

**June 2016 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...

"So, what are your answers?"

Last month I interrupted our usual "Question FOR Pastor" with a Question FROM Pastor. I asked for you to think about questions that God had used that grabbed your attention and brought you closer to Him as you sought an answer to that question.



I shared these questions God grabbed my attention with:

1) "Are you at a point in your spiritual life where, if you died tonight, you know you'd go to heaven?"

And

2) "Let's say you did die tonight and are standing before God and He says, 'Why should I let you into my heaven?' how would you answer Him?"

I promised to give my answers to those questions this month, so here they are:

1) "Yes." Because God tells us in His Word in 1 John 5:13 that it IS possible to know:

I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may KNOW that you have eternal life.

I added the capital letters on the word "know" to highlight the fact that it is possible to know we have eternal life. We don't have to 'cross our fingers and wish' or guess about it. It's possible to know for sure.

2) "I know that there's no way I deserve to be here. But I also know that your Son died to remove the sins that would keep me out, and He promised that everyone who repents of their sin and places their trust in

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Him as the true God who died to forgive that sin will have eternal life!"

Or as the hymn "Solid Rock" puts it, "No merit of my own I claim, but solely lean on Jesus' name."

As I've said before, when it comes down to our last breath each of us have basically two choices on which to base our hope for a life after this one. We can

a) trust in things we've done - or tried to do - for God  
Or b) trust in what God through His Son did for us

That's the biggest "no-brainer" of all time. I certainly am never going to go with option A. I know me! I know how absolutely imperfect I am and that total imperfection includes anything I've attempted to do for God.

But I also know that when God raised Jesus from the grave on Easter Sunday, that was proof that His sacrifice to pay for all my sins was a perfect one. Every sin had been paid for (or God never would have raised Jesus back to life)!

Thanks for asking  
Pastor David

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

## Sermons Now Available on our Website!

This year we have begun making the sermons from Sunday available in audio on the website. Check it out at [www.livingwordlutheran.net/sermons](http://www.livingwordlutheran.net/sermons)

(Or just click on "New Sermons Online" at the bottom of the LivingWord-Lutheran.net home page)



Lutheran Women's Missionary League

## LWML News...

Our planning meeting will be held Wednesday, June 8th at 11:00 @ Leone's. We will be finishing up on the banner for the convention and also planning for the July general meeting. All are welcome to join in on being part of the planning.



## Opportunities for Growth...

### Today's Light Daily Readings:

See pages 10—11 of this newsletter

### Sunday Morning Study (9:00)

### Men's Study- "Bible & Brats"

1st Tues of month during Summer @ 6:30pm (June 7)

### Mom's Study- Wed. @ 9:00 a.m. - on Summer break

### Wed. Evening Women's Study - on Summer break

### Confirmation Class - Adopt-a-Highway - THIS Wed.

### H.S. Youth Study - 1st & 3rd Sundays @ 6:30 p.m.

Sunday School: Summer Reading program kicks off on FFAA Night June 15

### VBS DAY AT CAMP - Monday, June 6 (details one page 7)

Marriage Enrichment Evening - June 12 @ 6:00 pm  
"Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage"

F.F.A.A. (Fun for All Ages) - Wednesday, June 15 - 6:30pm  
Games; Picnic food; Summer Reading Program kickoff

### **Please thank and pray for these people elected to serve on our Mission & Ministry Team**

Chair -	Tim Geer
Secretary -	Kari Sharp
Stewardship -	(Position Open)
Trustee -	Jamie Iverson
Elders -	Keith Hanson (One position open)
Community Outreach	-Amanda Sharp
Christian Growth - Youth	Lyndsay Ampe

### **Please thank these outgoing MMT members:**

Trustee	Lonny Robbin
Secretary	Sarah Miller
Stewardship	Jason Miller
Elder	Scott Wachter



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Thot for a day: Skill is successfully walking a tightrope over Niagara Falls. Common Sense is not trying.

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## Miscellaneous Notes...

### Check out our "Free Stuff" Table

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

- A BUNCH of new kids books
- New Devotional books
- Read With Me Bibles for toddlers
- Today's Light Devotional Bibles
- June Today's Light daily Bible readings
- Faith, Hope and Love Scripture bags
- June Living Word newsletters + Local coupons
- April - June Portals of Prayer - daily devotionals



### Still 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 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.

### 2016 Summer Camp Brochures

All Parents should have received a Lutheran Island Camp brochure in your mailbox. Extras are available on the "Free Stuff" table and under the mailboxes. Scholarships are also available to help with the cost. Just ask.



## June Discipleship Verse...



*"Through love and faithfulness sin is atoned for; through fear of the Lord a man avoids evil."* Proverbs 16:6



## 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 June Make-a-Meal volunteers are Wendy Robbin and Pam Johnson.

### Bring Food Shelf Items Every Second Sunday

We received 3 pounds of food items in May- plus a \$20 donation. Thanks for continuing to support the food shelf. (Food shelf Sunday this month is May 8- always the 2nd Sunday of the month.)

### Be "Custodian of the Month" for July

You (or your whole family) can sign up to provide the necessary cleaning service. Talk to Wendy or Lonny Robbin if you have questions or to volunteer yourself or your family. .

### We're looking for more Ushers

Please talk to Pastor David if you can serve once every other month.

### 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.

### Can You Help with a new 3-5th Grade Group ?

We would like to start up a 3-5th Grade Youth Group for the summer months. It will include fun, snacks and helping of God's Word. If you could help in any way to make this happen, please talk to Pastor David

### Help with Adopt-a-Highway Clean Up

Wednesday Evening, June 1. We'll leave church @ 6:30.

### Help with Work Day at Church - Saturday, June 25

Come from 8-noon to help clean up, spruce up & fix up

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That for a day: The bumper sticker that should have been on Noah's ark: Visualize World Judgment.

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## VBS Day @ Lutheran Island Camp...

Monday, June 6

AGES: 3 - 12 years old

### BRING YOUR FRIENDS

Come and join the fun at Lutheran Island Camp for a day. We will be riding a coach bus to The Island.

Leave 7:15 a.m. (from Redeemer Lutheran, Willmar)

Return 6:00 p.m. (approx.)

COST: FREE for the kids \$15 for Parents who ride along  
( includes bus transportation and VBS at camp)

Pre-school & Kindergarten children must have a parent/guardian with them.

The Day's Activities Include:

+ Singing + Bible Study + Playing Games  
+ Lunch + Doing Crafts + Swimming

Final registration is due Sunday, May 29. If you have any other questions, please contact Mona Hjelle @ 320-220-0069

NOTE: VBS Day at Camp is in addition to our regular VBS which will be held August 16-18



## Email Humor...

(At first glance this joke seems to have nothing to do with 'church.' But if you stop and think about it, there is a biblical lesson to be found. Ask Pastor if you can't figure out what it is.)

I came in to work early the other day and began hanging upside down from the ceiling. Just then one of my co-workers came in and asked me what I'm doing.

"Shh," I said, " I'm a light bulb -- I'm acting crazy to get a few days off, as there is an out of town wedding I need to go to until Tuesday."

A minute later the boss walked by and asked me what I was doing.

"I'm a light bulb!" I exclaimed.

"You're going crazy," he said. "Take a few days off, and come back when you are less stressed."

With that, I jumped down and started walking out. My co-worker started following me and the boss asked where she was going.

"I can't work in the dark," she said.





## Mark Your Calendars...

### June 12: M.E.E. (Marriage Enrichment Evening)

We've had a bunch of laughs watching the video curriculum Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage.

Last month we learned the one thing "guy movies" and "chick flicks" have in common - and why that one thing is so important.

We also learned about the power of "bartering" in marriage, and how setting "conditions" can be a great motivator for guys to actually get stuff done - even if you have to remind them several times!



Our June MEE will be Sunday evening, June 12 (6-8pm). This is a great time for married couples of ALL ages to spend a little time being intentional about our marriages (and getting some good laughs in at the same time.) Please consider joining us - it's ok to just 'jump in' this month without having attended the first sessions.

### Mission & Ministry Team

Will meet on Tuesday, June 14 this month - (due to FFAA Night the 3rd Wednesday)

### Adopt-a-Highway -Wednesday, June 1

We will leave from church 6:30

We need a minimum of 8 people in order to complete the cleanup in about an hour. Sign up at church. **Treats after clean-up at A & W !!**



### Church-League Softball

Cheer on your team at the Swanson Fields on Willmar Avenue in Willmar

June 2	Bethel	@ 8:15	Yellow
June 9	Svea	@ 6:15	Red
June 16	Rock of Life	@ 7:15	Red
June 23	Word of Faith	@ 6:15	Red
June 30	St Marys	@ 8:15	Yellow



### NEW Event for 3rd - 6th Graders:

Bike to DQ - Wednesday, June 8

Have your parents bring you - and your bike - to the Bike Trail parking area on Birch Street in New London. We'll leave for the Spicer DQ at 6pm and arrive back around 8:30. Any adults who'd like to help chaperone



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Thot for a day: The only winner in the war of 1812 was Tchaikovsky.

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are welcome to join us. Please tell Pastor David if you plan to Bike to DQ with us.

### Our First FFAA Night (Fun For All Ages) - June 15

This Summer we are looking for volunteers to organize the FFAA nights in June, July and August. It can be anything from outdoor games like horseshoes, volleyball (we have a new net!), soccer, wiffle ball, yard jenga, etc... to indoor movies and games to barbecuing. Get creative with fun-activity ideas and talk to Amanda Sharp or Pastor David if you can host one of the FFAA nights. (Hosts don't need to provide food - we'll seek other volunteers for that). Thanks!



### Community Service Announcement

"Come join us at the Paynesville Fly-In/Drive-In Breakfast June 11 from 7:30 to 11 am. Price \$8, 6-10 \$5, 5 & under free. Serving sausage, scrambled eggs, fritter sweet bread, applesauce, juice and coffee. Come see the RC Club display. Vote for your favorite airplane, take an airplane ride-free will donation, helicopter rides-\$45/person. Presented by Friends of the Airport."

### "Smokin' for the Link" Rib Fest Event

- Sunday, June 12th, 2-5pm at Glacial Ridge Winery
- Come and support The Link while enjoying great food, fellowship and music!
- Tickets are \$20 for 5 Ribs, Pie and Slaw.

Tickets are available at: New London Real Estate, Paffrath & Son Jewelers, O'Neil's, Mill Pond Liquor, The Happy Sol/Rugged Sun, Glacial Lakes Winery and at The Link office at Faith Lutheran Church.

We are still in need of fruit pies and volunteers during the event. Please contact Chasity at 796-2522 or thelinkservices@faithspicer.org



### WORK DAY at CHURCH-

Saturday, June 25, from 8-noon  
We will have various projects to work on:

Clean Up	Fix Up
Spruce Up	Organize
Build shelves	Etc...

## June 2016 - Daily Devotionals

### TODAY'S LIGHT BIBLE READING PROGRAM:

We conclude our look at the Holy Spirit's power growing the church in the book of Acts, then jump back to the Old Testament for two small books and then into the vivid pictures of Isaiah's prophecies.

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

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

May 30 Acts 18:23-21:16 (18:23-19:10) \_\_\_\_\_

May 31 Acts 21:17-23:35 (21:17-22:23) \_\_\_\_\_

June 1 Acts 24-26 (26:1-32) \_\_\_\_\_

June 2 Acts 27-28 (27:1-44) \_\_\_\_\_

June 3 Obadiah (17-21) \_\_\_\_\_

June 4 Haggai 1-2 (2:1-9) \_\_\_\_\_

June 5 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

June 6 Isaiah 1-2 (1:1-20) \_\_\_\_\_

June 7 Isaiah 3-4 (4:1-6) \_\_\_\_\_

June 8 Isaiah 5 (5:1-10) \_\_\_\_\_

June 9 Isaiah 6 (6:1-8) \_\_\_\_\_

June 10 Isaiah 7-8 (8:11-18) \_\_\_\_\_

June 11 Isaiah 9-10 (9:1-7, 10:15-27) \_\_\_\_\_

June 12 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

June 13 Isaiah 11-12 (12:1-6) \_\_\_\_\_

June 14 Isaiah 13-20 (14:1-32) \_\_\_\_\_

June 15 Isaiah 21-23 (22:1-25) \_\_\_\_\_

June 16 Isaiah 24-25 (25:1-12) \_\_\_\_\_

June 17 Isaiah 26-27 (27:1-6) \_\_\_\_\_

June 18 Isaiah 28-29 (29:1-23) \_\_\_\_\_

June 19 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

June 20 Isaiah 30-31 (30:1-26) \_\_\_\_\_

June 21 Isaiah 32 (32:12-20) \_\_\_\_\_

June 22 Isaiah 33-35 (35:1-10) \_\_\_\_\_

June 23 Isaiah 36-39 (38:1-20) \_\_\_\_\_

June 24 Isaiah 40-41 (41:1-29) \_\_\_\_\_

June 25 Isaiah 42-43 (43:1-28) \_\_\_\_\_

June 26 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

June 27 Isaiah 44-45 (44:1-28) \_\_\_\_\_

June 28 Isaiah 46-47 (46:1-12) \_\_\_\_\_

June 29 Isaiah 48-49 (49:1-26) \_\_\_\_\_


June 30 Isaiah 50-52 (52:1-15) \_\_\_\_\_

July 1 Isaiah 53 (53:4-11) \_\_\_\_\_

July 2 Isaiah 54-57 (55:1-13) \_\_\_\_\_



# June 2016 - Living Word Church Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>May 29</b> 9:00 ADULT STUDY 10:00 WORSHIP 11:15 Fellowship	<b>May 30 MEMORIAL DAY</b> 	<b>May 31</b>	<b>June 1</b>  6:30 - ADOPT-a-HIGHWAY	<b>2</b> 8:15 CHURCH-LEAGUE SOFTBALL Yellow	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> 9:00 ADULT STUDY 10:00 WORSHIP w/Lord's Supper 11:15 Fellowship 6:30 Sr High YOUTH	<b>6</b> VBS DAY @ CAMP Leave Redeemer 7:15 Return approx. 6:00 	<b>7</b> 5:30 ELDERS' TEAM 6:30 MEN'S 'BRATS & BIBLE'	<b>8</b> 11:00 LWML Planning Meeting @ Leone Quigley's 6:00 3-5th Grade BIKE to DQ	<b>9</b> 6:15 CHURCH-LEAGUE SOFTBALL Red	<div> <b>Lord's Supper Dates</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sunday, June 5th</li> <li>Sunday, June 19th</li> </ul> </div>	
<b>12</b> 9:00 ADULT STUDY 10:00 WORSHIP 11:15 Fellowship 6:00 LAUGH YOUR WAY TO A BETTER MARRIAGE	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> MISSION Ministry 6:30 MISSION & MINISTRY TEAM	<b>15</b> 6:30 - FFAA NIGHT 'Fun For All Ages'	<b>16</b> 7:15 CHURCH-LEAGUE SOFTBALL Red	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19 FATHERS' DAY</b> 9:00 ADULT STUDY 10:00 WORSHIP w/Lord's Supper 11:15 Fellowship 6:30 Sr High YOUTH		<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 6:15 CHURCH-LEAGUE SOFTBALL Red	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 8-noon WORK DAY
<b>26</b> 9:00 ADULT STUDY 10:00 WORSHIP 11:15 Fellowship	<div>           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> </div>		<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 8:15 CHURCH-LEAGUE SOFTBALL Yellow -	<b>July 1</b>	<b>July 2</b>

## Upcoming Schedules...

### Scripture Readers

June 5 Becky Sarsland  
June 12 Mona Hjelle  
June 19 Kevin Welsh  
June 26 Tammy Wachter

July 3 Wendy Robbin  
July 10 Linda Dilley  
July 17 Jason Miller  
July 24 Mark Fuglie  
July 31 Tammy Fuglie

### Fellowship Servers

June 5 Mike & Brooke Knutson  
June 12 Wendy Robbin / Alicia Sawatzky / Mary Lee Moore  
June 19 Becky Sarsland / Mary Raddatz  
June 26 Nancy Jo Wendt / Tammy Fuglie

July 3 Marcia Welsh / Pam Johnson  
July 10 Tammy Wachter & Sarah Miller  
July 17 Mona Hjelle / Elaine Abraham  
July 24 Violet Dauk / Laurel Iverson  
July 31 Linda Dilley / Bonnie Hansen

### Usher Schedule

June 5 Kevin Welsh & Jamie Iverson  
June 12 Duane Hansen & Chuck Weflen  
June 19 Brent & Lance Sawatzky  
June 26 Jason & Noah Miller

July 3 Bo & George Arends-Schmidt  
July 10 Wendy & Lonny Robbin  
July 17 Brady & Andrew Sharp  
July 24 Joe Johnson & Wally Abraham  
July 31 Linda Dilley & Davis Rustad

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

June 5 Carson Jaspersen  
June 12 Noah Miller  
June 19 Andrew Sharp  
June 26 Levi Miller

July 3 Eli Sharp  
July 10 Lance Sawatzky  
July 17 George Arends-Schmidt  
July 24 Davis Rustad  
July 31 Gage Dahl

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**That for a day:** The really nice thing about not planning is that failure comes as a complete surprise and is not preceded by a period of worry and depression.

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### Make A Meal Volunteers

June Wendy Robbin & Pam Johnson  
July Donna Peterson & Jamie Iverson

### Nursery (volunteers needed)

(Amanda Sharp - substitute helper)  
June 5 Mona Hjelle & Davis Rustad  
June 12 McCartney Knutson & Andrew Sharp  
June 19 Gracie Geer & Carson Jaspersen  
June 26 Alana Friebl & George Arends-Schmidt

July 3 Mona Hjelle & Lance Sawatzky  
July 10 Noah Miller & Davis Rustad  
July 17 McCartney Knutson & Andrew Sharp  
July 24 Gracie Geer & Carson Jaspersen  
July 31 Alana Friebl & George Arends-Schmidt

### Altar Guild

May Mona Hjelle  
June Nancy Jo Wendt

### Accompanying Musicians

June 5 Sharon Willen  
June 12 Scott Wachter  
June 19 Pam Johnson  
June 26 Scott Wachter

July 3 Sharon Willen  
July 10 Scott Wachter  
July 17 Pam Johnson  
July 24 Scott Wachter  
July 31 Amy Haney

### Custodian

June Wendt family  
July Custodian needed

### Confirmation Parent/Assistant

May 4 Knutsons  
May 11 Sawatzkys

### Elders

June 5 Mark Fuglie & Scott Wachter  
June 19 Kevin Welsh & Keith Hanson

July 3 Mark Fuglie & Scott Wachter  
July 17 Kevin Welsh & Keith Hanson

## Congratulations!

- Lewis England on your baptism into the Family of Christ, May 15!
- Cassandra and Byron Hunstad on your marriage, May 7!
- Brent and Alicia Sawatzky on your 10th Anniversary Vow Renewal!
- Becca & Levi Langseth on your new home in Eagan!

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



## Email Inspiration...

### WHO IS OUR REFUGE?

By Dr. Michael A. Halleen

"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble... The God of Jacob is our fortress." (Psalm 46:1, 11)

John Lewis, a Georgia congressman, tells of growing up in Alabama where he often visited the home of his Aunt Seneva. She lived in a tin-roofed, one-room building, essentially a shanty that gave shelter to the poor. Lewis and his cousins were playing there one day when a terrific storm blew in. With thunder rolling, lightning flashing, rain pelting down and wind howling, Aunt Seneva was afraid the house might be blown away. When the wind started to lift one corner of the house, she directed the children to hold hands and stand in that corner to hold it down. Then when another corner started to rise, they ran to that spot, trying to keep the house intact with just the weight of their little bodies.

Commentators have borrowed the language of natural disasters to describe recent economic events: hurricane, tsunami, earthquake, wild-fire—overwhelming forces that make one run for cover. But just as there is ultimately no safe haven from such occurrences, so also there is no security in this world that will protect us absolutely from social and financial calamity. Like the children in Aunt Seneva's house, we can only run from corner to corner—contracts, warranties, insurance policies, bailouts—hoping our little efforts will somehow hold things together.

For the people of God, however, there is something better, stronger, safer. In old Russia every town was built around a fortress, a place of shelter for all its citizens in case they were attacked by enemies. In many places the fortress still stands, called by a name known even to us in the west—kremlin. The psalm writer tells us that our kremlin is God himself. It is none other than the God of Jacob who is our fortress.

The Bible offers no assurance of "homeland security" or "social security." It doesn't promise that our health, our income, our traditions—or even our nation—will survive. The rock on which we build our future is not a mutual fund or a hedge fund. To build there is to build on sand. Our safe haven is not our military might, our constitution or our democratic principles. In the end they will all pass away. We'll not be protected by an IRA, the EPA or the NRA—they're all just temporary and finally will come to nothing.

God alone is our refuge. The God of Jacob is our fortress. Our only true security is "soul security," the promise that we are known, accepted and valued beyond measure. It is enough.

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That for a day: The trouble with political jokes is they get elected.

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## National Youth Gathering...

The Youth Gathering is held every 3 years. The 2016 Gathering is this coming July in New Orleans.



- We have 5 people registered (4 youth & One chaperone)  
Lyndsay Ampe Michelle Johnson  
Emma Kallevig Gracie Geer  
Alana Friebl
- We will have Dove Chocolate products available for sale in June. (Orders for items from our Dove fundraiser can still be placed through the end of May.)
- Servant Auction - June 12 after worship.  
Stick around after worship on June 12 to bid on one (or more) of our Youth Gathering attendants to help out with your spring or summer chores.
- Thanks for your continued prayers and support through your donations and help with our fundraisers! We greatly appreciate it!

## Sunday School News...

1. VBS Day at Lutheran Island Camp - Monday, June 6  
(See details elsewhere)
2. Summer Reading Program for kids!  
We will have books available - appropriate for all ages of Sunday School students - to check out from the library at church. Each student will earn points for books read (and books read to younger siblings). These points can be redeemed at the end of summer for special prizes!  
Summer Reading Program will kick off on FFAA Night (June 15th @ 6:30)
3. FFAA Nights. Once a month we will host a Fun For All Ages night. For the kids there will be games, movies and bonfires. We'll also have games the adults can play. Horseshoes, Bean Bag Toss, Outdoor Jenga, Volleyball, etc...Our first FFAA Night will be Wednesday, June 15 @ 6:30.  
We will also kick off our Summer Reading Program on this first FFAA Night.

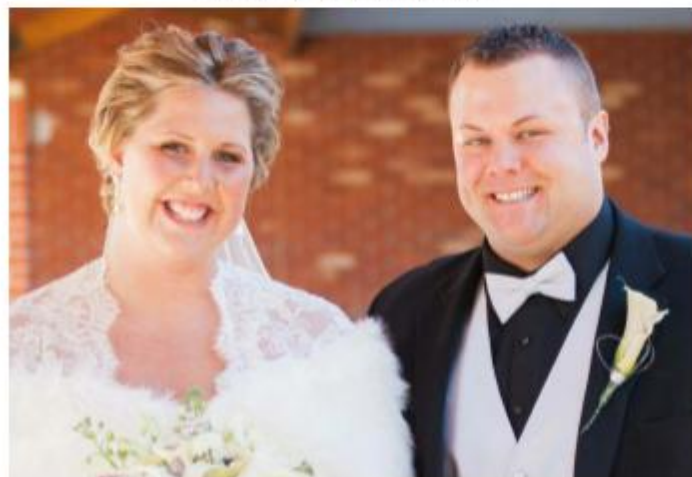
If you could help by organizing one of the games or providing food (hot dogs / buns / chips) please talk to Amanda Sharp, Mona Hjelle or Pastor.



## Welcome to our family...

In this newsletter we continue to introduce you to the new members we received in March here at Living Word. This month we have bios and pictures of Tony & Lyndsay Ampe. If you haven't had the chance already, please introduce yourself and welcome them to Living Word.

### Lyndsay & Tony Ampe



Tony and I live in Belgrade, MN, just ¼ mile as the crow flies from the home farm, where Tony grew up. I (Lyndsay) grew up in Big Lake, MN and moved to Belgrade when Tony and I bought our farm.

Tony farms with his dad, and I work for Land O'Lakes in their credit department. I am blessed enough to work from home, so Tony and I get to have home-cooked Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner together almost every day!

We have two fur babies, Brutus and Bailey who are brother and sister from the same litter. They are Silver labs and are almost 9-months old

Tony and I LOVE to be outside. We ride our motorcycle as often as we can, and we love to wakeboard and fish any chance we get at the Ampe family place on Eagle Lake. (We love visitors!) We try to snowmobile in the winter, but that's been tough the past few years. Recently we've revived our love for softball and taking batting practice in the front yard has been great! Especially when Bailey retrieves all the softballs!

Tony and I were married March 14, 2015 and recently celebrated our one-year anniversary!

Our favorite bible verse is Ephesians 5:22-30.

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That for a day: Anything praying on my mind today would starve to death.

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*Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as you do to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.*

*Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. After all, no one ever hated their own body, but they feed and care for their body, just as Christ does the church—for we are members of his body.*

This was one of the passages that we had at our wedding. It perfectly depicts the type of relationship we strive to have. Although we are not perfect, we try every day to love each other as Christ loves the church.

God brought us to Living Word by chance. I had originally found Living Word on the LCMS website but hadn't decided to visit right away. We tried a couple churches right in Belgrade, but none of them felt like home. One Sunday Tony and I decided to try Living Word, and it happened to be Confirmation Sunday, 2015. I don't think we could have found a better day to come. That day we got to hear how God was working in Alana's and Grade's lives, hear some GREAT music and enjoy the fellowship of strangers. IT FELT LIKE HOME!

### 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...

- Thanking God for all who have given their lives serving our country
- Smooth transition to summer for parents and students
- Thanking God for a great Sunday School year
- The Holy Spirit's power and guidance for our newly elected MMT folks
- Thanking God for the MMT people who have faithfully served
- Our Youth Gathering group to get all the final plans in place
- Great weather for our FFAA Night
- Asking the Holy Spirit to continue to empower us to be bold witnesses
- Protection and boldness in witness for all persecuted Christians
- God to give us wisdom as we choose leaders in this election year.
- God to raise up the people who have the specific talents needed to fill our open MMT positions
- God to raise up leaders in our nation who seek His will
- The mission and ministry of the Jastrams in Japan



## E-mail Wisdom...

*You've likely heard this one before, but the timing is good for a repeat...*

They walked in tandem, each of the ninety-three students filing into the already crowded auditorium. With rich maroon gowns flowing and the traditional caps, they looked almost as grown up as they felt. Dads swallowed hard behind broad smiles, and moms freely brushed away tears.

This class would not pray during the commencements ---- not by choice, but because of a recent court ruling prohibiting it. The principal and several students were careful to stay within the guidelines allowed by the ruling. They gave inspirational and challenging speeches, but no one mentioned divine guidance and no one asked for blessings on the graduates or their families. The speeches were nice, but they were routine....until the final speech received a standing ovation.

A solitary student walked proudly to the microphone. He stood still and silent for just a moment, and then, it happened. All 92 students, every single one of them, suddenly SNEEZED!!!! The student on stage simply looked at the audience and said, "GOD BLESS YOU, each and every one of you!" And he walked off stage... The audience exploded into applause.

The graduating class had found a unique way to invoke God's blessing on their future with or without the court's approval!

In God We Trust, United We Stand.

## Thanks...

...for a GREAT Sunday School Year:

- |                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| + Superintendent   | Mona Hjelle;   |
| + Teachers:        | Amanda Sharp, Kari Sharp,<br>Violet Dauk, Keith Hanson |
| + Subs:            | Jason Miller & Tammy Fuglie.                           |
| + Parents          |  |
| + Grandparents     |  |
| + All the Students |  |

## Thanks...

...to Everyone Who Helped at the Garage Sale!

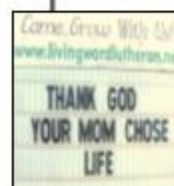
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That for a day: Life is short. Smile while you still have all your teeth.

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## 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... Sunday School Teachers!** Let Pastor know how you'd complete that sentence next



Friends in Christ,

As you are aware, the legislative session wrapped up Monday, May 23. Having had a couple of days to digest the outcome, allow me to give you this brief assessment as it relates to our LCMS public policy advocacy.

Our OAK (Opportunity for All Kids) education coalition had two top priorities as we entered final negotiations last week, namely

- 1) a tax credit to parents for tuition paid and
- 2) a tax credit for donations to scholarship (tuition assistance) funds.

The good news is that both of these were included in a bill right up to the final moment. However, due to political calculations made by Governor Dayton and others, both proposals failed to make the final cut. Needless to say, we are profoundly disappointed.

However, we developed support for these proposals in both the House and the Senate and made significant progress in elevating the profile of parental choice among the general public. Indeed, with that growing public support and the commitment of Governor Dayton to continue working with us on this issue next year, we feel very good about our likelihood of success going forward!

This is tremendous progress in just one year's time is due to the significant grassroots efforts of you and others who took the initiative to understand the proposals and contact legislators about them. Thank you! This kind of advocacy is new territory for us in the LCMS, and we should feel good about the quality and degree of influence we brought to bear for the common good of all Minnesotans.

Again, thank you for your efforts, and we trust that our mutual disappointment will now become mutual resolve as we look forward with anticipation to the elections this Fall and to the 2017 legislative session!

In Christ,

Rev. Fredric Hinz, LCMS Public Policy Advocate

MN South and MN North Districts

fred.hinz@mnsdistrict.org



## Story Behind The Song...

"This is My Father's World"

...for the world is Mine and all it's fullness. Psalm 50:12b

As we approach Father's Day it's good to be reminded of all the things our Heavenly Father has given us - starting with the amazing world He created just for us.

The song This is My Father's World was originally a poem written by Maltbie Babcock who was born into an aristocratic family in upstate New York. He attended Syracuse University where he was involved in numerous extracurricular activities. In the athletic area Maltbie was an expert swimmer and captain of the baseball team. Gifted musically, he played several instruments, directed the university orchestra, as well as the vocal glee club. Outside of school he was an avid fisherman.

He could have been great at any number of professions, but felt God's call into the ministry. After training at Auburn Theological Seminary he became pastor at First Presbyterian Church of Lockport, NY - a beautiful area between Lake Erie and Lake Ontario, not far from Niagara Falls. He loved to spend time outdoors in the area, hiking and running in the hills outside town. As he would head out for a run he would often comment, "I'm going out to see my Father's world."

It was during this time at Lockport that he wrote the poem "This is My Father's World." Later, as pastor of the Brick Presbyterian Church in New York City, his congregation gave him a present - a trip to the Holy Land. Unfortunately, it was on that trip that he was seized with a deadly bacterial fever and died at the age of 42. In 1901 His widow compiled his writings into a book entitled Thoughts for Everyday Living. "This is My Father's World" was included in that book. Below is the poem in its entirety. Hymnals typically include only the first three stanzas.

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  
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:

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That for a day: The best way to learn is to teach.

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Jesus Who died shall be satisfied, And earth and Heav'n be one.

This is my Father's world, dreaming, I see His face.  
I ope my eyes, and in glad surprise cry, "The Lord is in this place."  
This is my Father's world, from the shining courts above,  
The Beloved One, His Only Son, Came—a pledge of deathless love.

This is my Father's world, should my heart be ever sad?  
The lord is King-let the heavens ring. God reigns-let the earth be glad.  
This is my Father's world. Now closer to Heaven bound,  
For dear to God is the earth Christ trod. No place but is holy ground.

This is my Father's world. I walk a desert lone.  
In a bush ablaze to my wondering gaze God makes His glory known.  
This is my Father's world, a wanderer I may roam  
Whate'er my lot, it matters not, My heart is still at home.

Editor's note: A great version (and video) by Tenore at  
<https://youtu.be/vAYTeRIKZ3s>

## The Back Pew – Jeff Larson



While on vacation Rev Russel found his tangled fishing line as a fitting metaphor for life.