



November 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
Website: www.livingwordlutheran.net

Question for Pastor...

"Should we be nervous talking to God?" - Part II

Last month in Part I of my answer, I referred to Martin Luther's reminder in his Small Catechism explanation of the Lord's Prayer. When we come to the all-mighty and holy God in the name of Jesus, (with faith in Him) we can indeed approach God unafraid - as children approach a father who they know loves them and wants only what is best for them.



There is a cautionary 'flip-side' to approaching God, thus the need for a "Part II" to the answer.

When we approach our all-loving heavenly Father we cannot forget that He's also God (and that we are not)! In other words, we need to remember that we are not coming to someone who is our equal. We are not coming to someone to whom we can dictate terms. Rather, we should come to Him with the greatest respect and in humbleness. So, for example, you should be nervous approaching God with an "If you'll do such-and-such for me, then I'll do such-and-such for you," attitude, because that's not prayer. That's "Let's make a deal." That's treating God as though He's your equal.

One great way to set our attitude right as we come to God is to start prayer by asking His forgiveness for your sins - specific sins. First of all, it's pretty humbling to admit to your Father that you've blown it. And secondly, confession also reminds us that we are approaching the Throne of Grace (Hebrews 4:16) not the Throne of "You Owe Me One." With a humble attitude we find a God who delights in showing mercy and grace and who promises to forgive our sins, and who knows exactly what we need, and exactly when we need it.

In short, always approach God in prayer keeping in mind that He hears and answers our prayers in the absolute best way - not because we are good, but because He is good. Not because He owes us what we ask for, but because He knows us and what we need.

Thanks for asking
Pastor David

Send your questions to pastor@livingwordlutheran.net

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Fall Voters' Assembly

The purpose of the fall assembly is to approve both a 2018 budget and 2018 ministry goals. The Mission and Ministry Team came up with a set of recommended goals and a proposed budget at their October meeting. On October 29, the Voters' Assembly approved both. Below are the Mission and Ministry Goals for 2018:

Elders:

1. Hold 4 Men's Group Projects per year (Not just "church bldg." projects)
2. Find a Building Chairperson & Interior Layout person & get started with fundraising for Phase II of our building.
3. Kick off the Elder Group program

Sunday School:

1. Increase congregational involvement in Sunday School.
2. Continue the great attendance we've had this past year.

Trustees:

1. Plant flowers/shrubs by the sign and in front of church next spring.
2. Organize lists of things that have been done and are yet to be done.
3. Organize the utility rooms for better utilization of space.
4. Get a full list (Jan - Dec) of volunteer custodians.

Youth:

1. Have at least 5 students commit to National Youth Gathering
2. Nail down a schedule with students & parents for a senior high study / night of serving
3. Define the different ages of the Youth Groups
4. Plan at least one middle school/high school servant event. E.g. Teen-Serve

Congregational Outreach (Fellowship)

Expand the monthly Court Whist card night into a year-around event

Stewardship

Expand the "Summer of Serving" program into a year-around emphasis

Community Outreach

1. Center all our efforts with God's purpose "So That" others will come to know the Lord Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord.
2. Remember that whatever we do for another person, we do to Jesus. Use this encouragement to support works of the Holy Spirit unto one another. (Matthew 25:40)

Some Specifics:

- Continue current events like Mexican Dinner, Craft Fair, Pancake Feed,
- New London Water Days Parade (give away Christian kids books in-

- stead of candy), Fun For All Night, Social Media/Facebook
 - Partner with Sunday School on Vacation Bible School, Birthday Party for Jesus, Easter Celebration...
 - Add back some previous activities as members feel led
- Free cocoa / lemonade at voting or outdoor celebrations
Praying for a business each week
New visitor follow-up
- Some new possibilities
- Set up Teal's fundraising
Bus trip to Noah's Ark, Creation Museum, Museum of the Bible...
Start a Community Garden or Garden for Food Shelf

Email Humor...

At a workshop on dog temperament, the instructor noted that a test for a canine's disposition was for an owner to fall down and act hurt. A dog with poor temperament would try to bite the person, whereas a good dog would lick his owner's face or show concern.

Once, while eating pizza in the living room, I decided to try out this theory on my two dogs. I stood up, clutched my heart, let out a scream and collapsed on the floor.

The dogs looked at me, glanced at each other and raced to the coffee table for my pizza.

Miscellaneous News...

Garden Seeds for Puerto Rico

You are no doubt aware of the difficult condition the people in Puerto Rico are having to endure in the aftermath of Hurricane Maria. One of the local Garden Club women has a sister who lives in Puerto Rico. This sister told her that the people there would be greatly blessed to receive seeds to plant to grow produce that was wiped out in the storm.



So.... if you have any seed packets that didn't get planted in your garden this past year and would be willing to donate them, just bring them to church and we will get them to the folks in need in Puerto Rico.

Operation Christmas Child

Invitation to Participate (Yes, it's that time already!!!)

Our 3-4th Grade Sunday School class would like to invite you to join them in filling shoe boxes. The deadline to return shoeboxes to church will be

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Thot for a day: My friend was cold, so I told her to go sit in the corner. Corners are always 90 degrees.

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Shoebbox Dedication Sunday, November 19th.



Operation Christmas Child brings joy and hope to children in desperate situations worldwide through simple, gift-filled shoe boxes and evangelistic material that tell the Good News of God's love. Here are some ways you can make a difference:

Pray... that God will touch the heart of every child who receives shoe box gift, and that He will bring many children and families to faith in Christ.

Pack a Gift... A Shoe box filled with small toys and other gifts can open hurting hearts to God's love. Instructional brochures on "How to Pack a Shoe Box" are available at church.

Included \$9 Donation... Remember to give \$9 per box to cover shipping and other project costs. (An added bonus if you donate online: You get a tracking number for your shoebox and will be able to find out where it ends up!)

Pick up a "How to Pack Your Shoe Box" brochure from the Ushers' Table and start collecting items for your shoe box. It's a great family project and brings Christ and Christmas to hurting kids around the world.

CHOIR...

Now is your chance to sing in the choir for Christmas. Rehearsals are November 19th, 26th and Dec. 3rd after fellowship. All voices are welcome!



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:

A Treasure Revealed-

Martin Luther and the Events of the Reformation
Find it in the Project Connect rack by Pastor's Office

Thanksgiving Eve Worship...

Wednesday, November 22 @ 7:00 p.m.

A special Thank-offering will be collected:

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 will come 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 to make your Thank-Offering. (Your yearly Thank-Offerings can be given any Sunday, if you are 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

Something New:
Pumpkin Pie Fellowship
After Thanksgiving Eve Worship



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.



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That for a day: : Being over the hill is better than being under it.

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Mark Your Calendars...

Court Whist Night is BACK ! Sunday, November 12



After taking off for the summer (and early fall), Court Whist card night returns for the winter months. If you've never played Court Whist, it's real easy to learn (Pastor David says, "If I can figure it out, trust me, anyone can!") We will start playing at 5:30. If you could bring an appetizer or snack item to share that would be great. It's a lot of fun and a great way to get to know people - and a great opportunity to invite friends.

Gospel- Song Sunday Returns November 26



When we did a "Gospel Song Hymn-Sing" the fifth Sunday in July, the suggestion was made that we do it again. What better time to thank God through music than the Sunday after Thanksgiving. You may have noticed we left out the "Old Time" description of the Gospel Songs this time. That's because lots of the greatest Gospel music really isn't old at all. Let us know your favorites. We'll try to work in as many as we can! Invite some friends to come and sing along.

Please Remember to Pray At 11:09 Every day

(inspired by Luke 11:9: "So I say to you, Ask and it will be given to you; Seek and you will find; Knock and the door will be opened to you")

Remember to take a time-out to be "impudent" and PRAY for...

- God to provide people for our remaining two Phase 2 Building Committee positions
- Thanking God for our Veterans - and all who currently serve!
- 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 Opien
- Thanking God for a great Mexican Dinner outreach
- God to continue to open our eyes to opportunities to serve others
- God to open our hearts to be willing servants
- Asking God for safety all during the hunting season
- Asking God for safety for all who work to bring in the harvest
- Continued favorable weather for the remainder of the harvest.
- Thanking God for the abundant harvest - and everything else!
- An "Attitude of Gratitude" everyday - not just on Thanksgiving Day
- Safe travels over the Thanksgiving holiday (and all winter).
- Protection and boldness in witness for all persecuted Christians
- 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

Opportunities to Serve...

Help the 4-6th Grade Group create a gift

We'd like to have our 4-6th graders create simple gifts they can take to the folks in Glen Oaks as a Christmas present. Please talk to Pastor David if you have a gift idea and could help the kids on December 6th.

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.

Bring Food Shelf Items Every Second Sunday

The women of our LWML collect canned and dry goods the second Sunday of each month.

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.

Let's Extend ... "A Summer of Serving" into: "An Autumn of Serving"

Remember the 3 Simple Steps....

1. **Identify ways that you'd be willing to help someone out.**

If you haven't had a chance to do so, take a moment to fill out a "I Can Help" checklist - on the 'Free Stuff' table

2. **Keep your eyes and ears open for someone we could help:** Neighbors, friends, co-workers, relatives - anyone who needs something done and can't do it on their own.
3. **Contact "An Autumn of Serving" coordinator Wendy Robbin** (320-354-9049) or Pastor David (320-220-1816) with opportunities to serve.



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Thot for a day: Advice is like castor oil - easy enough to give, but dreadfully uneasy to take.

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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.

The Mexican Fiesta Dinner was held last Saturday. This event is the annual fund-raiser for community outreach projects. A total of 120 people came and 5 meals sold to-go. We collected over \$1,300. You did it! Thank you, thank you, thank you!

So many of you generously contributed ingredients for the meal and willingly came to decorate, prepare, serve, and clean-up. Behind the scenes, Laurel Iverson designed posters, tickets, and placed newspaper ads. She and Jamie made exterior signs and created Bible based activities for the tables. Pam Johnson distributed posters and got the event on the scrolling sign in New London. This year for the first time we had radio advertising, thanks to Marcia Welsh. The Tuesday night heroes (men's Bible study) moved the pews aside and several people restored the sanctuary after dinner.

This family really comes together and helps out. Thank you to each and every one who helped and attended.

KEEPING OUR YOUTH SAFE NL-S COMMUNITY EVENING PRESENTATION

Featuring service providers & sexual exploitation experts:

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

Wednesday, Dec 6th 6:00-7:30pm NL-S High School

Enter at Devotee 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

NOVEMBER... 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 November Make-a-Meal volunteers are Bonnie Hansen & Gwen Ruchti

November 2017 - Daily Readings

DAILY READING PROGRAM: . The 4th Thursday of every November is set aside to Give Thanks, so we will read instructions and examples of giving thanks to God throughout the month.

Just look for one main thing God has for you to learn in each reading, then write that down.

Week of October 29 Key Passages of the Reformation

- Oct 30 Romans 1:16-17 _____

Oct 31 Ephesians 2:1-10 _____

Nov 1 1 Peter 2:4-10 _____

Nov 2 2 Timothy 3:10-17 _____

Nov 3 Matthew 11:28-30 _____

Nov 4 Galatians 3:6-14 _____

Week of November 5 Giving Thanks in the Psalms

- Nov 6 Psalm 28:6-7 _____

Nov 7 Psalm 50:14-15 _____

Nov 8 Psalm 95:1-7 _____

Nov 9 Psalm 100 _____

Nov 10 Psalm 111 _____

Nov 11 Psalm 118:1-4, 19-21, 28-29 _____

Week of November 12 Giving Thanks in the Old Testament

- Nov 13 1 Chronicles 29:10-13 _____

- Nov 14 Ezra 3:10-11 _____

Nov 15 Nehemiah 12:27-31, 38, 40, 43 _____

Nov 16 Isaiah 12:1-6 _____

Nov 17 Jeremiah 33:10-11 _____

Nov 18 Daniel 6:6-10 _____

Week of Nov 19 Giving Thanks in the New Testament

- Nov 20 Mark 6:35-44 _____

Nov 21 Luke 17:11-19 _____

Nov 22 1 Corinthians 15:50-57 _____

Nov 23 2 Corinthians 9:10-15 _____

Nov 24 Ephesians 5:3-4, 19-20 _____

Nov 24 Philippians 1:3-6 _____

Week of Nov 26 Giving Thanks in the New Testament

- Nov 27 Philippians 4:4-7 _____

Nov 28 Colossians 2:6-7 _____

Nov 29 Colossians 3:15-17 _____

Nov 30 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 _____

Dec 1 1 Timothy 2:1-4 _____

Dec 2 Revelation 7:9-12 _____

November 2017 - Living Word Church Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 REFORMATION 500 th ANNIV 9:00 - ADULT STUDY - - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 WORSHIP 11:15 Fellowship 11:45 Fall Voters' Assembly CHOIR REHEARSAL	30 6:30 FIT CLUB	31  ALL SAINTS DAY 6:00 PRAYER GROUP 6:00 4-6th GRADE 6:30 WOMEN'S STUDY	1 ALL SAINTS DAY 6:00 PRAYER GROUP 6:00 4-6th GRADE 6:30 WOMEN'S STUDY	2	3 <div> Lord's Supper Dates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sunday, November 5th Sunday, November 19th Thanksgiving Eve, Nov. 22nd </div>	4
5 9:00 - ADULT STUDY - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 WORSHIP w/communion 11:15 FELLOWSHIP	6 6:30 FIT CLUB	7 6:30 MEN'S STUDY	8 6:00 PRAYER GROUP 6:00 CONFIRMATION 6:30 WOMEN'S STUDY	9	10 9:00 Circuit Pastors @ Canby	11 2:00 BABY SHOWER for Ariana Olson (Parents: Derek & Sarah Olson)
12 9:00 - ADULT STUDY - - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 WORSHIP 11:15 Fellowship 5:30 Court Whist Night	13 6:30 FIT CLUB	14 6:30 MEN'S STUDY	15 6:00 PRAYER GROUP 6:00 CONFIRMATION 6:30 WOMEN'S STUDY	16 MISSION <i>Ministry</i> 5:30 ELDERS' TEAM 6:30 MISSION & MINISTRY TEAM	17	18
19 SHOE BOX DEDICATION 9:00 - ADULT STUDY - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 WORSHIP w/communion 11:15 Fellowship 11:30 CHOIR REHEARSAL	20 6:30 FIT CLUB	21 6:30 MEN'S STUDY	22 7:00 THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP w/communion 8:15 PUMPKIN PIE FELLOWSHIP	23 THANKSGIVING 	24	25
26 GOSPEL SONG SUNDAY 9:00 - ADULT STUDY - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 WORSHIP 11:15 Fellowship 11:30 CHOIR REHEARSAL	27 6:30 FIT CLUB	28 6:30 MEN'S STUDY	29 6:00 PRAYER GROUP 6:00 CONFIRMATION 6:30 WOMEN'S STUDY	30	Dec 1	Dec 2
					Sign up to have this newsletter sent directly to you by e-mail. Send your email address to: newsletter@livingwordlutheran.net	

Upcoming Schedules...

Fellowship Servers

Nov 5	Tammy Wachter / Sarah Miller
Nov 12	Mona Hjelle / Elaine Abraham
Nov 19	Violet Dauk / Laurel Iverson
Nov 26	Linda Dilley / Bonnie Hansen
Dec 3	Gwen Ruchti / Ruth Vegdahl
Dec 10	Mike & Brooke Knutson
Dec 17	Marcia Welsh / Pam Johnson
Dec 24	Becky Sarsland / Mary Raddatz
Dec 31	Nancy Jo Wendt / Tammy Fuglie

Usher Schedule

Nov 5	Brent & Lance Sawatzky
Nov 12	Jason & Noah Miller
Nov 19	Bo & George Arends-Schmidt
Thksvg	Wendy & Lonny Robbin
Nov 26	Brady & Andrew Sharp
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

Acolyte (little brothers & sisters can help)

Nov 5	Zoe Rustad
Nov 12	Lexi Macik
Nov 19	Alex Meis
Nov 26	Carson Sawatzky
Dec 3	Addison Arends-Schmidt
Dec 10	Gage Dahl
Dec 17	Levi Miller
Dec 24	Eli Sharp
Dec 31	Alison Sarsland

Elders

Nov 5/12	Joe Johnson & Jason Miller
Nov 19/23/26	Kevin Welsh & Keith Hanson
Dec 3/10	Ed Vegdahl & Joe Johnson
Dec 17/24/31	Jason Miller & Kevin Welsh

Make A Meal Volunteers

Nov	Bonnie Hansen & Gwen Ruchti
Dec	Wachters & Nancy Jo Wendt

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That for a day: The great thing about living in a small town is that when you don't know what you're doing, someone else does.

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Altar Guild

Nov	Mona Hjelle
Dec	Nancy Jo Wendt & Mona Hjelle

Custodian

Nov	Custodian Needed
Dec	Custodian Needed

Nursery

Nov 5	Pam Johnson
Nov 12	Violet Dauk
Nov 19	Mona Hjelle
Nov 26	Laurie Hanson

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

Scripture Readers

Nov 5	Linda Dilley
Nov 12	Jason Miller
Nov 19	Mark Fuglie
Nov 26	Tammy Fuglie

Dec 3	Ruth Vegdahl
Dec 10	Becky Sarsland
Dec 17	Nykki Foshaug
Dec 24	Mona Hjelle
Dec 31	Sarah Olson

Confirmation Parent Helper

Nov 1	Sharp
Nov 8	Arends-Schmidt
Nov 15	Jaspersen
Nov 22	Knutson
Nov 29	Miller
Dec 6	Rustad
Dec 13	Sawatzky
Dec 20	Sharp

Sunday School Helpers

Nov 5	Noah & Davis
Nov 12	Lance & Andrew
Nov 19	George & Ryland
Nov 26	McCartney & Carson

Dec 3	Noah & Davis
Dec 10	Lance & Andrew
Dec 17	George & Ryland

Accompanying Musicians

Nov 5	Sharon Willen
Nov 12	Scott Wachter
Nov 19	Pam Johnson
Thksvg	TBD
Nov 26	Scott Wachter

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

November Discipleship Verse...



"Oh give thanks to the Lord for He is good;
His steadfast love endures forever!"

Psalm 118:1

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
- October 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 home page)

Sermons from this past month:

- Oct 1 -Standing Out by Growing in ... Humbleness
- Oct 8 -The Key to God's Arsenal
- Oct 15 - Hate Speech OR the Most Loving Thing ?
- Oct 22 - A Different View of the Words in the Bible
- Oct 29 -The "Heart" of the Reformation



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 and he will send you a link to view the directory online.

Thank God for: Veterans

Veterans Day is November 11. A HUGE "Thank You" to all who have served our country. We are free to worship and live out our faith everyday because of you. God bless you all!

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There are no new sins; the old ones just get more publicity.

Thot for a day:

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NOVEMBER NEWS



206 N. Main St. New London, MN 56273 • 320.354.5555 or 354.6186 • youarethelink.org
The Link Staff: Rhonda Otterson, Charity Otterson & Shauna Rasmussen



Mark Your Calendars!

The Link has been chosen to receive the funds from the Dickens Christmas event on Saturday, December 9th. Plan to attend this fun, family friendly event. This year, there will be a high tea and fashion show.

The Christmas Choir Concert to benefit The Link will be held Sunday, December 3rd at 3pm at Peace Lutheran Church.

Wildcat Backpack Program Update:

Each Friday, students participating in the program are receiving two entrees, two breakfast items, two juice boxes and two snacks for the weekend. The goal of the program is to ensure that all students arrive at school on Monday, fed and ready to learn. Because of your generous support, the Wildcat Backpack Program is already serving about 60 students each week and participation continues to grow! So far, \$18,000 has been raised to support kids in our community. Thank you!

Holiday Happenings:

Each year, The Link partners with area churches to help local families in need have a joyous holiday season. Thanksgiving food baskets and Christmas Joy (as we call it) will provide supplemental food and gifts. Please connect with Charity if you are interested in sponsoring a family during the Thanksgiving or Christmas season by calling 320.354.5555 or email at outreach@youarethelink.org

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



Tuesday's Table

- Nov. 7th: Our Lady of the Lakes Catholic Church
- Nov. 14th: Evangelical Covenant Church
- Nov. 21st: Faith Lutheran Church
- Nov. 28th: Peace Lutheran Church
- Food, Friends, Fellowship.

Food Pantry & Household Exchange Hours of Operation and

Donations:
Tuesday: 9 am-3 pm
Thursday: 9 am-3 pm
3rd Wednesday: 4 pm - 7 pm

Food Pantry:
Items Needed:
Bread, cereal, canned fruits, vegetables, noodles and sauce, peanut butter, jelly, and tuna

Backpack Needs:

Single serve, pop top, pull tab, easy open single servings of pasta and soup
Fruit cups
Veggie cups
Breakfast/cereal bars
Granola bars
100% juice boxes
Cheese and crackers
Single serve cereals
Single serve oatmeal

Revive + Redeem
Boutique / Thrift
Hours:
Nov. 30/1st
Friday: 30am-4pm
Saturday: 9am-1pm

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 **An Extra Hour!**

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



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 Friebl

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.

E-mail Wisdom....

Jack had been a compulsive worrier for years, to the point it was ruining his life. He saw a psychologist who recommended a specialist who could help him.

His friend, Bob, noticed a dramatic change and asked "What happened? Nothing seems to worry you anymore."

"I hired a professional worrier and I haven't had a worry since," replied Jack.

"That must be expensive," Bob replied.

"He charges \$5,000 a month," Jack told him.

"\$5,000!!? How in the world can you afford to pay him?" exclaimed Bob.

"I don't know. That's his problem."

Editor's Note: Don't forget: God does the same thing... FOR FREE !

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That for a day: Money used to talk. Then it whispered. Now it just sneaks off.

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LWML News...



At the LWML meeting on Tuesday, October 10, we elected new officers. Ruth Vegdahl is the president, Laurie Hansen and Violet will be co-chairs for vice president and human care, Bonnie Hansen will continue as the secretary, and Nancy Jo will continue as the treasurer. Watch the bulletin and newsletter for upcoming meetings.

"Thank you to Leone Quigley for serving as President the past two years. Also thank you to the Secretary, Bonnie Hanson, and Treasurer, Nancy Jo Wendt, both whom will continue to fulfill those offices. Welcome to Violet Dauk and Laurie Hansen who have agreed to be co-vice presidents.

I asked "What is the purpose of LWML: Is it to do mission work and to build friendships among the women?" Yes. Those purposes are both near to my heart. The national LWML has established missions that are easy for us to participate in. We have also done some local projects.

We realize that everyone's time is very full with family, school, sports, and work. Many already volunteer for Sunday School, VBS, attending Bible studies, etc. We will continue to offer LWML opportunities and hope to see you there!"
Ruth Vegdahl

Thanks for supporting the New London Food Pantry.

14 pounds of food were donated to the Food shelf for the month of October. Remember to bring your donated food items to church on Sunday. A container is located near the front door. Thank you for donating.

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.

Congratulations

- Chase Michael Knutson on your Baptism into God's family - Oct. 7 !
- Derek & Sarah Olson on the Birth of your daughter Ariana Grace - Oct 10 !
- John & Kim England on your 5th Anniversary vow renewal - October 13 !
- Chad & Mikayla Evenson on your Wedding - October 14 !
- Bryan Sharp on your new position with Buhler Versatile !

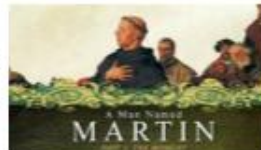
If you have someone you'd like to offer congratulations to, just email Pastor David with the info: pastor@livingwordlutheran.net

Opportunities for Growth...

NEW 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.



NEW Men's Study - Tuesdays @ 6:30 "Dinosaurs, Ice-Age & the Pre-Flood World"

Have you ever wondered how people could live to be 900 years old? Where did Cain get his wife? Are dinosaurs in the Bible? What about the Ice-Age? Did dinosaurs go on Noah's Ark? How old is the earth? How did coal form? Did dinosaurs live with man? All these and many more questions will be answered as we examine the world before Noah's Flood.



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" Starts Wed., Nov 8 @ 6:30

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."



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That for a day: Why is lemon juice made with artificial flavors, but dishwashing liquid made "from real lemons"?

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Wednesday Daytime Study Anyone?

We would like to start a daytime study on Wednesdays. Please let Pastor know if you'd like to be a part of it. Thanks!

4-6th Grade Group

Meets next on December 6

Pastor David and the Confirmation students will again lead our monthly gathering for our 4-6th graders. We'll make cool stuff, play some goofy games and have a fun lesson from the Bible. (We meet the first Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m.)

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.)

Thanks....

From Pastor David & Violet:

We would like to thank everyone for the kindness and generosity you showed us on Pastor (and wife) Appreciation Day. We consider it a GREAT blessing to be partners in the Gospel with everyone here at Living Word. God bless you all!

From Wally & Elaine Abraham

We wish to thank everyone involved in making our 65th Wedding Anniversary celebration at Living Word Lutheran Church so special!

God bless all of you!

Wally & Elaine Abraham

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

Story Behind The Song...

The Doxology: Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

The month in which we are most likely to take time to thank God for all the blessings (or at least some of them) He has given, it seemed appropriate to look at the single-verse song that praises Him for them.

Charles Wesley and Isaac Watts are maybe the most famous English hymn writers, but Thomas Ken is likely the first. He was born in 1637 on the outskirts of London and was raised by a half-sister and her husband after the death of his parents. He enrolled in Winchester College, a historic boys' school. After being ordained to the ministry, Thomas returned to Winchester as the chaplain.

In 1674, in order to encourage the boys at the school to develop devotional habits, he wrote three hymns. There was a hymn to be sung after waking in the morning, one to sing at bedtime and the third to

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Thanksgiving is great because people tend to speak less when food is lodged in their mouths.

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be sung at midnight (if sleep hadn't come by then). At that time the only singing in English worship services was the singing of Psalms, so Thomas suggested the boys use the hymns privately in their rooms.

All three hymns ended with a common stanza, which has since become the most widely sung verse in the world:

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

During the reign of the next king, James II, Thomas, by now a bishop was banished to the Tower of London for his Protestant convictions. After his release, Thomas retired to the home of a wealthy friend. When he died on March 11, 1711, he was buried at sunrise and The Doxology was sung at his funeral.

[Excerpts from Then Sings My Soul by Robert J. Morgan]

Editor's note: Amazing version sung by Anthem Lights featuring Selah
<https://youtu.be/tQUTvMtUhw4>

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



Gary Gobbler panicked when he realized he was one of only a few turkeys who were LEFT BEHIND, and so believed the GREAT POULTY RAPTURE had come and gone without him. Dumb Turkey, it's Thanksgiving