in the works to form a church-bowling league this fall at the New London Bowl. The league will run for 16 weeks and begin late October or early November. We are looking to field two mixed-doubles teams (4 people/team). Cost will be \$11/person for each week. This will be a handicap-league, so everyone can compete on the same level. Please talk to Brady Sharp if you would like to bowl or have question. Thanks!



Mark Your Calendars...

Church-League Softball

Cheer on your team at the Swanson Fields on Willmar Avenue in Willmar. We won the first playoff game this past week! Thanks to those of you who have attended and cheered us on.

Aug 6 - Playoff Game #2 - 7:15 Yellow
Aug 13 - TBA (pending results of 8/6)

Vacation Bible School

August 26-28 (Wed-Fri) 5:30-8:00 pm
See page 9 of this newsletter for more details.

Pie & Ice Cream Social

Our annual "Pie & Ice Cream" booth at the New London Music Festival will be on **Saturday, August 15, from noon -7pm**. If you could help out in one of the ways listed below, that would be great! Sign up outside Pastor's office at church.

- **Bake Pies** - a day or two prior to the event.
- **Provide tables** - we need two or three
- **Help Set Up the Booth** - Saturday morning prior to the event This includes cutting pie slices, making coffee, arranging tables in selling booth, etc...
- **Provide Pre-Fest Transportation** - Saturday morning Bring pies, ice cream, pop and water from church to the booth at Neer Park in New London.
- **Staff the booth** - two-hour shift Saturday afternoon or early evening Scoop ice cream, serve pies, serve pop, make popcorn, take money, make more coffee, etc...
- **Take down the booth** - Saturday evening at 7 p.m. Basically just help put the booth 'back the way we found it'.
- **Post-Fest Transportation** - Saturday evening at 7 p.m. Bring tables, supplies, etc... from Neer Park back to church.

Church Mice

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School Kits

What goes into a
School Kit?

- ☐ backpack
- ☐ 2-3 spiral notebooks - any size
- ☐ 2 or more pencils
- ☐ 2 or more pens
- ☐ pkg. of construction paper
- ☐ crayons
- ☐ ruler
- ☐ glue sticks
- ☐ blunt scissors
- ☐ washable markers
- ☐ protractor



It costs \$10 to ship
a box of school kits
to kids who need
them. Please consider
a donation to help
with shipping.



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. **Last week we thanked God for The Fruits of Seeds Planted!** Let Pastor know how you'd complete that sentence next week



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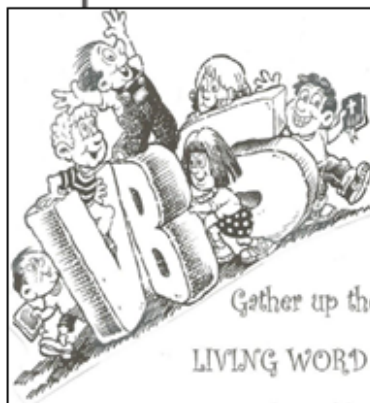
That for a day: Life isn't about how fast you run, or how high you climb; it's about how well you bounce.

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Please Help with Adopt-a-Highway - Tues, August 11.

It's a great family service project. Sign up to help on the board by Pastor's office at church.

We need a minimum of 8 people. THANKS !



Come and "DISCOVER JESUS"!!

Gather up the Kids and join us at

LIVING WORD LUTHERAN CHURCH

August 26 - 28, 5:30 - 8:00 p.m.

As we experience 3-days "DISCOVERING JESUS"!!

Through God's Word, song, game, craft, we will discover how Jesus gives us
COURAGE, how He **SAVES** us and how He **GIVES US HIS LOVE TO SHARE**!!!!

We will offer a light supper or you can bring a sack lunch!

Need more info? Call the church 354-4637 or Home 354-4315

Our Mission Project will be providing "school kits" for children in poverty here in the U.S. and also the Philippines, Nicaragua, Haiti, Latvia, etc. Giving children the opportunity to receive life changing education! "ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN" will ship Our Backpacks that we put together. Included is a list of supplies Needed. **BACKPACKS WILL BE PROVIDED**!!!!



August 2015 - Daily Devotionals

TODAY'S LIGHT BIBLE READING PROGRAM: We Read Through the Bible, in Just 15 Minutes a Day. We continue our readings in the Old Testament. Record your insights on the lines provided.

(In parentheses are verses to focus on if you are short on time that day)

Aug 2 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

Aug 3 2 Samuel 1:1-2:32 (1:1-27) _____

Aug 4 2 Samuel 3:1-4:12 (4:1-12) _____

Aug 5 2 Samuel 5:1-25 (5:1-16) _____

Aug 6 2 Samuel 6:1-23 (6:12-23) _____

Aug 7 2 Samuel 7:1-29 (7:1-17) _____

Aug 8 2 Samuel 8:1-10:19 (9:1-13) _____

Aug 9 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

Aug 10 2 Samuel 11:1-12:31 (12:1-14) _____

Aug 11 2 Samuel 13:1-14:24 (13:1-39) _____

Aug 12 2 Samuel 14:25-16:23 (15:7-37) _____

Aug 13 2 Samuel 17:1-18:33 (18:1-16) _____

Aug 14 2 Samuel 19:1-20:26 (19:1-7) _____

Aug 15 2 Samuel 21:1-22:51 (21:1-25) _____

Aug 16 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

Aug 17 2 Samuel 23:1-39 (23:8-17) _____

Aug 18 2 Samuel 24:1-25 (24:18-25) _____

Aug 19 1 Kings 1:1-2:46 (1:1-40) _____

Aug 20 1 Kings 3:1-4:34 (3:1-15) _____

Aug 21 1 Kings 5:1-7:51 (5:1-18; 6:7-14) _____

Aug 22 1 Kings 8:1-66 (8:22-43) _____

Aug 23 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

Aug 24 1 Kings 9:1-10:29 (10:1-29) _____

Aug 25 1 Kings 11:1-43 (11:1-13) _____

Aug 26 1 Kings 12:1-33 (12:1-24) _____

Aug 27 1 Kings 13:1-14:31 (14:21-31) _____

Aug 28 1 Kings 15:1-16:34 (16:29-34) _____

Aug 29 1 Kings 17:1-18:46 (18:20-40) _____

Aug 30 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

Aug 31 1 Kings 19:1-21 (19:1-18) _____

Sep 1 1 Kings 20:1-43 (20:1-21) _____







Sep 2 1 Kings 21:1-22:53 (21:17-29) _____

Sep 3 2 Kings 1:1-2:25 (2:1-18) _____

Sep 4 2 Kings 3:1-4:44 (4:8-37) _____

Sep 4 2 Kings 5:1-27 (5:1-15) _____

August 2015 - Living Word Church Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 9:00 Adult Study - Drive Thru History 10:00 WORSHIP w/Lord's Supper 11:15 Fellowship	3	4 5:30 ELDERS' TEAM 6:30 MEN'S STUDY	5  6:30 -- FFAA NIGHT 'Fun For All Ages'	6  7:15 CHURCH-LEAGUE SOFTBALL-Yellow	7	8  Ice Cream Social 11:00 - 7:00 PIE & ICE CREAM SOCIAL @ NL MUSIC FEST
9 FOOD SHELF SUNDAY 9:00 Adult Study - 10:00 WORSHIP 11:15 Fellowship	10	11  6:30 ADOPT-A-HWY	12 6:30 -- NEW WOMEN'S STUDY	13 TBA CHURCH-LEAGUE SOFTBALL-	14	15
16 9:00 Adult Study - 10:00 WORSHIP w/Lord's Supper 11:15 Fellowship	17	18	19 6:30 -- WOMEN'S STUDY	20 5:30 COMMUNITY-OUTREACH TEAM 6:30 MISSION & MINISTRY TEAM Annual Planning Meeting	21	22 Bryson & Shannon's Wedding in Rockford IL
23 9:00 Adult Study 10:00 WORSHIP 11:15 Fellowship 11:30 CHOIR PRACTICE	24	25	26  V A C A T I O N 5 : 30	27 B I B L E to	28 S C H O O L 8:00 P.M.	29 Christ Serve Ranch Dedication at Lutheran Island Camp 
30 9:00 Adult Study 10:00 WORSHIP 11:15 Fellowship 11:30 CHOIR PRACTICE	31	Sept 1 5:30 ELDERS' TEAM 6:30 NEW MEN'S STUDY	2 Noon - NEW WED NOON STUDY 6:30 -- WOMEN'S STUDY	3	4	5 Choir sings tomorrow

Lord's Supper Dates

- Sunday, August 2nd
- Sunday, August 16th

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

Upcoming Schedules...

Scripture Readers

Aug 2	Tammy Wachter
Aug 9	Bryson Wachter
Aug 16	Scott Wachter
Aug 23	Wendy Robbin
Aug 30	Becky Sarsland
Sept 6	Mona Hjelle
Sept 13	Kevin Welsh
Sept 20	Linda Dilley
Sept 27	Jason Miller

Fellowship Servers

Aug 2	Leone & Kerry Quigley
Aug 9	Marcia Welsh / Pam Johnson
Aug 16	Wendy Robbin / Alicia Sawatzky
Aug 23	Nancy Jo Wendt / Tammy Fuglie
Aug 30	Becky Sarsland / Mary Raddatz
Sept 6	Tammy Wachter / Sarah Miller
Sept 13	Mona Hjelle / Elaine Abraham
Sept 20	Violet Dauk / Laurel Iverson
Sept 27	Linda Dilley / Bonnie Hansen

Usher Schedule

Aug 2	Jason Miller & Bryson Wachter
Aug 9	Wendy & Lonny Robbin
Aug 16	Joe Johnson & Brady Sharp
Aug 23	Mark Fuglie & Tim Geer
Aug 30	Linda Dilley & Mona Hjelle
Sept 6	Kevin & Noah Welsh
Sept 13	Jamie & Phil Iverson
Sept 20	Duane Hansen & Chuck Weflen
Sept 27	Jason Miller & Bryson Wachter

Elders

Aug 2	Mark Fuglie & Scott Wachter
Aug 16	Kevin Welsh & Keith Hanson
Sept 6	Mark Fuglie & Scott Wachter
Sept 20	Kevin Welsh & Keith Hanson

Altar Guild

Aug	Mona Hjelle
Sept	Nancy Jo Wendt

Make A Meal Volunteers

Aug	Sarah Miller & Michelle Johnson.
Sept	Wachters & Nancy Jo Wendt

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Thot for a day: Lord grant me the strength to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can and the friends to post my ball when I finally snap.

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Acolyte (little brothers & sisters can help)

Aug 2	Lance Sawatzky
Aug 9	George Arends-Schmidt
Aug 16	Davis Rustad
Aug 23	Carson Jaspersen
Aug 30	Noah Miller

Sept 6	Andrew Sharp
Sept 13	Levi Miller
Sept 20	Eli Sharp
Sept 27	Lance Sawatzky

Accompanying Musicians

Aug 2	Sharon Willen
Aug 9	Scott Wachter
Aug 16	Pam Johnson
Aug 23	Scott Wachter
Aug 30	Scott Wachter

Sept 6	Sharon Willen
Sept 13	Scott Wachter
Sept 20	Pam Johnson
Aug 23	Scott Wachter

Custodian

August	Duane & Bonnie Hanson
September	Custodians needed

Nursery (volunteers needed)

(Amanda Sharp - substitute helper)

Aug 2	Mona Hjelle
Aug 9	McCartney Knutson
Aug 16	Gracie Geer
Aug 23	Alana Friejl
Aug 30	Michelle Johnson

Sept 6	Mona Hjelle
Sept 13	McCartney Knutson
Sept 20	Gracie Geer
Sept 27	Alana Friejl

August Discipleship Verse...



You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all of your heart.

Jeremiah 29:13

Dedication of the Christ Serve Ranch...

August 29, 2015

Christ Serve Ranch is the environmental learning center operated by Lutheran Island Camp. A Christian, Biblical worldview is taught in science, education, leadership, the environment and adventure activities.



Regaining Ground. Some years ago a secular author lamented a reality that he termed as "natural outdoor deficit disorder" that, in his estimate, American children have been experiencing for some time. He expressed his concern in his book, *Last Child In The Woods*.

Later, other authors associated with the Answers in Genesis organization also drew attention in their book *Already Gone* to the many influences in culture toward atheistic evolution that have led youth to buy into this view and to begin to look at the Church's teaching as imaginary myths and tall tales.

There recently emerged a detailed report by the Barna group of pollsters about why sizeable numbers of young people outside of the Christian faith are not inclined to adopt it or to affiliate with Christian congregations. The book's title is: *Unchristian*. The same group of researchers followed that with a new project that resulted in the volume called, *You Lost Me!* It tells of three separate types of young Christians who have "jumped ship" in one form or another due to recent influences of our technological society that has changed their way of looking at the world and their lives in it.

The entire purpose of Christ Serve Ranch is to be a place where we attempt to gain ground against these societal trends and to help our congregations get their children back into God's great outdoors, to learn to see Him in the natural phenomena of His creation and how none of this could be without His creating hand. It also is to help all of us see how what we discover in nature lines up with Bible truth and therefore gives us a more secure hold on the Bible as truthful in all its parts including that about God's salvation and sanctification.

The dedication will be held throughout the weekend of August 28-30, with Dr. Dean Wenthe as the preacher for the service on the 29th. Mr. Steve Deace, nationally syndicated Christian talk show host will be presented Friday evening and will deliver a keynote on Saturday prior to the service. For more information visit www.christserveranch.org

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That for a day: The older we get, the fewer things seem worth waiting in line for.

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E-Mail Humor...

WHAT YOU DON'T KNOW UNTIL YOU HAVE KIDS...

- ~ How many seconds it takes to microwave 4 fish slicks perfectly.
- ~ Who John Jacob Jingleheimer Schmidt is.
- ~ How to change a diaper in the dark, in a parked car, on a standing/moving child, and all of the above simultaneously.
- ~ Which lines of "The Cat in the Hat" and "If I Ran the Circus" can be skipped over without a child noticing.
- ~ How bright a 3 a.m. full moon is.
- ~ The design marvels of hooded towels, Velcro-strap shoes, and mitten clips.
- ~ Locations of public restrooms all across town.
- ~ Why anyone would bother retracing their steps for miles just to retrieve a lost blankie.
- ~ The fine art of vacuuming a floor with out hosing up a Barbie shoe or a Playmobil cannonball.
- ~ How little sleep a human body truly needs to function.
- ~ How to spell amoxicillin - and use the word in daily conversation
- ~ That reverse psychology really works.
- ~ Why they call them Happy Meals.
- ~ The blessedness of naps.
- ~ How much you can love one human being.

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Opportunities for Growth...

Sunday Morning Study (9:00)
"Drive Through History: The Holy Land"

Today's Light Daily Readings:
See pages 10—11 of this newsletter

Men's Study - Tuesdays at 6:30

(Tuesday, July 7 at 6:30)

"Drive Through History: The Holy Land" -

Men's Study NOTE: We meet once-a-month during the summer on the first Tuesday of each month. We will grill out before each summer study, so bring your favorite meat - we'll also have brats if you don't bring your own

Wed. Noon Study - Is on "Summer Break" until September

Wed. Evening Women's Study - Starts again on August 12
Join us at 6:30 on Wednesday evenings !

Summer Reading Program 4 Kids - details on page 4

Could You Host A Small Group Study This Summer?

One of our Core Values at Living Word is that making disciples (people who are committed to growing to become more like Jesus) happens best in small group settings. For example, it's easier for people to get connected to Jesus through small groups. It's easier to get to know other Christians in small groups. Caring happens best in small groups. With that in mind if you could host a small group study - at your home, a coffee house or at church, please talk to Pastor David. There are many different kinds of studies available. We can find one that fits your situation.

'99 Envelope Challenge' Totals

**envelope
challenge**

Our 99 Envelope Board was a fund-raising effort to raise money to replace the yearly mission funding we have been receiving from our District (We began with 99

envelopes on the board - each with a dollar amount from \$1 to \$99. If we fill all envelopes we'll raise \$ 4950.)

Here Are Our Totals:

61 envelopes taken and filled with \$2951



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Thot for a day: We have enough youth. How about a fountain of SMART?

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E-Mail Inspiration... (received via e-mail)

TIPS ON ENJOYING LIFE

- ~ Say something positive as early in the day as possible.
- ~ Believe in miracles, but don't depend on them.
- ~ Seek respect rather than popularity
- ~ If your mom said "you'll regret this" - don't do it. You probably will.
- ~ Be happy with what you have... while working on what you want.
- ~ Celebrate even small victories.
- ~ When in doubt, smile.
- ~ Don't write something you don't want others to read.
- ~ Become the world's most thoughtful friend.
- ~ Remember: anything worth doing is going to take longer that you think.
- ~ Accept triumph and defeat with equal grace.
- ~ It's not your job to get people to like you; it's your job to like people.
- ~ Stand up for your principles, even if you have to stand alone

Please Remember to Pray At 11:09 Every day

(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...

- For another great FFAA Night - August 5
- For great weather for Vacation Bible School - August 26-28
- For a great turnout for VBS .
- For the Holy Spirit to help kids who don't know Jesus to discover Him as their Lord and Savior through VBS.
- For God's guidance and angels' protection for those heading to college
- For Safety in the final summer traveling and camping trips.
- For God's blessings on Bryson and Shannon's wedding and marriage
- For Sunday School Kids to grow through the Summer Reading Program
- Thanking God for a great growing season
- For God to work through the Today's Light program to strengthen faith
- For God to embolden our Christian witness in our daily lives
- For God to raise up leaders in our nation who seek His will
- For protection and boldness is witness for all persecuted Christians
- For the mission and ministry of the Jastrams in Japan

Opportunities to Serve...

Help with Adopt-a-Highway Clean Up

Tues, August 11.

It's a great family service project.

Sign up to help on the board by Pastor's office at church.

Help at our Annual Pie and Ice Cream Social -

Saturday, August 15

See details on page 7. Sign-up on the sheet by Pastor's Office

Help with VBS - August 26-28. Talk to Mona Hjelle

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.

Help with FFAA

(Details on page 5 of this newsletter)

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.

Be "Custodian of the Month"

You (or your whole family) can sign up to provide the necessary cleaning for our church home. A check-list of duties is posted by the mailboxes. Please consider being a part of this service. Talk to Wendy or Lonny Robbin if you have questions or to volunteer yourself or your family.

Read Scripture in Worship

Please talk to Pastor David if you can take a turn once every couple of months reading our New Testament and Old Testament Scriptures.

Serve After-Worship Fellowship Snack

We are looking for more folks to take a turn at serving snacks for fellowship time after worship.

Help With Our Nursery

We need a couple more volunteers to help with our during-worship nursery (2-4 year olds). Please talk to Mona Hjelle if you can help out

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Thot for a day: The road to success is lined with many tempting parking spaces.

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PLANT.GROW.SHARE.

Your Excess Crops Can
Feed Hungry Neighbors

Fight Hunger Donate Produce



Many home/community gardens harvest more fresh produce than their families and neighbors can consume, and we welcome you to donate your abundance to those who need it most. By sharing fresh fruits and vegetables lovingly grown in the back yard, the community can help nourish their neighbors in need.

Donation Plant Ideas Includes: Carrots, Radishes, Summer Squash, Green Beans, Winter Squash, Tomatoes, Cucumbers, Peppers, Onions, Potatoes, Beets and hard fruits such as Apples and Pears.

Good Guidelines to Follow:

- Please brush or wash off all dirt, and avoid donating produce that has serious bruising, insect damage, or splitting.
- A good rule of thumb: donate only produce which you would purchase for your own family.
- Please try not to mix vegetables. It takes time for volunteers to sort and repackage them.
- Please label produce that might not be readily identifiable by volunteers and clients.

Donation Can Be Accepted Monday — Friday

8:00 a.m. — 4:30 p.m.

The best time to make a donation is in the beginning of the week in the morning since our highest traffic time is between 11 — 2 p.m. If you can not drop off until late in day please try to be here before 4:00 p.m.

Story Behind The Song...

This is My Father's World

(Taken from *Amazing Grace: 365 Inspiring Hymn Stories*)

Even though we are constantly reminded of the violence, tragedy and ugliness in today's world, we can still rejoice that the beauty of nature all around is ours to enjoy. Who can deny the pleasure that comes from the sight of a glowing sunset or a majestic mountain, the sound of chirping birds or the roar of the surf, and the smell of new-mown hay or roses?

Maltbie D. Babcock revealed his great admiration for nature in this lovely hymn text. Although he was recognized as one of the outstanding Presbyterian ministers of his generation, Dr. Babcock was also a skilled athlete who enjoyed all outdoor activity - especially his early morning walks and runs. He would comment, "I'm going out to see my Father's world."

Since Dr. Babcock was an accomplished performer on the organ, piano and violin, we can see why he referred to nature as "the music of the spheres." In addition to being a tribute to God's creation, the hymn is a triumphant assertion of the unfailing power of God and the assurance of Christ's reign- "Jesus who died shall be satisfied, and earth and heav'n be one."

Shortly after his death (at age 43) in 1901 his widow published a compilation of Babcock's writings entitled *Thoughts for Every-Day Living* that contained the poem "My Father's World." The original poem contained sixteen stanzas of four lines each. The poem was set to music in 1915 by Franklin L. Sheppard, a close friend of Babcock. Sheppard chose only six of the sixteen stanzas as part of the hymn. He combined those six stanzas into three verses of two stanzas each. Most sources state that Sheppard adapted the music from a traditional English melody that he learned from his mother as a child

Scripture references in the original poem include Psalm 33:5 "*He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of his unfailing love.*" and Psalm 50:12 "*For the world is mine, and all that is in it.*"

This is my Father's world,
And to my listening ears
All nature sings, and round me rings
The music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world:
I rest me in the thought

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Thot for a day: The surest way to save face is to keep the lower part shut.

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Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas;
His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world,
The birds their carols raise,
The morning light, the lily white,
Declare their maker's praise.
This is my Father's world,
He shines in all that's fair;
In the rustling grass I hear him pass;
He speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father's world.
O let me ne'er forget
That though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the ruler yet.
This is my Father's world:
The battle is not done.
Jesus who died shall be satisfied,
And earth and heav'n be one.

Editor's note: A version by Amy Grant at:
<https://youtu.be/N5rZx-iogvg>

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



AND.. the peace of God which passes all understanding will guard .. your DRIVING HABITS while stuck in rush hour traffic reading bumper stickers. **Phil 4:7**