

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



**“for God gave us a spirit not of fear but  
of power and love and self-control.”**

**2 Timothy 1:7**

**May 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...

"Who do you say that Jesus is?"

Maybe you noticed the heading of this article had a slight change from past months. Every so often I switch things up and do a "Question FROM Pastor" instead of a "Question FOR Pastor." That's the case this month.



A few weeks ago we took the confirmation students (along with lots of adults) to see the movie God's Not Dead 2. The main character in the movie said that the question listed above was one God used to get her attention. The Holy Spirit then used her search for an answer to that question to ultimately bring her to place her faith in Jesus as the One true God and her only Savior.

Jesus actually asked his disciples the above question in Matthew 16:15. I'd encourage you to go and grab a Bible right now to find out how Peter answered that question - and what Jesus' response was.

I asked the above question for a couple of reasons. First, because each of us needs to not only know the answer to that question, but we also need to be prepared to give the reason we came up with that answer. So, take some time to write out your answer. Then let me know what you came up with.

And secondly, I'm curious to know if what specific questions God may have used in your life that really got you to start thinking about Him. Here's one that really "hit me between the eyes":

If you died tonight and are standing before God and He says, "Why should I let you into my heaven?" how would you answer Him?

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My initial reaction to that question was, "Wow! I guess if there's one question I really need to find the answer to before I leave this earth, it has to be that one."

Next month I'll share my answers to both questions. But in the mean time, please tell me the questions God has used to grab your attention.

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)

## Sunday School News....

**9:00 every Sunday morning**

- Classes Students start each morning with music, prayer requests from the kids and offering
- Upcoming Lessons:  
We are going to finish the year with "Weird" Stories from the Bible

May 1 - "Weird" Straight From the Fish's Mouth Matt. 17:24-27

May 8 - "Weird" Drop Dead Acts 5:1-9

May 15 - "Weird" Earthquake! Acts 16:16-34

May 22 - "Weird" I'm ~~Gonna~~ Live Forever Revelation 21:1-7

**May 22 will be the last day of Sunday School until fall.**

- 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)

## Miscellaneous Notes...

### Choir News...

Choir rehearsal is finished for the summer. If anyone is interested in doing special music this summer, please let Leone know and we can put you or your group in for a Sunday. A good time to sing that song you have always wanted to try.



### 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
- May Living Word newsletters + Local coupons
- May Today's Light daily Bible readings
- April - June Portals of Prayer - daily devotionals
- Faith, Hope and Love Scripture bags

### Final Directory Proof & Last Call For Pictures !

Please check the proof outside the 1-2nd Grade Sunday School cube for any mistakes or omissions. If we don't have a picture of you and your family to include in our Living Word Church Directory.... please give one to Violet (or better yet email one to pastor@livingwordlutheran.net).

### Biblical Tour of Greece and Turkey-

October 4-14, 2016 - "Following the Apostle Paul" - To Corinth, Athens, Philippi, Thessalonica, etc. - Includes a Cruise of the Greek Islands to Patmos & Ephesus - \$3854 from New York - Includes all the flights, cruise, meals, lodging, guides, tips, entrance fees, etc. - Will even make arrangements for the flight to New York from your home! Brochure available - Contact Darold Reiner, retired LCMS Pastor & former International LWML Pastoral Counselor - 406-890-1149 or imhis38@gmail.com

### 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.

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Thot for a day: Hospitality: making your guests feel like they're at home, even if you wish they were.

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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.

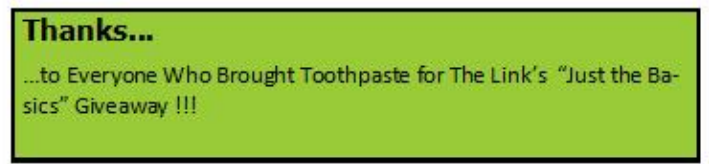
### 2016 Summer Camp Brochures

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.



## LWML News...

The LWML Executive Board and Planning Committee meeting is scheduled for May 11th, 11:00 AM @ Leone's. Please call for directions 354-4665. Let's start thinking about the Music Fest and being the "Pie ladies". All women are welcome to attend and be a part of LWML.



## 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 that He Lifts Us Up When We Are Bowed Down!**



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

## 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 May Make-a-Meal volunteers are Scott & Tammy Wachter and Nancy Jo Wendt.

### Bring Food Shelf Items Every Second Sunday

We received 40# of food items this month! 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"

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. **April is still available.**

### 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

Saturday morning, May 9. @ 10:00

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That for a day: I really didn't mean to push all your buttons. I was just looking for mute.

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## E-mail Wisdom...

When you come to the edge of all the light you know and are about to step off into the darkness of the unknown, FAITH is knowing one of two things will happen: there will be something solid to stand on or you will be taught how to fly.



## Support Parental Choice in Education

The Minnesota Legislature will soon make an important decision that could have a *significant positive impact* on our LCMS schools.

The Minnesota House has passed a bill that includes a tax credit to expand educational options for parents, which will help ensure more kids have the chance to attend the school of their choosing, including religious schools. Indeed, we understand this choice to be an important aspect of the religious freedom guaranteed in the Constitution.

It is our hope this tax credit provision will be included in the Omnibus Tax Bill now being drafted by the Tax Conference Committee and that it will then receive Governor Dayton's signature. **All this will occur within the next three weeks.**

Expanding parental choice in education is a widely supported proposal that our legislators should support. In fact, a recent survey found that nearly 70 percent of Minnesotans support tax credits and school choice for parents and students.

**So, now is the time to let your elected officials know just how important expanding school choice is to you. Now is the time for your voice to be heard at the State Capitol on this crucial issue.**

Please contact your State Representative and State Senator to let them know you support expanding the state tax credit to include private school tuition. You can look up your State Representative and Senator at <http://www.gis.leg.mn/iMaps/districts/> or by calling the Minnesota House at 651-296-2146 and the Minnesota Senate at 651-296-0504.

## Mark Your Calendars...

### May 15: M.E.E. (Marriage Enrichment Evening)

This spring Pastor and Violet are hosting several gatherings for married couples at their home, as well as spend a little time each evening on a specific aspect of marriage. Our May MEE will be Sunday evening, May 15 (6-8pm). This is a great time for married couples of ALL ages to spend a little time being intentional about our marriages.



### "Old-Fashioned Church Picnic"

Sunday, May 22

After worship - behind the church. Potluck Picnic, outdoor games, etc..

.Bring a friend and a dish to pass

### Mission & Ministry Team

Meets on the 3rd WEDNESDAY of the month for the summer months (May - August), beginning May 18

### 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

Another Season starts on Thursday, May 12

Come and cheer on your team at the Swanson Fields on Willmar Avenue in Willmar

Please talk to Brady Sharp if you would like to play.

### A Call to Pray on the National Day of Prayer:

Thursday May 5th @ 8:00pm

A Community of Prayer

at the NLS High School Flagpole:

Our community is in the midst of important decisions of public school policy which greatly affect each of us and our



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Thot for a day: Show me a home where the buffalo roam, and I'll show you a very messy house.

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community's youth. Our first priority needs to be prayer!! The National Day of Prayer is a most natural time to come together.

We will simply pray! People will be asked to lead out in a whole group that gathers and then divide into prayer pods of 3-5. Lastly as people are led some may want to do prayer walks as individuals to close. No education, political posturing, no music or fanfare. Just praying as God calls us!!

### Summer's Coming - and that means . . .

### More F.F.A.A ( Fun For All Ages ) Nights !

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, whiffle ball, yard jenga, etc... to indoor movies and games to barbecuing. Get creative with fun-activity ideas and talk to Amanda Sharp if you can host one of the FFAA nights. (You don't need to provide food). Thanks!



## You're Invited...

an After-Dinner Wedding Reception & Dance for Byron Meis and Cassandra Hunstad

Saturday, May 7 @ 8 p.m. at Spicer Legion



## Mother/Daughter

## Salad Luncheon



Mother-Daughter salad luncheon Saturday, May 7th @ 10:30 a.m.

(Event sponsored by the Living Word LWML)

- Entertainment by Shelby Kingman. Shelby plays Christian Country and Blue Grass music, for all ages.
- Ladies should bring a salad to share.
- There also will be a special craft.
- "NEW GROWTH" is the theme.
- No RSVP needed.

# May 2016 - Daily Devotionals

TODAY'S LIGHT BIBLE READING PROGRAM: We conclude our look at the History of God's people under their kings - as recorded in the Book of Chronicles and read four of the smaller books of prophets sandwiched around the book of Acts - the book that details the Holy Spirit's power to build the church (In parentheses are verses to focus on if you are short on time that day)

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

May 2 2 Chronicles 25-26 (26:1-21) \_\_\_\_\_

May 3 2 Chronicles 27-28 (28:19-27) \_\_\_\_\_

May 4 2 Chronicles 29 (29:1-19) \_\_\_\_\_

May 5 2 Chronicles 30-31 (30:1-27) \_\_\_\_\_

May 6 2 Chronicles 32 (32:1-23) \_\_\_\_\_

May 7 2 Chronicles 33 (33:1-20) \_\_\_\_\_

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

May 9 2 Chronicles 34-35 (34:1-28) \_\_\_\_\_

May 10 2 Chronicles 36 (36:11-23) \_\_\_\_\_

May 11 Habakkuk 1-2 (2:1-20) \_\_\_\_\_

May 12 Habakkuk 3 (3:3-13,17-19) \_\_\_\_\_

May 13 Zephaniah 1-2 (1:1-18) \_\_\_\_\_

May 14 Zephaniah 3 (3:5-20) \_\_\_\_\_

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

May 16 Acts 1 (1:1-14) \_\_\_\_\_

May 17 Acts 2 (2:1-21) \_\_\_\_\_

May 18 Acts 3-4 (3:1-26) \_\_\_\_\_

May 19 Acts 5 (5:1-32) \_\_\_\_\_

May 20 Acts 6-8 (6:1-15) \_\_\_\_\_

May 21 Acts 9 (9:1-22) \_\_\_\_\_

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

May 23 Acts 10-11 (11:1-18) \_\_\_\_\_

May 24 Acts 12 (12:1-19) \_\_\_\_\_

May 25 Acts 13-14 (13:1-43) \_\_\_\_\_

May 26 Acts 15 (15:1,6-31) \_\_\_\_\_

May 27 Acts 16 (16:16-34) \_\_\_\_\_

May 28 Acts 17-18:22 (17:16-34) \_\_\_\_\_

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) \_\_\_\_\_

# May 2016 - 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	<b>2</b> 9:00 Circuit Pastors @ Montevideo	<b>3</b> 6:30 MEN'S STUDY	<b>4</b> 9:00 MOMS' STUDY 6:30 - WOMEN'S STUDY 6:30 - CONFIRMATION	<b>5</b>  8:00 Community Prayer @ NL-S Flag Pole	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 10:30 MOTHER- DAUGHTER SALAD LUNCHEON 8:00 - MEIS/HUN STAD Wedding Dance
<b>8</b> MOTHERS' DAY 9:00 ADULT STUDY SUNDAY SCHOOL- 10:00 WORSHIP 11:15 Fellowship 11:30 Sunday School Teachers	<b>9</b> MN PASTORS'	<b>10</b> CONFERENCE 5:30 ELDERS' TEAM 6:30 MEN'S STUDY	<b>11</b> 9:00 MOMS' STUDY 11:00 LWML PLANNING 6:30 - WOMEN'S STUDY 6:30 - CONFIRMATION	<b>12</b> TBA CHURCH-LEAGUE SOFTBALL	<div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #92d050; padding: 5px;"> <b>Lord's Supper Dates</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sunday, May 1st</li> <li>• Sunday, May 15th</li> </ul> </div>	
<b>15</b> PENTECOST 9:00 ADULT STUDY SUNDAY SCHOOL - 10:00 WORSHIP w/Lord's Supper Lewis England Baptism Fellowship 11:30 DOVE CHOCOLATE PARTY 6:00 M. E. E. @ Dauk's	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 6:30 MEN'S STUDY	<b>18</b> 9:00 MOMS' STUDY 6:30 - WOMEN'S STUDY 6:30 MISSION & MINISTRY TEAM <i>Mission Ministry</i>	<b>19</b> TBA CHURCH-LEAGUE SOFTBALL	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> SUNDAY SCHOOL FINALE 9:00 ADULT STUDY SUNDAY SCHOOL - 10:00 WORSHIP 11:15 SUNDAY SCHOOL PICNIC	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 6:30 MEN'S STUDY	<b>25</b> 9:00 MOMS' STUDY 6:30 - WOMEN'S STUDY 6:30 SPRING VOTER'S ASSEMBLY	<b>26</b> TBA CHURCH-LEAGUE SOFTBALL	<b>27</b> 8:00 - 5:00 GARAGE SALE NYG Fundraiser	<b>28</b> 7:00 - noon GARAGE SALE NYG Fundraiser
<b>29</b> 9:00 ADULT STUDY 10:00 WORSHIP 11:15 Fellowship	<b>30</b> MEMORIAL DAY	<b>31</b> 6:30 MEN'S STUDY	<b>June 1</b> 9:00 MOMS' STUDY 6:30 - WOMEN'S STUDY 6:30 - ADOPT-a-HIGHWAY	<b>2</b> TBA CHURCH-LEAGUE SOFTBALL	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>

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

# Upcoming Schedules...

## Scripture Readers

May 1 Linda Dilley  
 May 8 Jason Miller  
 May 15 Mark Fuglie  
 May 22 Tammy Fuglie  
 May 29 Duane Hansen

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

## Fellowship Servers

May 1 Marcia Welsh / Pam Johnson  
 May 8 Tammy Wachter & Sarah Miller  
 May 15 Mona Hjelle / Elaine Abraham  
 May 22 Violet Dauk / Laurel Iverson  
 May 29 Linda Dilley / Bonnie Hansen

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

## Usher Schedule

May 1 Wendy & Lonny Robbin  
 May 8 Brady & Andrew Sharp  
 May 15 Joe Johnson & Wally Abraham  
 May 22 Linda Dilley & Davis Rustad  
 May 29 Mark Fuglie & Tim Geer

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

## Acolyte (little brothers & sisters can help)

May 1 Eli Sharp  
 May 8 Lance Sawatzky  
 May 15 George Arends-Schmidt  
 May 22 Davis Rustad  
 May 29 Gage Dahl

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

**Thot for a day:** Taking the bull by the horns is often a sound course of action ... as long as you and the bull agree on when to let go.

## Altar Guild

May Mona Hjelle  
 June Nancy Jo Wendt

## Make A Meal Volunteers

May Scott & Tammy Wachter & Nancy Jo Wendt  
 June Wendy Robbin & Pam Johnson

## Nursery (volunteers needed)

(Amanda Sharp - substitute helper)

May 1 Noah Miller & Davis Rustad  
 May 8 McCartney Knutson & Andrew Sharp  
 May 15 Gracie Geer & Carson Jaspersen  
 May 22 Alana Friehl & George Arends-Schmidt  
 May 29 Lance Sawatzky & Noah Miller

June 5 Mona Hjelle & Davis Rustad  
 June 12 McCartney Knutson & Andrew Sharp  
 June 19 Gracie Geer & Carson Jaspersen  
 June 26 Alana Friehl & George Arends-Schmidt

## Accompanying Musicians

May 1 Sharon Willen  
 May 8 Scott Wachter  
 May 15 Pam Johnson  
 May 22 Scott Wachter  
 May 29 Amy Haney

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

## Custodian

May Custodian needed  
 June Custodian needed

## Confirmation Parent/Assistant

May 4 Knutsons  
 May 11 Sawatzkys

## Elders

May 1 Mark Fuglie & Scott Wachter  
 May 15 Kevin Welsh & Keith Hanson

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

## **Congratulations!**

- Kim and John England on your new gift from God - baby Lewis !

If there's someone you'd like us to extend congratulations to. Please email:

[pastor@livingwordlutheran.net](mailto:pastor@livingwordlutheran.net)



## Garage Sale:

(A National Youth Gathering fund-raiser)

Friday, May 27, 8-5pm & Saturday, May 28, 7:00- noon

How you can help:

- **Bring stuff!**  
We will have a large, enclosed trailer at church the week prior to the sale for people to bring your donations. (Please, no TVs or other things that can't be donated if they don't sell.)
- **Help set up Thursday night or early Friday morning.**
- **Have a large tent we could use?**

The goal is to hold the sale in our parking lot and move stuff under tents if it rains. We want to avoid moving the sale inside the church building.

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That for a day: The real measure of your wealth is how much you would be worth if you lost all your money.



### CALLING ALL Chocolate Lovers!

**Who:** Living Word Youth Group  
**What:** Dove Chocolate Party  
(Try & Buy delicious goodies)  
**When:** May 15<sup>th</sup> 2016  
11:30am (After Church)  
**Where:** Living Word Luth. Church  
16425 County Rd 9 NE New London, MN

Portion of sales will be donated to the youth group travelling to the NYG to help pay for flights and hotel costs.

**LOTS OF SAMPLES!**

Everyone is Welcome! ☺

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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.



- Our group decided to fly to N.O. (rather than take a bus) - please pray for a reasonable airfare to become available.
- We have 5 people registered (4 youth & One chaperone)  
Lyndsay Ampe Michelle Johnson  
Emma Kallevig Gracie Geer  
Alana Friebl
- We booked our flight this past week !
- We will have two fund-raisers this month:  
Dove Chocolate - May 15 after worship  
Garage Sale - May 27 & 28.
- Thanks for your continued prayers and support !

## Email Humor...

My sister's dog had been deaf and blind for years. When she started to suffer painful tumors, it was time to put her down. As I explained this to my seven-year-old son, he asked if Jazzy would go to heaven. I said I thought she would, and that in dog heaven, she would be healthy again and able to do her favorite thing: chase squirrels.

Jacob thought about that for a minute, then said, "So dog heaven must be the same as squirrel hell."

Teenage Driver

A teenager who had just received her learner's permit offered to drive her parents to church. After a hair-raising ride, they finally reached their destination.

The mother got out of the car and said, "Thank you!"

"Anytime," her daughter replied.

As the woman slammed the door, she said,

"I wasn't talking to you. I was talking to God!"

## May Discipleship Verse...



*For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.*

2 Timothy 1:7

## 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 Ed & Ruth Vegdahl. If you haven't had the chance already, please introduce yourself and welcome them to Living Word.

### Ed & Ruth Vegdahl



Ruth: Born in Mountain Lake and moved to Hoyt Lakes where my dad worked in the taconite mine and my mom worked in the kitchen of the hospital. Graduated from Aurora-Hoyt Lakes High School and went to Moorhead State College where I obtained my Mrs. degree after only one year (wink). Completed B. A. in Finance from Metro State College in 1984. I have worked for the Minnesota Department of Revenue since 1986 and am retiring this May.

I love to spend time with family and friends. Enjoy baking, cooking, playing cards, chilling out by a lake, and walking in the woods. Also like to read, and watch TV and movies. I have a large collection of fabric that I hope to transform when I retire.

Of course, the Christmas story and Resurrection of Jesus top the list of my favorite Bible stories! But also I love the story of Joseph. He made the best of every situation in his life and stayed faithful to God. It's a good reminder to me that God is in control and I need to continually trust in Him. I was attracted to Living Word by pastor's sermons and the friendly members of the congregation.

Edward: Born in Paynesville and grew up on the family farm in rural Spicer. I attended District 66 (a one room school house) for grades 1-5 and

then 6 through 12 in New London. Then I furthered my education from Willmar Junior College and Moorhead State College. In 1975 I was married to Ruth and we headed to California where I took my first assignment in the Air Force. While in the service, completed an M.S. in Computer Science at USC. I am now retired from the Air Force Reserve and General Dynamics. I have spent the last few years building our home in the north pasture of the farm where I grew up. I expect to spend a lot of time fishing with our grandchildren and doing wood working and gardening.

I am comforted in my assurance of salvation from John 3:16 where he assures me of God's love for me and states that through my belief in Jesus I have eternal life (present tense). I also know of God's love for me and my responsibility to show his love through me from 1 John 4:8 "He that loveth not, knoweth not God, for God is love." I know that many do not like the King James Version but that is what I grew up on and I find it very comforting. As a Christian I also know my responsibility for the use of His grace as instructed in Romans chapter 6. I pray that I become a better steward of that grace even though I am covered by it and require it daily.

I am glad to become a member of the family of Living Word Lutheran Church where we can find other believers that find the Bible the inspired and inerrant word of the Living God. Although the Bible was written men who were inspired by the Holy Spirit, I believe that God was in control of what was written.

We have 2 children (Sarah and Matthew) and 6 grandchildren. Sarah and her husband Sam Wellumson live in East Grand Forks with their four children. Matthew and his wife Lauren live in Savage with their two children.

### 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...

- Our Youth Gathering group to have successful fund-raisers this month
- Great weather for our Garage Sale and Sunday School picnic
- Asking the Holy Spirit to continue to empower us to be bold witnesses
- Protection and boldness in witness for all persecuted Christians
- God's Wisdom for our NL-S school board gender-policy decision
- 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

## Opportunities for Growth...

### Today's Light Daily Readings:

See pages 10–11 of this newsletter

### NEW Sunday Morning Study (9:00)

The Challenge of Islam—Part 2: Defending Your Faith



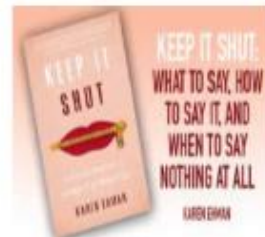
### NEW Men's Study - Tuesdays @ 6:30

The Challenge of Islam—Part 2: Defending Your Faith

### NEW Wed. Evening Women's Study -

6:30 Wednesday evenings

Keep It Shut



### NEW Mom's Study-

Wednesday, @ 8:30a.m.

(childcare provided)

"Keep It Shut

### Confirmation Class

Wednesdays @ 6:30

### Sr. High Youth Study

1st & 3rd Sunday evenings @ 6:30 Friends are welcome too!

### Sunday School:

9:00 every Sunday morning

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

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.

### Marriage Enrichment Evening - 6:00 pm, May 15

"Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage" @ Dawks'

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That for a day: The alternative to a vacation is to stay home and tip every third person you see.

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## The LINK...

Link Newsletter, May 2016

Spring greetings from The Link.

Your generous donations of time, talent and treasure are making a real difference in the community. Since January, your donations have assisted families in stabilizing their housing, keeping their homes warm this winter and ensuring reliable transportation for school and/or work.

### Tuesday's Table

Food. Friends. Fellowship.

May 3rd: Our Lady of the Lakes Catholic Church

May 10th: Evangelical Covenant Church

May 17th: Faith Lutheran Church

May 24th: Peace Lutheran Church

May 31st: O'Neil's

Thanks to local community members, churches and organizations that are assisting The Link with providing their time and resources for the "Just the Basics" event. Look for an update in next month's newsletter about the impact of this event in our community.

The Household Exchange in New London is in desperate need of bath towels and washcloths. If you have extra towels or washcloths that you don't use and are still in good condition, please consider donating them. You are invited to drop them off in New London or simply bring them to The Link at Faith Lutheran in Spicer. Thank you for your generosity

Warm blessings to you,

Chasity Ommodt,

Director of Client Services and Community Engagement

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### Upcoming Events:

- Wednesday, May 11th, 5 – 8pm Spring Boutique at O'Neil's (registration proceeds benefit The Link)
- May 31st Tuesday's Table will be held at O'Neil's and hosted along with the Open Door
- Save the date: 3rd Annual Rib Fest "Smokin' for The Link" Sunday, June 12th, 2 - 5pm at the Glacial Ridge Winery

If you have any questions contact Chasity or Rhonda at 320-796-2522.

## Story Behind The Song...

### "All Creatures of Our God and King"

God reminds us in Psalm 19 that all the magnificent wonders of nature reveal His majesty and glorify Him. From the grateful heart of a devoted Italian monk came the beautiful message of this song. As a lover of nature, Francis of Assisi saw the hand of God in all of creation. He urged others to respond with expressions of praise and alleluias.

Giovanni Bernardone, the given name of St. Francis, demonstrated in his own life the humble, forgiving spirit and absolute trust in God that this hymn urges us to have. At age 25 Bernardone left an indulgent life as a soldier, renounced the wealth he'd inherited and determined to live meagerly and imitate the selfless life of Christ

Throughout his life Francis appreciated the importance of music in the life of the church and encouraged singing in the monastery. He wrote more than sixty hymns for this purpose. A prayer written by St. Francis has become familiar and well-loved:

Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace.  
Where there is hatred, let me sow love  
Where there is injury, pardon. Where there is discord, unity.  
Where there is doubt, faith. Where there is error, truth.  
Where there is despair, hope. Where there is sadness, joy.  
Where there is darkness, light.  
For it is in giving that we receive.  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned.  
It is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

His beautiful expressions of praise in "All Creatures of Our God and King" have also endured for nearly 900 years.

**All creatures of our God and King,  
Lift up your voice with us and sing, Alleluia, Alleluia!  
Oh, burning sun with golden beam, O silver moon with softer gleam,  
O Praise Him, O Praise Him, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**O rushing wind that is so strong,  
You clouds that sail in heav'n along, O Praise him, Alleluia  
O rising morn in praise rejoice, You lights of evening find a voice  
O Praise Him, O Praise Him, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**O all you men of tender heart,**

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That for a day: The less skilled the player, the more likely he is to share his ideas about the game.

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forgiving others take your part, O sing ye, Alleluia!  
You who long pain and sorrow bear, Praise God and on him cast your care.

O Praise Him, O Praise Him, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Let all things their creator bless,  
And worship him in humbleness, O Praise him, Alleluia!  
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son, and praise the Spirit, Three in One  
O Praise Him, O Praise Him, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

**Editor's note:** My favorite version of this song is done by the New-boys at <https://youtu.be/g4C4lvq1vNk>  
An example of a different tune by David Crowder is at <https://youtu.be/cObXwn-EgGY>

## Happy Mother's Day...

### The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



**PSALM FOR MOMS OF BABIES WHO HAVE THEIR DAYS AND NIGHTS MIXED UP.**  
I will not give sleep to my eyes or slumber to my eyelids... **Ps 132:4**