

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



**December 2017 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)

## Question for Pastor...

### "Why are we having the Sunday School Christmas Program in January?"

Sometimes you discover important truths totally by accident (or so it seems). That's kind of what happened with our Christmas Program.

Last year the Sunday School Christmas Program was scheduled at the traditional time - during Sunday worship a week prior to Christmas. But we had to cancel worship that day due to really bad weather. What to do with the Christmas Program??? The options were either to cancel it or re-schedule it for after Christmas. We decided that the birth of Christ is so important that it didn't matter if we had to celebrate it after Christmas, we needed to do it!

That posed the challenge of trying to find a date that worked for most of the participants - not an easy thing with all the typical Christmas events and family celebrations and traveling. So we re-scheduled at a time when the kids were back in school and most all the celebrations were in the rear-view mirror: Friday evening, January 5. Which just happened to be the eve of Epiphany - the day that is referred to as "The Gentile Christmas." It's the day Jesus was revealed (which is what "epiphany" means) as the true God to the non-Jewish Magi (Wise Men).

Things couldn't have gone much better! Attendance was great, and because all the hustle and bustle of Christmas activities was over everyone was much more relaxed, and no one had to rush off to another event. As a result, we received quite a few comments like, "We should think about doing it after Christmas every year".

So, like Mary, we "treasured up all these things and pondered them in our hearts," and when it came time to plan for the Christmas Program this year, we made the decision to intentionally plan it to coincide with Epiphany again. The only change is that this year we will hold the program on *Saturday*, so the kids and parents won't have to rush here from school and work.

Thanks for asking  
Pastor David

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



## Who Can You Invite?

Two of the prophecies about the Messiah that God promised to send talk of Him as being a "Light to the Gentiles." People who are living without Jesus are living in the dark - and that's no way to live!

Those of us who believe that Jesus is truly the "Light of the World" and our only Savior have the privilege of being like "mirrors" - reflecting the Light of Jesus to those around us.

One great way we can reflect that Light is by a simple invitation to friends, neighbors, relatives. Invite them to join you for one of our special services this Christmas. Who can you invite? Pray about it. Ask God to give you the words and opportunity. Then just do it. Ask them to come with you. Offer to pick them up. (And if they don't take you up on your invitation,, keep praying for them and for another opportunity to invite.)

- **Craft & Bake Sale** (Saturday, December 9 from 9-2)
- **Court Whist Fellowship** (Sunday, December 10 @ 5:30)
- **Christmas Dinner** (Sunday, December 17 @ 11:15)
- **Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship** (Dec. 24 @ 5pm)  
The entire service is done by candlelight.  
The Christmas Story from Luke chapter two is interspersed with Christmas Carols
- **Christmas Day Worship** (Dec. 25 @ 9:00am)
- **Sunday School Christmas Program** (January 6 @ 7pm)

## Opportunities for Growth...

### Sunday Morning Study

#### A Man Named Martin - Part 2: The Moment

Witness the interplay of personalities and events that led to the Lutheran Reformation.

From Luther's inner struggles of conscience and faith to his call for debate with the Pope to his scathing rebuke of erroneous church practice, this study examines the semi-scriptural and oft-times unethical teachings of the Medieval Church and how Luther addressed them. From purgatory, penance and indulgences to the treasury of merits of Christ, Masses for the dead, and the institution of the Papacy, Luther- and other like-minded reformers - had a misinformation overload on their hands. This 3-week study begins on Sunday, November 12 @ 9:00 a.m.



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

We're looking for a Men's Work Project. If you know of someone we could help out, please let Pastor David know. Thanks!



**Daily Bible readings:** Giving Thanks -See pages 10 & 11 in this Newsletter

**Confirmation -**

Confirmation Reminders:

- Classes start at 6 p.m. this year
- Parents check the "Parent Helper" schedule for your dates.
- Students - remember to check your "Sunday School Helper" dates
- Students - remember to bring your Bible and your "Don't Check Your Brains At the Door" book

**NEW Women's Wednesday Evening Study:** WEDNESDAYS @ 6:30

**"Seamless"**

In 7 sessions, Seamless covers the people, places, and promises of the Bible, tying them together into the greater story of Scripture. A testimony about the study: "What a wonderful study. I've grown up in the church my whole life but still didn't make many of these connections."



**Moms' Study: Wednesdays @ 9:30 am**

Our current study: Practical Wisdom in the book of James  
Coming in January, the classic study: Boundaries

**4-6th Grade Group**

Pastor David will again lead our monthly gathering for our 4-6th graders. We plan to make some simple Christmas gifts that share the love of Jesus with the folks living at Glen Oaks. **We could really use one or two more adults to help this month.** (We meet the first Wednesday of each month at 6:00 )

**Sunday School:** See page 18 for information

**Bible Story Book / Video lending library:**

We have over 100 books in the nursery that you can sign out to read with your children at home. We also have videos to sign out: Adventure in Odyssey (in the old VHS format)! Veggie Tales (dvd) and more!

**An Open Invitation to Pray - Wednesdays @ 6:00pm**

*"First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions and thanksgivings be made for all people..."* 1 Timothy 2:1

Living Word has a group of 'prayer warriors' who have been meeting informally for about a year on Wednesday evenings following the Apostle Paul's urging in the above passage.

They start their meetings by looking at an example prayer in the Bible, then they have a time of prayer and praise - including silent time. The group has been expanding by word of mouth, but as we begin a new Christian Growth season, they would like to issue a formal invitation to everyone who has a heart for prayer to join them Wednesdays at 6pm. (Don't worry if you aren't able to attend every week.)

That for a day: Christmas is not a date. It is a state of mind and heart.

## Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grader?

How well do you know your "Feeding the 5000" story?

- Feeding the 5000 is the only story - other than Jesus dying/rising - recorded in all 4 gospels T
- Jesus was praying on a mountain when all the people came to find him T
- The people came to find Jesus because they were starving and knew He could feed them F
- Andrew, one of the disciples, came up with the idea to feed them instead of send them home F
- The only food available was a couple leftover fish sandwiches at a food truck. F
- The fish Jesus used for the meal were catfish F
- There were actually a lot more than 5000 people if you counted women and children T
- Jesus took the bread and fish and complained to God in prayer that it wasn't enough F
- Jesus told the people, "Everyone gets just half a fish and one slice of bread. That's all." F
- They started with 5 loaves of bread and 2 fish and ended up with 12 full baskets left over T
- Lots of people came to believe Jesus was the Messiah after this event T
- + This wasn't the only time Jesus fed a bunch of people with a miraculous meal: One time He fed 4000 people with 7 loaves of bread & a few small fish T

## Thank God For...

You've seen our sign board out by the road with the beginning of a sentence: "Thank God For..."  
This past month we thanked God for...



- Our Veterans** (on Veterans' Day weekend)
- An Extra Hour** (on "set your clock back" weekend)
- Well... EVERYTHING** (Thanksgiving week)
- GOOD Friday!** (On "Black" Friday)
- That He Doesn't GIVE Just On A Tuesday** (on "Giving" Tuesday)

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



## Mark Your Calendars...

### Court Whist Fellowship !

Sunday, December 10th @ 5:30  
Bring a snack to share AND some friends !



### 2018 Women's Retreat will be Friday night- Sunday April 27th-29th.

" Go Out - Impact Your World ! "

Where: Koronis Ministries: Paynesville, MN

Cost: (Price includes 2 nights lodging and 5 meals)

Dorm Room Style : \$130.00 per person (Based on double occupancy)

Hotel room : \$180.00 per person based on double occupancy.

RSVP: by April 10th to Violet Dauk or Tammy Miller

Money will be due by April 10th as well.

( Checks payable to Koronis Ministries )

This is open to all ladies, so invite some friends!!

### Annual Christmas Dinner

On Sunday, December 17th, Living Word will have our annual Christmas Dinner, following services. Turkey and meatballs will be provided. Please bring a dish to share, and if you could also help with setup, serving, or cleanup, that would be much appreciated. A sign-up sheet will be posted at church with a list of items you could choose to bring. Such as...



Potatoes (mashed, scalloped, potato hotdish - your choice)  
Spinach Salad Lettuce Salad Other Salad  
Sweet Potatoes Squash Vegetables Pickles  
Baked Beans Fresh Vegetables and Dip Gallon of Milk  
Cheese & Crackers Cranberry Sauce Apple Pie  
Pumpkin Pie Other Pie or Dessert 2 Dozen  
Buns/Dinner Rolls Loaf of Bread (sliced & buttered)  
Plate of Christmas Cookies or Christmas Breads

Please invite your family and friends, as this will be a great time for fun and fellowship, as we prepare to celebrate the birth of a Savior!

### Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship

(Sunday, December 24 @ 5pm)

- \* The entire service is done by candlelight.
- \* The Christmas Story from Luke chapter two is interspersed with Christmas Carols
- \* The Lord's Supper is Celebrated



Items available include soap, crocheted items, mittens, table runners, handmade cards, jewelry, American Girl-style doll clothes, ~~lefs~~, bake sale items, more....

Bake sale funds will support the youth who will be attending the National Youth Gathering. Talk to Angie Jaspersen if you have questions or if you would like to have a craft table. There is a sign-up sheet for bringing Bake Sale items.

## KEEPING OUR YOUTH SAFE NL-S COMMUNITY EVENING PRESENTATION

Featuring service providers & sexual exploitation experts:

BECKI JORDAN, Safe Harbor Regional Navigator, Someplace Safe  
BRIE SWEENEY, Community Outreach & Youth Advocate, Heartland Girls Ranch  
KASEY BAKER, Director of Community Outreach, Safe Avenues

Wednesday, Dec 6<sup>th</sup> 6:00-7:30pm NL-S High School

Enter at District Office doors, & follow signs to each of the 3 locations.

**Youth Topics:** Separate, age appropriate sessions for Grades 6-8 and Grades 9-12

- Keeping Yourself Safe Online, Realities of Social Media, and Hidden Dangers
- Rural MN: What are we seeing?
- Minnesota's Safe Harbor Law

#### Parent / Adult Topics:

- Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Youth
- Rural MN: What Are We Seeing?
- Hidden Dangers of Social Media
- Minnesota's Safe Harbor Law

Working together for our youth: NL-S Schools; New London-Spicer Area Ministerial; NL-S PTO;

West Central MN programs providing education, and supporting victims



## We Prayed For You...

Remember to use our "We Prayed for You" program...

In 2016 we started a new prayer ministry where we send out a card or two each week to people we prayed for during worship. Nancy Jo Wendt is our card sender.

How you can help: Simply tell Nancy when you feel that someone you asked us to pray for would be greatly encouraged by getting a card. Then just call, email or text Nancy with that person's address. It truly is a simple way to brighten the spirits of someone who's going through a tough time.



## Miscellaneous News...

### CHOIR...

A special choir rehearsal is scheduled for December 3rd after coffee fellowship. Because Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday this year, we will be missing out on extra rehearsal times. Please plan to be at church 30-45 minutes before the Christmas Eve Service for rehearsal. We will also be singing January 7th. Sing Noel!



### Planning Has Begun for the next LC-MS Youth Gathering

... scheduled for July 11-15, 2019, in Minneapolis, at the Minneapolis Convention Center and U.S. Bank Stadium.

Held every three years since 1980, the LCMS Youth Gathering provides thousands of youth and adults the opportunity to come together as a community of God's people to learn more about Jesus Christ, the Christian faith and their Lutheran identity.

We'll be needing adult leaders (i.e. chaperones) and will start fundraising soon. We'll need to know who's planning to attend by January.



### NEW Project Connect Booklet: It's A Matter of Time

Sometimes it feels like there aren't enough hours in the day. Going to work, spending time with family, taking care of the house, helping out at the kids' school, trying to find a few minutes for yourself... it's overwhelming! Learn how one man found a way to take control of his life with an effective time management technique. You'll also discover a principle for managing the various commitments in your own life.



### Poinsettias Welcome

Everyone is welcome to bring a poinsettia plant to place in the sanctuary for Christmas. You may bring the plant any time and set it on the counter. The Altar Guild will take care of it and place it around the altar.



### Operation Christmas Child

## We sent 23 boxes !

Thanks to everyone who joined the 3-4th graders in packing a box (or helping a child to pack one)



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That for a day: He who has no Christmas in his heart will never find Christmas as under a tree.

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## Get to know our newest members...

### **Bryan & Meggie Ashburn, Isaac & Gabriel**

Family: Bryan-32  
Meggie-31  
Isaac-2  
Gabriel-7 months



#### Where you were born and grew up:

Bryan-born in Willmar, grew up in Sacred Heart MN  
Meggie-born in Willmar, grew up in New London MN

#### Where you live now:

First gravel road off of county road 40 east (development behind New London ACMC clinic)

#### Job or career:

Bryan- Works in IT for Kandiyohi Power Cooperative  
Meggie- Works as an RN for Rice Memorial Hospital

#### Hobbies or things you do for fun:

Watching and going to hockey games (MN Wild), bike riding, spending time with family, playing with our kids, traveling, knitting, reading.

#### A favorite Bible passage or story-and why it's your favorite.

Story of Isaac-which is why we named our son that.

#### What God used to attract you to Living Word.

We wanted to learn the word of God as it is in the Bible, not society's version. My Grandma is a member of a Missouri Synod church in Granite Falls, and discussed the beliefs of the church, which is why we wanted to become members here.

### **DECEMBER... A Great Month For 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. Our December Make-a-Meal volunteers are Wachters & Nancy Jo Wendt

# December 2017 - Daily Readings

This month we spend our reading time focusing on the birth of our Lord and Savior. Prophecies of it, events around it, purpose of it, and practical result of it!

Wk of DEC 3 Daily Readings... PROPHECIES of CHRIST'S COMING

Dec 4 **Genesis 3:15** \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 5 **Genesis 12:1-3** \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 6 **Deuteronomy 18:14-19** \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 7 **Psalms 68:16-20** \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 8 **Micah 5:2** \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 9 **Malachi 3:1-4** \_\_\_\_\_

Wk of DEC 10 Daily Readings .. Isaiah's PROPHECIES of CHRIST'S COMING

Dec 11 **Isaiah 2:4** \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 12 **Isaiah 7:10-14** \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 13 **Isaiah 9:6-7** \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 14 **Isaiah 11:1-10** \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 15 **Isaiah 42:1-8** \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 16 **Isaiah 61:1-3** \_\_\_\_\_

Wk of Dec 17 Daily Readings ... THE BIRTH OF CHRIST

Dec 18 **John 1:1-14** \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 19 **Luke 1:26-56** \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 20 **Luke 2:1-20** \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 21 **Matthew 1:18-25** \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 22 **Luke 2:21-40** \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 23 **Matthew 2:1-12** \_\_\_\_\_

Wk of DEC 24 Daily Readings. JESUS TELLS WHY HE CAME

Dec 25 **Matthew 5:17-18** \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 26 **Matthew 20:28** \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 27 **Luke 4:42-44** \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 28 **Luke 19:9-10** \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 29 **John 3:16-17** \_\_\_\_\_

Dec 30 **John 10:7-10** \_\_\_\_\_

Wk of DEC 31 Daily Readings . . . NEW THINGS JESUS BRINGS

Jan 1 **Mark 1:21-27** \_\_\_\_\_

Jan 2 **John 13:34-35** \_\_\_\_\_

Jan 3 **2 Peter 3:10-13** \_\_\_\_\_




Jan 4 **Revelation 3:11-13** \_\_\_\_\_

Jan 5 **Revelation 5:6-10** \_\_\_\_\_

Jan 6 **Revelation 21:1-5** \_\_\_\_\_



# December 2017 - Living Word Church Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>3</b> 9:00 - ADULT STUDY - - SUNDAY SCHOOL  10:00 WORSHIP w/communion 11:15 Fellowship 11:45 CHOIR REHEARSAL	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 6:00 PRAYER GROUP  6:00 4-6th GRADE  6:30 WOMEN'S STUDY	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 9:00 - 2:00 CRAFT & BAKE SALE
<b>10</b> 9:00 - ADULT STUDY - SUNDAY SCHOOL  10:00 WORSHIP 11:15 FELLOWSHIP  5:30 COURT WHIST NIGHT	<b>11</b> 	<b>12</b> 10:00 LWML Planning Mtg @ Violet Dauk's  6:30 MEN'S STUDY	<b>13</b> 5:30 ELDERS' TEAM  6:00 - CONFIRMATION - PRAYER GROUP  6:30 - M.M.T. - WOMEN'S STUDY	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> CHRISTMAS DINNER  9:00 - ADULT STUDY - - SUNDAY SCHOOL  10:00 WORSHIP w/communion  11:15 ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 6:30 MEN'S STUDY	<b>20</b> 6:00 PRAYER GROUP  6:00 CONFIRMATION  6:30 WOMEN'S STUDY	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> CHRISTMAS EVE  9:00 - ADULT STUDY 10:00 WORSHIP w/communion  5:00 CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT WORSHIP	<b>25</b> CHRISTMAS DAY  9:00 WORSHIP	<b>26</b> 	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	
<b>31</b> 9:00 - ADULT STUDY - SUNDAY SCHOOL  10:00 WORSHIP 11:15 Fellowship 11:30 CHOIR REHEARSAL	<b>Jan 1</b> 	<b>Jan 2</b> 6:30 MEN'S STUDY	<b>Jan 3</b> 6:00 PRAYER GROUP  6:00 CONFIRMATION  6:30 WOMEN'S STUDY	<b>Jan 4</b>	<b>Jan 6</b> EPIPHANY  7:00 SUNDAY SCHOOL "CHRISTMAS" PROGRAM  Refreshments Afterward	

**Lord's Supper Dates**

- Sunday, December 3rd
- Sunday, December 17th
- Christmas Eve

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...

### Fellowship Servers

Dec 3 Gwen Ruchti / Ruth Vegdahl  
 Dec 10 Mike & Brooke Knutson  
 Dec 17 Christmas Dinner  
 Dec 24 Marcia Welsh / Pam Johnson  
 Dec 31 Becky Sarsland / Mary Raddatz

Jan 7 Nancy Jo Wendt / Tammy Fuglie  
 Jan 14 Wendy Robbin / Alicia Sawatzky / Mary Lee Moore  
 Jan 21 Tammy Wachter / Sarah Miller  
 Jan 28 Mona Hjelle / Elaine Abraham

### Usher Schedule

Dec 3 Linda Dilley & Davis Rustad  
 Dec 10 Wally Abraham and Joe Johnson  
 Dec 17 Mark Fuglie & Tim Geer  
 Dec 24 Larry Levin & Carson Jaspersen  
 Dec 31 Derek & Sarah Olson

Jan 7 Kevin Welsh & Jamie Iverson  
 Jan 14 Duane Hansen & Chuck Weflen  
 Jan 21 Brent & Lance Sawatzky  
 Jan 28 Jason & Noah Miller

### Make A Meal Volunteers

Dec Wachters & Nancy Jo Wendt  
 Jan Wendy Robbin & Pam Johnson

### Elders

Dec 3/10 Ed Vegdahl & Joe Johnson  
 Dec 17/24/31 Jason Miller & Kevin Welsh

Jan 7/14 Keith Hanson & Ed Vegdahl  
 Jan 21/28 Joe Johnson & Jason Miller

### Altar Guild

Dec Nancy Jo Wendt & Mona Hjelle  
 Jan Mona Hjelle

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

Dec 3 Addison Arends-Schmidt  
 Dec 10 Gage Dahl  
 Dec 17 Levi Miller  
 Dec 24 Eli Sharp  
 Dec 31 Alison Sarsland

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**Thot for a day:** Christmas gift suggestions: To your enemy, forgiveness. To an opponent, tolerance. To a friend, your heart. To a customer, service. To all, charity. To every child, a good example. To yourself, respect..

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Jan 7 Zoe Rustad  
 Jan 14 Lexi Macik  
 Jan 21 Alex Mejs  
 Jan 28 Carson Sawatzky

### Confirmation Parent Helper

Dec 6 (Parents & Students attend "Keep Our Kids Safe")  
 Dec 13 Miller  
 Dec 20 Rustad

Jan 3 Sawatzky  
 Jan 10 Sharp  
 Jan 13 Arends-Schmidt  
 Jan 20 Jaspersen  
 Jan 27 Knutson

### Custodian

Dec Custodian Needed  
 Jan Custodian Needed

### Nursery

Dec 3 Pam Johnson  
 Dec 10 Violet Dauk  
 Dec 17 Mona Hjelle  
 Dec 24 Laurie Hanson  
 Dec 31 **Helper needed**

Jan 7 Pam Johnson  
 Jan 14 Violet Dauk  
 Jan 21 Mona Hjelle  
 Jan 28 Laurie Hanson

### Scripture Readers

Dec 3 Ruth Vegdahl

Dec 10 Becky Sarsland  
 Dec 17 Nykki Foshaug  
 Dec 24 Mona Hjelle  
 Dec 31 Sarah Olson

Jan 7 Kevin Welsh  
 Jan 14 Laurel Iverson  
 Jan 21 Tammy Wachter  
 Jan 28 Wendy Robbin

### Sunday School Helpers

Dec 3 Noah & Davis  
 Dec 10 Lance & Andrew  
 Dec 17 George & Ryland  
 Dec 31 Carson & McCartney

Jan 7 Noah & Davis  
 Jan 14 Lance & Andrew  
 Jan 21 George & Ryland  
 Jan 28 Carson & McCartney

### Accompanying Musicians

Dec 3 Sharon Willen  
 Dec 10 Scott Wachter  
 Dec 17 Pam Johnson  
 Dec 24 Scott Wachter  
 Christmas Eve Sharon Willen  
 Dec 25 Scott Wachter  
 Dec 31 Scott Wachter

Christmas Pgm Sharon Willen  
 Jan 7 Sharon Willen  
 Jan 14 Scott Wachter  
 Jan 21 Pam Johnson  
 Jan 28 Scott Wachter



## December Discipleship Verse...



*"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.*  
 Luke 2:11



## More Miscellaneous Notes...

### 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*
- December Living Word newsletters
- 100 (or so) Key Chapters in the Bible reading guide
- Oct—Dec Portals of Prayer - daily devotionals
- Family Devotion Books
- Christian Magazines + tapes and DVD's
- *Free to be Faithful* update on Religious Freedom issues



### Sermons Now Available in Audio on our Website

<http://livingwordlutheran.net/sermons.htm>

(Or just click on "New Sermons Online" at the bottom of the [livingwordlutheran.net](http://livingwordlutheran.net) home page)

Sermons from this past month:

- Nov 5 How to be Holy and not 'holey'  
Nov 12 The connection between Jesus and Veterans  
Nov 19 "The right motive for praying for our leaders"  
(It's not what you might think)



### Offering Envelopes Still Available for Those Who Want

In response to some requests, we now have offering envelopes available for those who want to use them. They are on the table by the mailbox. Please write down the identifying number of the box you picked up. You can begin using them right away.

### Elders Available for Prayer After Worship

Each Sunday, after worship two members of the Living Word Elders' Team will be available near the altar to pray with you. Simply come up and tell them your request and they will bring that to the Lord in prayer for you.



### Living Word Directory... NOW AVAILABLE Online.

Email [pastor@livingwordlutheran.net](mailto:pastor@livingwordlutheran.net) and he will send you a link to view the directory online.

## Email Humor...

(Actually this came not from email, but from one of our 5<sup>th</sup> Graders)

My boss told me to have a nice day...  
So, I clocked out and went home!

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That for a day: The best thing to spend on your children is time.

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## Thank-Offering Can Still Be Given ...

God commanded the Israelites to come to the temple once a year for a joyful celebration of the blessings God provided in the harvest. This harvest festival was called The Feast of Weeks.

*Then celebrate the Feast of Weeks to the Lord your God by giving a freewill offering in proportion to the blessings the Lord your God has given you. Deuteronomy 16:10*



With that in mind we came together on Thanksgiving Eve for a special joyful celebration of the blessings God has provided us. We're each encouraged to bring a special freewill offering in proportion to how God has blessed us this past year.

Please pray about your Thank-offering proportion.. Use the special Thank-Offering envelope in the pew rack to make your Thank-Offering. (Your yearly Thank-

Offerings can be given any Sunday, if you were not able to attend the Thanksgiving Eve service.)

*"But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand." King David in 1 Chronicles 29:14*

## Children's Ministry Reminders...

### **Nursery:**

We have a Nursery area in the East Classroom at the rear of the fellowship hall. You may take Pre-K children to the Nursery after the Children's Message (or at other times during worship as needed).

### **Children's Worship Bags:**

These contain Bible story coloring pages and Bible story books. They are available for the older children to take back to their pew after the Children's Message.

### **Bible Story Book / Video lending library:**

We have over 100 books in the nursery that you can sign out to read with your children at home.

We also have videos to sign out: Adventure in Odyssey (in the old VHS format)!

New Video additions in DVD format:

- Veggie Tales: All the Shows - Volume I (1993-1999)
- Buddy Davis' Amazing Adventures: I Dig Dinosaurs
- Buddy Davis' Amazing Adventures: Extreme Caving
- Buddy Davis' Amazing Adventures: Swamp Man!
- The Wild Brothers: Welcome to Our World
- The Wild Brothers: Jewels of the Jungle
- The Wild Brothers: Paradise Lost



## LWML News...

A planning meeting was held at Ruth's house November 16. We decided to plan quarterly events. You may want to mark your calendars for the first one! We will have a Decorative wall-plaque Painting Event on January 20th. More news to come on that.



Bibles that had been purchased by LWML were presented to our 3rd graders on November 19: William Dahl    Jonah Sharp  
Autumn Foshaug,                    Rya Sharp  
Kala Miller                            Cody Wendt

**We are providing lunches** for the Circuit Pastors' meeting on December 1 and the NL-S Ministerial meeting on January 4.

**The next planning meeting** will be 10:00a.m., December 12 at Violet's house. Everyone is welcome to attend.

### Teal's Rebate Reminder:

Please turn in your receipts in December so we can benefit from the 2 percent rebate that runs through 12/31. I can't do all the checking and tallying on that last day, so turning in any you have earlier in the month is greatly appreciated. Thanks! Ruth

### Thanks for supporting the New London Food Pantry.

35 pounds of canned goods were collected for the New London food shelf. Thank you so much to everyone that donates food items. Please continue to support this most important community ministry. The second Sunday each month is food shelf Sunday. Please bring you food items and place them in the container close to the entrance at church, marked Food Shelf. Thanks again.

### Thanks for helping with College Student Care Packages:

Thanks to everyone that brought items for the college student packages. This is such wonderful way to let them know we are thinking about them when they are away from home. LWML does this 3 times a year so watch for another notice in February. Thanks again for all the generous items.

### Reminder: LWML Has a 'Tough Times' Fund

If you know someone who is going through some temporary difficulty and would be blessed to get a gas card or grocery card to use for these expenses, please talk to Pastor David. If you would like to donate to the fund, please talk to LWML treasurer, Nancy Jo Wendt. Thanks!

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That for a day: Good Idea: Finding Easter eggs on Easter. Bad Idea: Finding Easter eggs on Christmas.

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## Sunday School...



Our curriculum is entitled, "The Life of Jesus."

We have plenty of volunteer opportunities throughout the year helping with various events such as Christmas program, Birthday party for Jesus, Easter outreach, VBS, and different celebrations. Not able to volunteer? That's OK too! We understand busy schedules! Please continue to keep our Sunday School kids, leaders, and parents in your prayers! Thank you and God's Blessings to all of you!

Amanda Sharp, Sunday School Coordinator

+ **Daily Schedule** 9:00 Welcome, Opening & 'Talk about' Video  
9:15-45 Lesson Time  
9:45 Clean up & bathroom break

### + Teachers / Classes:

Pre-school to Kindergarten: Lara Dahl

1st & 2nd Grade Amanda Sharp

3rd & 4th Grade: Mona Hjelle Alana Friehl

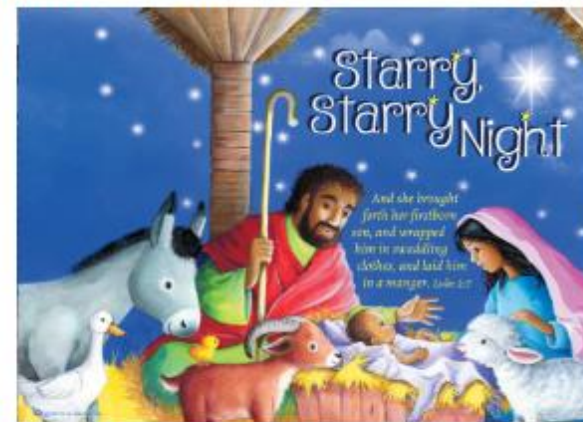
5th & 6th Grade: Kari Sharp

Confirmation Students take turns serving as teacher assistant

+ **Rides are Available** Talk to Amanda or Pastor David

+**Make sure to check out** our "Dig In @ Home" weekly wrap-up page. It's in the worship folder you receive at church each Sunday. **EVEN IF YOU DON'T HAVE KIDS IN SUNDAY SCHOOL**, there are great faith questions for all ages to ponder by yourself or talk about with your family on the way home from church or during the week over meals.

**Our Christmas Program:** Will be held Saturday, January 6 @ 7pm



Refreshments will be served following program.

Please talk to Mona Hjelle if your child would like to participate. Thanks!



## Opportunities to Serve...

### Help Paster with the 4-6th Grade Group on Wed, Dec 6th

We'll be making simple Christmas gifts for folks who live at Glen Oaks. (The confirmation students who normally help with the 4-6th Grade group will be attending the "Keep Our Kids Safe" event that night.)

### Chaperon a Fun Event for:

4-6th Graders or The Confirmation Group

We'd like to have a fun outing (somewhere within an hour drive) for each of these groups during the winter. If you could help with either group this month, please talk to Pastor David or Lyndsay Ampe. THANKS!

### Help with the Christmas Dinner

Check the "Christmas Dinner" page for items to bring. Help is also needed to set up, take down and serve.

### 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 Trustee Jamie Iverson if you have questions or to volunteer yourself or your family. **Custodian still needed for November & December**

### 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.

### We are looking for adult Nursery Helpers -

"Grandparent-age" is great, so parents can have a break. Talk to Mona Hjelle if you can help in the Nursery once a month.

## Congratulations

- Becca and Levi Langseth on the birth of your daughter Islla Elaine on Nov. 25

If you have someone you'd like to offer congratulations to, just email Pastor David with the info: [pastor@livingwordlutheran.net](mailto:pastor@livingwordlutheran.net)

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That for a day: Christmas is in my heart twelve months a year and thanks to credit cards, it's on my Visa card statement twelve months a year also

## Page 21

## So That The World May Know...

### Community Outreach:

The reason we all do outreach is so that more people will come to know Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.

Angie Jaspersen is leading up the **Craft Fair on December 9th**. The youth will sell lunch and bake sale at that event for fundraising for various events. In an effort to use the event to touch lives for Christ, we have put together 140 gift bags for children and 200 gift bags for the women attending. The children's bags contain a Christian Christmas coloring book, a Christian Christmas activity book and a candy cane. The women's bags have a peaceful stamped greeting, chamomile tea bag, dove chocolate and a church pen that they can use to be reminded of our church.



### **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 the Holy Spirit's work in the lives of our Sunday School and Confirmation students
- Great weather and turnout for our Craft and Bake Sale on Dec. 9
- His help to always be prepared for Jesus' Second Coming
- God to open hearts to invitations to celebrate His Son's birth
- Thanking God for sending His Son to be with us that first Christmas
- Thanking God that Jesus is still "Immanuel" (God With Us) today.
- A great turnout for our Christmas Dinner
- A "giving" attitude all year - not just at Christmas
- Thanking God for an abundant harvest
- Safe travels over the Christmas holiday
- Protection and boldness in witness for all persecuted Christians
- God to embolden our Christian witness in our daily lives
- The Holy Spirit to continue to work through our Bible studies
- God to provide people for our remaining two Phase 2 Building Committee positions
- Protection for all Armed Forces personnel who serve to keep us free - Especially those connected in some way to members of LW: Allan Fuglie, Jonathan Carter, Shawn Opie
- God to continue to open our eyes to opportunities to serve others
- God to open our hearts to be willing servants
- The Spirit's guidance and angels protection for all elected officials
- God to keep strengthening faith thru our daily Bible readings
- The mission and ministry of the Jastrams in Japan



## Story Behind The Song...

### "My Soul Now Magnifies the Lord"

by Jesus' mother Mary

Many hymns and gospel songs are based on one or two verses in God's Word. This great Advent-season song is in its entirety a modern paraphrase of the song the virgin Mary sang after being greeted by Elizabeth the mother of John the Baptizer.

Mary's song is one of four canticles recorded in Luke chapters one and two - songs sung in response to the birth of the Messiah. Mary's is the first song and often referred to as the Magnificat (the first words of the song in Latin). It is followed by a song known as the Benedictus (Latin for the first word, "Blessed") sung by Zechariah, at the birth of his son, John the Baptizer (Luke 1:68-79); the short chorus we refer to as the Gloria in Excelsis ("Glory to God in the highest") the angels sang, in the presence of the Shepherds (Luke 2:14); and finally the song we know as the Nunc Dimittis ("Lord now let me depart") sung by a man named Simeon upon seeing the infant Jesus presented by Mary and Joseph in the temple (Luke 2:29-32)

Below are the verses as recorded in Luke 1:46-55, followed by the verses as we sing them in the hymn "My Soul Now Magnifies the Lord" (tune Puer Nobis).

And Mary said,  
*"My soul magnifies the Lord,  
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,  
for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant.  
For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed;  
for he who is mighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his name.  
And his mercy is for those who fear him  
from generation to generation.  
He has shown strength with his arm;  
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts;  
he has brought down the mighty from their thrones  
and exalted those of humble estate;  
he has filled the hungry with good things,  
and the rich he has sent away empty.  
He has helped his servant Israel,  
in remembrance of his mercy,  
as he spoke to our fathers,  
to Abraham and to his offspring forever."*

**My soul now magnifies the Lord;  
My spirit leaps for joy in Him.**

**Thot for a day:** Christmas is weird. What other time of the year do you sit in front of a dead tree and eat candy out of your socks?

He keeps me in His kind regard  
And I am blest for time to come.

For He alone who shows such might  
Has done amazing things to me.  
His mercy flows; His name like light  
Remains in time perpetually.

His arm is strong; His strength is great  
He scatters those of proud intent  
And casts them down from high estate,  
then gives the low His nourishment.

He feeds the hungry as His own;  
The wealthy leave with empty hands.  
He gives His help to Israel,  
His gracious promise always stands.

## Seen on Church Signboard...

"Beat the Christmas Rush -  
Come to church THIS Sunday!"

