



**November 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](mailto:pastor@livingwordlutheran.net)  
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...

*"Why do we have communion bread that tastes like the stuff the dentist has you bite on when he takes x-rays?"*



(And other assorted questions about the Lord's Supper)

I couldn't help but laugh when one of the confirmation students asked the question listed above. I laughed, because he had put into words a thought that I'm guessing most of you have had at one point or other about the wafers we (and most churches) use for communion. One of the things I love about young people and kids is that they aren't afraid to put into words things the rest of us have often thought - but never voiced out loud.

I had previously talked with the class about the fact that we use unleavened bread (no yeast) because the original Lord's Supper was a Passover meal and the bread of the Passover was made without yeast (per God's instructions in Exodus 12). My answer to the "wafers that taste like cardboard" question was this *"Because that's what the church-supply places sell in mass quantities, so the wafers we use are easy to get and inexpensive."*

As I reflected on that answer, it didn't strike me as a very good one, so I decided this was an opportune time to try something better. As a result, the confirmation class will be *making* the unleavened bread for our use in communion for Thanksgiving Eve worship. Following that service, each confirmation student and their families will take a turn at making and providing the unleavened communion bread for subsequent Sunday communion services. Anyone else who would like to take a turn providing the unleavened communion bread after that will be welcome to do so.

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### *Why offer communion at the beginning of Confirmation not the end?*

Following a number of sessions designed to help the students understand what is going on in communion, the in-coming confirmation class was invited to partake of the Lord's Supper with their families on Reformation Sunday. The above question was a very natural one, since the previous practice was to commune only after getting confirmed. It was a change that our Elders Team had approved way back when Living Word was chartered, but this is the first year since that time that we were able to implement the change as this is the first year we've started with a totally new group of students. Here's a sampling of things we looked at in making the decision:

+ Lutherans have always referred to the Sacrament of the Altar as a "Means of Grace."

'Grace' is a 'gift' - not something we can earn. Thus, having communion as the "goal" of confirmation definitely sends the wrong signal that participation in the Lord's Supper is something that must be earned. (Which easily leads to another very wrong assumption - that salvation must be earned as well!)

+ Faith in Jesus is the basic thing that makes a person "worthy" to partake of the meal:

Martin Luther, in answer to the question, *"What makes a person worthy to partake of the sacrament?"* said this in his *Small Catechism*, "Fasting and bodily preparation are certainly fine outward training. But the person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: 'Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.' But anyone who does not believe these words or doubts them is unworthy and unprepared, for the words "for you" require all hearts to believe."

+ The Apostle Paul states in 1 Corinthians 11 that worthy partaking of the Lord's Supper also includes the ability to examine (or test) oneself.

The basic "test questions" are certainly not beyond the grasp of middle-school age students:

1. Am I a sinner in need of God's forgiveness?
2. Do I believe that Jesus died to forgive me and is my only way to heaven?
3. Do I want His forgiveness for all my sins?
4. Do I want His help to quit repeating all my sins?
5. Do I believe that Jesus' body and blood are given in this bread and wine, and that through them I personally receive His forgiveness?
6. Have I forgiven all those who have sinned against me?

The benefits God delivers in the Sacrament of the Altar are ones we all

need, and that definitely includes Middle Schoolers.

- Personal forgiveness of your sin
- Strengthening of our faith in Jesus
- The Very Presence of Jesus coming to dwell in you through His body and blood - with His power for all that life throws at us.

***Why do we say that we receive Jesus' body and blood in communion?***

Another great question..... The communion meal looks and tastes like bread and wine - and it was bread and wine that Jesus used when He instituted the Lord's Supper as part of sharing the Passover Meal with His disciples the night before He died on the cross to pay for our sin. But we believe that we receive *not just* bread and wine, but also Jesus' body and blood along with the bread and wine. We believe this simply because of Jesus' words *"This is my body... this is my blood.."* as He instituted the meal. (See Matthew 26). Note: we do *not* believe that the bread and wine *changes into* Jesus' body and blood, but that Jesus' body and blood are truly present in the bread and wine. .

Thanks for asking  
Pastor David

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

**A HUGE THANK YOU... To Our Living Word Family**

....for the cards, messages and gifts you gave us on Pastor (and wife) Appreciation Sunday ! We also greatly appreciate each of you and thank God for your partnership in the Gospel of Jesus Christ !

Pastor David & Violet

## Email Wisdom...

(This little girl was wise beyond her years!)

A grandfather walking past his young granddaughter's room one night saw her kneeling beside her bed, with head bowed and hands folded, repeating the alphabet.

"What are you doing?" he asked her.

She explained, "I'm saying my prayers, but I couldn't think just what to pray for. So I'm just saying all the letters of the alphabet, and God can put them together however he thinks best.

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That for a day: A friend is a person who listens attentively while you say nothing.

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## Miscellaneous Notes...

**It's Not Too Late to Join Our CHOIR**

We will be rehearsing soon for the Christmas Program which is December 20th. Rehearsals are the last 2 Sundays of November after fellowship.



**Please Check the Directory Proof Copy.**

A proof copy of the Living Word Church Directory is posted on the white board outside Pastor's office. Make check it out and list any changes/additions for you or your family on the copy. If we don't have a picture of you and your family, please email one to Violet - [violetdauk@tds.net](mailto:violetdauk@tds.net) Thanks!

**Check out our "Free Stuff" Table**

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

- + Read With Me Bibles for toddlers
- + Today's Light Devotional Bibles
- + November Living Word newsletters
- + Local coupons
- + November Today's Light daily Bible readings
- + Oct—Dec Portals of Prayer - daily devotionals
- + Christian magazines & Videos



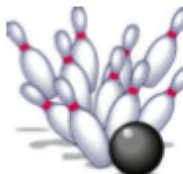
**YOU CAN PLAY HANDBELLS**

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...

### Fall Voters' Assembly

Sunday, November 8 after fellowship

The purpose of the fall assembly is to approve both a 2016 budget and 2016 ministry goals. The Mission and Ministry Team came up with a set of recommended goals at their September planning meeting. They will be preparing a proposed budget at their October meeting.

### Communion Schedule in November

The Lord's Supper will be celebrated in November on the regular first and third Sunday schedule. November 1 & 15). We will also celebrate communion on Thanksgiving Eve, November 25.

### MOVIE NIGHT IS BACK!

Wednesday, November 11 @ 6:30

#### **NEW IN TOWN**

A funny look at (stereotypical) life in Minnesota!  
Popcorn is provided



Our Friends at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Willmar Invite Us to Join Them for a :

### **BUS TRIP—SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28**

Celebrate in ~~swingin'~~ style this holiday season with Old Blue Eyes at the Plymouth Playhouse. (Cost: \$44.00)

Nothing is silent about this night where four singers serve up cool versions of Sinatra mainstays like "Fly Me To The Moon," "Love and Marriage," and "I Get A Kick Out of You." Plus, groovy versions of Sinatra Christmas hits like "Winter Wonderland," "Silver Bells" and "I'll Be Home for Christmas," along with Rat Pack-like renditions of "It Was the Night Before Christmas" and "The Twelve Days of Christmas."

We Will Travel To

- Bachmann's in Plymouth
- Plymouth Playhouse
- Old Country Buffet (on your own)



Bus Leaves At 11:00 A.M. from Redeemer's North Parking Lot

\*Bring a bag lunch to eat on the way to Plymouth.

Sign Up and Payment Due by SUNDAY, NOV. 15. Call the Redeemer office to reserve your spot. 320-235-4685

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Thot for a day: Every evening I turn my troubles over to God. He's going to be up all night anyway.

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### Thanksgiving Eve Worship...

Wednesday, November 25 @ 7:00 p.m.

A special Thank-offering will be collected.

Please use the Song-Suggestion Box to let us know favorite songs of Thanksgiving and Praise that you'd like to sing at this service.

### Ladies, Save the Date: April 15

(And NOT Because Taxes Are Due Then !!!)

Plans are to hold a Women's Retreat that weekend. Mark your calendars. It will be a time of fun and growth!

### "A Charles Dickens Christmas"

Join the small groups of carolers going around New London. Dates are Nov. 14 and December 12. Try to dress in "Dickens" era clothing if possible. Contact Sandy Pierce @ 320-235-0282 or cell 805-231-2620 if you are interested.

## Living Word Fall Craft Bazaar...



Saturday, November 14- 9am to 2pm.

We will have crafters from the congregation and friends selling items they create - just in time for the holidays and gift-giving. If you make crafts and would like to have a table, please talk to Amanda Sharp (amanda\_s9088@yahoo.com or 320-354-9088)

## LWML News...

- At our October meeting we elected these officers for 2016:

President - Leone Quigley  
Vice President - Pam Johnson  
Treasurer - Nancy Jo Wendt  
Human Care - Violet Dauk

- Meeting times will switch to Tuesday evening beginning in January.



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

The late Chuck Colson, founder of Prison Fellowship, tells the story of a notorious prison in Brazil named Humaita. It was so run-down and ineffective the Brazilian government turned the prison over to two Christians. From that moment the prison was run on Christian principles. With the exception of two full-time staff, all the work was done by the inmates.

Chuck Colson visited the prison and he said, "When I visited Humaita, I found the inmates smiling, particularly the murderer who held the keys, opened the gates and let me in. Wherever I walked, I saw men at peace. I saw clean living areas and people working. The walls were decorated with biblical sayings from Psalms and Proverbs. My guide escorted me to the notorious prison cell once used for torture. Today, he told me, that torture room houses only a single inmate. As we reached the end of a long concrete corridor, he put the key in the lock and he looked at me and asked, 'Are you sure you want to go in to see this prisoner?'

Colson, "Of course, I've been in isolation cells all over the world."

Slowly he swung open the massive door and Colson saw the prisoner in that punishment cell - it was a crucifix, beautifully-carved by the prisoners and on the cross hung the prisoner Jesus. The guide said to Chuck Colson, "He's doing time for the rest of us. He gave his life for us. He's changed our lives."

### THANKS...

... to Everyone who helped with our Smoke-Detector Battery Outreach

## 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 Communion - The 'Sinner Dinner' Let Pastor know how you'd complete that sentence next week.

Let Pastor know how you'd complete that sentence next week



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That for a day: I try to take one day at a time e but sometimes several days attack me at once.

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We served 120 people and made \$1042!

Thank you...

... Outreach Director Amanda Sharp for organizing the event !

... Everyone who made food, donated food, served or helped in any way!

## Wednesday Bible Study...

*"The JOURNEY from unbelief to faith"*

MOMS' STUDY (8:30 a.m. Wednesdays)

WEDNESDAY NOON WOMEN'S STUDY

SECOND CHANCE: Pat Burke grew up in a troubled home. Her father was an abusive alcoholic, and God was nowhere to be seen. The few Christians she met felt exclusive and unwelcoming to her.

DEAD IS DEAD: Eddie Balfour spent his childhood in New Orleans. As a Jewish, young man he found discrimination and hatred everywhere he turned—especially from Christians who called him a "Christ-killer," a title he secretly relished.

BURIED WITH BUDDHA Marcia Montenegro's family moved a lot when she was young. Her desire to learn about religions beyond Christianity led her to astrology and New Age teachings.

X-BOX ATHEIST Tyler Mann embraced science at an early age. In his mind evolution unseated creation and the need for any god to exist. As Christians tried to witness to him, he took delight in questioning, prodding and attacking their faith.

From their youth these four men and women seemed to be set on lives that would always be separate from God. But in this study we will watch the Holy Spirit step in and guide them along unexpected paths from antagonism to faith in Jesus Christ.

As we watch these Journeys from Unbelief to Faith we will gain valuable insights about how to connect with the ever-increasing number of people in our lives who are on that journey.



# November 2015 - Daily Devotionals

TODAY'S LIGHT BIBLE READING PROGRAM: We spend the month in the Old Testament and make the transition from "history" books to the "poetry/wisdom" books of Job and Psalms.  
(In parentheses are verses to focus on if you are short on time that day)

Nov 1 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

Nov 2 Nehemiah 9:1-10:39 (9:32-38) \_\_\_\_\_

Nov 3 Nehemiah 11:1-13:31 (12:27-47) \_\_\_\_\_

Nov 4 Esther 1:1-2:23 (2:1-23) \_\_\_\_\_

Nov 5 Esther 3:1-4:17 (4:1-17) \_\_\_\_\_

Nov 6 Esther 5:1-7:10 (7:1-10) \_\_\_\_\_

Nov 7 Esther 8:1-10:3 (8:1-11) \_\_\_\_\_

Nov 8 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

Nov 9 Job 1:1-22 (1:1-3, 6-20) \_\_\_\_\_

Nov 10 Job 2:1-3:26 (3:1-25) \_\_\_\_\_

Nov 11 Job 4:1-5:27 (4:1-21) \_\_\_\_\_

Nov 12 Job 6:1-7:21 (6:1-30) \_\_\_\_\_

Nov 13 Job 8:1-10:22 (9:1-22) \_\_\_\_\_

Nov 14 Job 11:1-12:25 (11:1-20) \_\_\_\_\_

Nov 15 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

Nov 16 Job 13:1-14:22 (14:1-22) \_\_\_\_\_

Nov 17 Job 15:1-17:16 (16:1-22) \_\_\_\_\_

Nov 18 Job 18:1-19:29 (19:1-29) \_\_\_\_\_

Nov 19 Job 20:1-21:34 (21:1-34) \_\_\_\_\_

Nov 20 Job 22:1-24:25 (23:1-17) \_\_\_\_\_

Nov 21 Job 25:1-28:28 (28:1-28) \_\_\_\_\_

Nov 22 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

Nov 23 Job 29:1-31:40 (31:35-40) \_\_\_\_\_

Nov 24 Job 32:1-34:37 (33:1-28) \_\_\_\_\_

Nov 25 Job 35:1-37:24 (35:1-16) \_\_\_\_\_

Nov 26 Psalm 118 (for Thanksgiving) \_\_\_\_\_

Nov 27 Job 38:1-41:34 (38:1-7, 40:1-5) \_\_\_\_\_

Nov 28 Job 42:1-7 (42:7-17) \_\_\_\_\_

Nov 29 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

Nov 30 Psalm 1:1-6:10 (Psalm 1) \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 1 Psalm 7:1-11:7 (Psalm 9) \_\_\_\_\_


Dec 2 Psalms 12:1-17:50 (Psalm 17) \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 3 Psalms 18:1-22:31 (Psalm 22) \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 4 Psalms 23:1-28:9 (Psalm 24) \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 5 Psalms 29:1-34:22 (Psalm 32) \_\_\_\_\_

## November 2015 - Living Word Church Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> 9:00 ADULT STUDY SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 WORSHIP w/Lord's Supper 11:15 Fellowship 6:30 SR HIGH YOUTH STUDY	2	3	4 8:30 MOMS' STUDY Noon WED NOON STDY 6:15 - CONFIRMATION CLASS 6:30 - WOMEN'S STUDY	5	6	7
					<b>Lord's Supper Dates</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sunday, November 1st</li> <li>Sunday, November 15th</li> <li>Thanksgiving Eve, Nov 25th</li> </ul>	
<b>8</b> 9:00 ADULT STUDY SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 WORSHIP 11:15 Fellowship 11:30 FALL VOTERS' ASSEMBLY	9	10	11 8:30 MOMS' STUDY Noon WED NOON STDY 6:15 - CONFIRMATION CLASS 6:30 MOVIE NIGHT	12	13	14
		5:30 ELDERS' TEAM 6:30 MEN'S STUDY				9:00 - 2:00 ANNUAL FALL BAZAAR
<b>15 SHOE BOX DEDICATION</b> 9:00 ADULT STUDY SUNDAY SCHOOL Operation Christmas Child deadline 10:00 WORSHIP w/Lord's Supper 11:15 Fellowship 6:30 SR HIGH YOUTH STUDY	16	17	18	19	20	21
		6:30 MEN'S STUDY	8:30 MOMS' STUDY Noon WED NOON STDY 6:15 - CONFIRMATION CLASS 6:30 - WOMEN'S STUDY	6:30 MISSION & MINISTRY TEAM		
<b>22</b> 9:00 ADULT STUDY SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 WORSHIP 11:15 Fellowship 11:30 CHOIR PRACTICE	23	24	25	26 THANKSGIVING DAY	27	28
		6:30 MEN'S STUDY	7:00 THANKSGIVING EVE Worship (w/Lord's Supper)			
<b>29</b> 9:00 ADULT STUDY S.S. PROGRAM PRACTICE 10:00 WORSHIP 11:15 Fellowship 11:30 CHOIR PRACTICE	30	DEC 1	DEC 2	DEC 3	DEC 4	DEC 5
		6:30 MEN'S STUDY	8:30 MOMS' STUDY Noon WED NOON STDY 6:15 - CONFIRMATION CLASS 6:30 - WOMEN'S STUDY		<b>Sign up to have this newsletter sent directly to you by e-mail. Send your email address to: <a href="mailto:newsletter@livingwordlutheran.net">newsletter@livingwordlutheran.net</a></b>	



## Upcoming Schedules...

### Scripture Readers

Nov 1	Scott Wachter
Nov 8	Wendy Robbin
Nov 15	Becky Sarsland
Nov 22	Mona Hjelle
Nov 29	Kevin Welsh
Dec 6	Linda Dilley
Dec 13	Jason Miller
Dec 20	Christmas Program
Dec 27	Mark Fuglie

### Fellowship Servers

Nov 1	Marcia Welsh / Pam Johnson
Nov 8	Tammy Wachter / Sarah Miller
Nov 15	Mona Hjelle / Elaine Abraham
Nov 22	Violet Dauk / Laurel Iverson
Nov 29	Linda Dilley / Bonnie Hansen
Dec 6	Leone & Kerry Quigley
Dec 14	Mike & Brooke Knutson
Dec 20	Christmas Dinner
Dec 27	Becky Sarsland / Mary Raddatz

### Usher Schedule

Nov 1	Kevin Welsh & Jamie Iverson
Nov 8	Duane Hansen & Chuck Weffen
Nov 15	Jason & Noah Miller
Nov 22	Wendy & Lonny Robbin
Nov 29	Joe Johnson & Brady Sharp
Dec 6	Mark Fuglie & Tim Geer
Dec 13	Linda Dilley
Dec 20	Kevin Welsh & Jamie Iverson
Dec 27	Duane Hansen & Chuck Weffen

### Elders

Nov 1	Mark Fuglie & Scott Wachter
Nov 15	Kevin Welsh & Keith Hanson
<del>Thks Eve</del>	Mark Fuglie & Scott Wachter
Dec 6	Kevin Welsh & Keith Hanson
Dec 20	Mark Fuglie & Scott Wachter
<del>Chrs Eve</del>	Kevin Welsh & Keith Hanson

### Altar Guild

Nov	Nancy Jo Wendt
Dec	Mona Hjelle

### Make A Meal Volunteers

November	Pam Johnson & Donna Peterson
December	Jamie Iverson & Mona Hjelle

**Thot for a day:** Unless you can create the whole universe in 5 days, then perhaps giving "advice" to God isn't such a good idea.

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

Nov 1	Andrew Sharp
Nov 8	Levi Miller
Nov 15	Eli Sharp
Nov 22	Lance Sawatzky
Nov 29	George Arends-Schmidt
Dec 6	Davis Rustad
Dec 13	Carson Jaspersen
Dec 20	Noah Miller
Dec 27	Andrew Sharp

### Accompanying Musicians

Nov 1	Sharon Willen
Nov 8	Scott Wachter
Nov 15	Pam Johnson
Nov 22	Scott Wachter
Nov 29	Scott Wachter
Dec 6	Sharon Willen
Dec 13	Scott Wachter
Dec 20	Sharon Willen
<del>Chrs Eve</del>	Pam Johnson
<del>Chrs Day</del>	Scott Wachter
Dec 27	Scott Wachter

### Custodian

November	Jamie & Laurel Iverson
December	Sawatzkys and Marylee Moore

### Nursery (volunteers needed)

(Amanda Sharp - substitute helper)

Nov 1	Mona Hjelle
Nov 8	McCartney Knutson
Nov 15	Gracie Geer
Nov 22	Alana Friehl
Nov 29	Michelle Johnson
Dec 6	Mona Hjelle
Dec 13	McCartney Knutson
Dec 20	Gracie Geer
Dec 27	Alana Friehl

### Confirmation Parent-Assistant

Nov 4	Sawatzkys
Nov 11	Jaspersens
Nov 18	Rustads
Nov 15	No Class
Dec 2	Arends-Schmidts
Dec 9	Sharps
Dec 16	Knutsons
Dec 23	No Class

*Happy Thanksgiving!*



## Sunday School News....

9:00 every Sunday morning

- Classes: Students start each morning with music, prayer requests from the kids and offering.
- Teachers / Classes:

Pre-school to Kindergarten:	Kari Sharp
1st & 2nd Grade	Amanda Sharp
3rd & 4th Grade:	Violet Dauk
5th to 8th Grade	Keith Hanson
- Rides are Available (Talk to Mona Hjelle or Pastor David)

### Sunday School Lessons for November:

Nov. 1 - "Shoebox - What's in it for Me?"

Jn 13:1-17; Mt. 20:25-28; Php 2:5-11

Nov. 8 - "Shoebox - Outside the Box" Jn 4:4-26 & 4:31-38

Nov 15 - Fall Festival

Nov 22 - Thanksgiving Lesson - Psalm 100:4

Nov. 29 - Christmas Program Practice

Dec. 6 - Christmas Program Practice

### Operation Christmas Child

(Only two weeks left !!!)

The Sunday School and the Congregation are invited to participate in "Operation Christmas Child".

If your child/children would like to participate in this each child will receive \$10.00 to help purchase items to fill their boxes. Pre-printed shoe boxes are available at the church. There are also brochures that give suggestions about what should be packed in the shoe boxes. Boxes will be dedicated on Sunday, Nov. 15th, and last day to bring to church will be Wednesday, November, 18th. Please let me know if your child would like to participate. Thanks!



### Christmas Program Practice Begins Nov. 29

I would like to invite your children (or grandchildren, or even the 'kids next door') to participate in our Children's Christmas Program. The program will be Sunday, Dec. 20th during the 10:00 Worship Service. Practice will be on Sunday morning's during the Sunday School hour. Please let me know if they would like to participate, so I can make them a part of it. You can contact me by email (rhjelle@tds.net or text 320-212-0069. Thanks!  
Mona Hjelle, Sunday School Director

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Thot for a day: Safety is not the absence of danger, but is the presence of God.

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## Men's Study / Sunday Morning Study...

A Man Named Martin - Part 1: The Man

Men's Study - Tuesdays @ 6:30 p.m.

Sunday Morning Study - 9:00 a.m.



In *A Man Named Martin - Part 1: The Man* we encounter a 15th-century religious reformer from Germany who broke ranks with the Catholic Church. This Bible study is the first of a three-part series devoted to Martin Luther -- a monk whose Spirit-inspired grasp of God's justification of sinners through faith in the Savior was the cornerstone of the Protestant Reformation.

In this five-session Bible study, Luther's life and times are examined through the lens of history, religion and theology. Expanding on commentary from Rev. Gregory Seltz, Speaker for The Lutheran Hour, numerous scholars add their expertise and perspective to render an illuminating portrait of the life of this extraordinary human being.

The influence and impact of Luther's life is the stuff of serious study. As a forlorn sinner feeling lost and desperate before a stern and exacting Judge, Luther desponded of all hope for eternity. But as one who came to cling to the Spirit-delivered truths of justification by faith and the liberty believers experience by God's grace, he rebounded to become a triumphant ambassador for the Gospel.

The details of Luther's life -- his childhood with his parents Hans and Margaret, his university pursuits, his decision to become a monk, his protestation of Catholic practices, his voluminous and erudite scholastic output, his life in hiding, and his roles as husband and father -- are all considered in this study. *A Man Named Martin* is a fresh and explorative look at an individual whose staunch faith and outreach remain a standard for Christ-centered living to believers in the 21st-century.

## November Discipleship Verse...



*Let them sacrifice thank offerings  
and tell of His works with songs of joy.*

Psalm 107:22

## Opportunities to Serve...

### 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 November Make-a-Meal volunteers are Pam Johnson and Donna Peterson

### Bring Food Shelf Items Every Second Sunday

We only had a couple items donated in October. Please remember to bring food items the 2nd Sunday of each month (November 8 this month). Your donations are greatly appreciated!

### Be "Custodian of the Month"

You (or your whole family) can sign up to provide the necessary cleaning. 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.

### Sing With Us (in the choir)

We will be rehearsing soon for the Christmas Program which is December 20th. Rehearsals are the last 2 Sundays of November after fellowship.

### PLAY HANDBELLS

It's really not 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!

### 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.

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That for a day: No matter how much you push the envelope, it'll still be stationary.



### Tuesday's Table in November:

Food, Friends, Fellowship.  
November 3rd: Our Lady of the Lakes Catholic Church  
November 10th: Evangelical Covenant Church  
November 17th: Faith Lutheran Church  
November 24th: Peace Lutheran Church

Link Newsletter, November 2015

Just as expected in Minnesota, we have had an array of weather over the past few weeks. We have seen temps hit as high as 89 degrees and as low as 28 degrees! Wow a difference of over 60 degrees in just one week! Well that is why we love living in Minnesota right? Each day brings a new adventure as well as a new wardrobe!

About a month ago, our new Client Services Advisory Team met. This group consists of five compassionate community members who are willing to volunteer their time to assist The Link with allocating our funds in the most efficient way. They will serve The Link by being available via email and phone when a difficult client situation arises. This will help support the Client Services Director when having to make challenging decisions. At times being the only person working with families can be stressful, especially when some families face several barriers. Hopefully the group members can help brainstorm different ideas and share other resources as well!

Last month The Link received an update from a gentleman that we assisted over the summer. This gentleman was struggling to pay all of his bills and his medications on a very limited income. He was working hard to sell his house with hopes of moving into income based senior housing. A couple weeks ago this gentleman joyfully called to let us know that he was moving into affordable housing and was certain he would now be financially stable. You could hear the relief in his voice and the sincere gratefulness for our assistance. He wanted to let us know how well he was doing and to say thank you. It is an honor to serve others and witness when people are able to get back on their feet!

*"He is a wise man who does not grieve for the things which he has not, but rejoices for those which he has." Epictetus*

Warm blessings to you,  
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"Creating a community where neighbors share the love of God through service to each other."

### Announcement

**Staff change:** In October, Nancy Johnson retired as The Link Director in order to relocate to the cities to be closer to her family. The Link welcomes back Rhonda Otteson! Rhonda was the former Link Director and is happy to be back serving our community.

**Mark your calendar:** Christmas Concert to benefit the Link is slated for Sunday, December 6 at 6:30 pm at Peace Lutheran Church. Tickets are free but required. Tickets available by calling the Link or stopping at Faith Lutheran Church.

## Opportunities for Growth...

### Sunday Morning Study (9:00)

A Man Named Martin (see page 19 for more information)

### Today's Light Daily Readings:

See pages 10—11 of this newsletter

### Men's Study - Tuesdays @ 6:30

A Man Named Martin (see page 19 for more information)

### Wed. Noon Study -

Journey from Unbelief to Faith

(see page 11 to more information.)

### Wed. Evening Women's Study -

6:30 Wednesday evenings

"Believing Jesus" (see page 23 for more information)

### Mom's Study -

Wednesday, @ 8:30a.m. (childcare provided)

Journey from Unbelief to Faith

(see page 11 for more information)

### Sr. High Youth Study

Sunday evenings 6:30 - 7:30 Friends are welcome too!

Lyndsay Ampe leads the study. Please call her 612-325-8960 with any questions or topic suggestions. THANKS!

### Could You Host A Small Group Study This Fall?

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.

### Congratulations!

George Arend-Schmidt, Carson Jaspersen, McCartney Knutson, Noah Miller, Davis Rustad, Lance Sawatzky and Andrew Sharp on your First Communion, October 25 !!

Please email [pastor@livingwordlutheran.net](mailto:pastor@livingwordlutheran.net) if there's someone you'd like us to extend congratulations to.

## Page 22

That for a day: Most people don't make the same mistake twice. They make it three or four times.

## Page 23

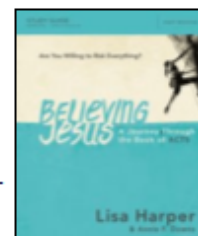
## Wed Evening Women's Bible Study...

### "Believing Jesus"

What does it mean to believe Jesus? Not just believe in Jesus, but actually believe what He said—and shape our lives around that truth? How would that affect the choices we make? The way we see the world? The way we conduct ourselves with other Christians?

In Believing Jesus, Lisa Harper answers these questions by looking at the lives of the believers in Acts and how Jesus' command to spread the gospel forever shaped their lives. You will hear how Peter turned tables on his Benedict-Arnold behavior and became a church-building saint when the power of the Holy Spirit came over him. How the first believers were so gifted at giving they made Santa look bush league. How it cost Stephen and other early believers their very lives to follow Christ. And how Paul's case proves God's grace can change the worst of sinners, making us willing to have our lives interrupted by God and boldly share the gospel to the world.

Today, we are faced with the same decisions the early church faced. Will we, like them, truly believe the words of Jesus and allow them to transform every part of our lives?



### 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...

- God to work through our Smoke-Detector Battery Outreach
- Thanking God for a great Mexican Dinner
- Thanking God for the Holy Spirit's work in the lives of our Confirmation Students and their first communion with their families
- Thanking God for all Veterans and those who currently serve
- A safe hunting season
- A great turnout for our Fall Bazaar on November 14.
- An "Attitude of Gratitude" everyday - not just on Thanksgiving Day
- Safe travels over the Thanksgiving holiday
- Protection and boldness in witness for all persecuted Christians
- God to embolden our Christian witness in our daily lives
- The Holy Spirit to work through our Bible studies
- The Spirit's guidance for our Fall Voters' Assembly
- God to keep strengthening faith thru the Today's Light Bible readings
- God to raise up leaders in our nation who seek His will
- The mission and ministry of the Jastrams in Japan



## Story Behind The Song...

### "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come."

As found in Amazing Grace: 366 Inspiring Hymn Stories for Devotions

Our early American leaders wisely realized the importance of having a special day each year in which people could recount their blessings and express gratitude to God for all of His goodness.

The first thanksgiving was decreed by Governor Bradford in 1621 to commemorate the Pilgrims' harvest. Later, George Washington proclaimed November 26, 1789, as a national day of thanksgiving. But the holiday was not repeated on a nationwide basis until Abraham Lincoln named it a national Harvest Festival on November 26, 1861. After that time the holiday was proclaimed annually by the President and the governors of each state. Finally, in 1941, Congress passed a bill naming the fourth Thursday of each November as Thanksgiving Day.

The first stanza of this harvest hymn written by Henry Alford is an invitation and an exhortation to give thanks to God in His earthly temple - our local church - for the heavenly care and provision of our earthly need. The following two stanzas comment on Jesus' parable of the Wheat and the Tares as recorded in Matthew chapter 13. The final stanza is a prayer for the Lord's return to take us to our final "Harvest Home."

The song as it is found on page 892 of our Lutheran Service Book:

Come, ye thankful people, come;	Raise the song of harvest home.
All be safely gathered in	Ere the winter storms begin;
God our Maker doth provide	For our wants to be supplied.
Come to God's own temple, come;	Raise the song of harvest home.

All the world is God's own field,	Fruit unto His praise to yield;
Wheat and tares together sown,	Unto joy or sorrow grown.
First the blade and then the ear,	Then the full corn shall appear
Lord of harvest, grant that we	Wholesome grain and pure may be.

For the Lord our God shall come	And shall take His harvest home,
From His field shall in that day	All offenses purge away,
Give His angels charge at last	In the fire the tares to cast,
But the fruitful ears to store	In His garner evermore

Even so, Lord, quickly come	To Thy final harvest home;
Gather Thou Thy people in,	Free from sorrow, free from sin,
There forever purified,	In Thy garner to abide;
Come with all Thine angels, come	Raise the glorious harvest home.

**Editor's note:** Listen to this song at <https://youtu.be/msOzJ6DY7EA>

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Thot for a day: Problems that go away by themselves usually come back by themselves.

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## E-Mail Humor...

One day while driving with my 4 year old daughter, I beeped the horn by mistake.

She turned and looked at me for an explanation.

I said, "I did that by accident."

She replied, "I know that....'cause you didn't say YOU JERK afterwards!"

\*\*\*\*\*

A woman was getting swamped with calls from strangers. The reason? A billing service had launched a number that was identical to hers.

When she called to complain, she was told to get a new number.

"I've had mine for twenty years," she pleaded. "Couldn't you change yours?"

The company refused, so she said, "Fine. From now on, I'm going to tell everyone who calls that their bill is paid in full."

The company got a new number the next day. Don't mess with seniors!

### The Back Pew - Jeff Larson

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



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