



February 2018 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
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Question for Pastor...

How do they decide when Easter is going to be each year?

This question has come up more this year because Easter falls on - get this: April 1! (And that means Ash Wednesday is on Valentine's Day!)

Here's the explanation:

The date for Resurrection Sunday ("Easter") varies considerably from one year to the next. Since the Resurrection occurred on a Sunday, the dates for a given Sunday change from year to year. (It's kind of like our Thanksgiving holiday which is always on a Thursday, but the date changes from year to year.)

The date for Easter is chosen differently than for Thanksgiving, however. Thanksgiving always occurs on the 4th Thursday in November. Whereas Easter can be anywhere from the 4th Sunday in March to the 4th Sunday in April - quite a range. Here's why: The date chosen to celebrate the Resurrection comes from a formula established by Roman Emperor Constantine the Great and the church-wide Council of Nicaea in A.D. 325. That formula is: "The first Sunday after the first full moon after the vernal equinox (or first official day of spring)."

This year the Spring equinox occurs on Tuesday, March 20, 2018 at 11:15 A.M. CDT. The first full moon after that Spring equinox is on Saturday, March 31. That means the following Sunday, April 1, is Easter.

According to this rule, the latest possible date for Resurrection Sunday is April 25, next occurring in 2038. We won't see the earliest possible date, March 22, until 2285. (That means you'll have to live another 67 years to see an Easter earlier than this year!) Most often, Resurrection Sunday comes, as it does this year, during the first week of April.

Just to further confuse the issue, the date for Easter is calculated differently by Eastern Orthodox Christians who use the Julian Calendar (we use what is known as the Gregorian Calendar). Only about every fourth year do the Gregorian and Julian Calendars line up, so three-



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fourths of the time Eastern Christians and Western Christians celebrate the Resurrection on different dates. Attempts have been made to come up with a common date. (It's not a real good witness to the non-Christian world when we can't even agree on when to celebrate the greatest event in history). So far those attempts at a unified Easter date have not been successful.

Since the date of Easter is moveable that means that many of the other special days and seasons of the Church Year are moveable, because almost everything keys off of Easter. For example, Lent always begins 40 days before Easter (not counting Sundays), so Ash Wednesday always falls on a different date - Valentine's Day this year!

For merchants, the changing date of Easter is inconvenient for their annual planning of sales and inventory. However, it's good that this special day is not determined by commerce but by the movements of the sun and moon. This agrees with the divinely ordained purpose of heavenly lights as markers for times and seasons ().

That was a lengthy answer to a short question, but thanks for asking!

Thanks for asking
Pastor David

Send your questions to pastor@livingwordlutheran.net

Opportunities for Growth...

Sunday Morning Study @ 9:00

Men's Study - Tuesdays @ 6:30

Stuff They Didn't Teach Me in Sunday School: The Book of Revelation.

Please Join us - on Sunday Mornings at 9:00 or our Men's Study on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 -to learn the blessings God promises for reading



Here's a sampling of what we've learned just in the first week:

1. Revelation was written primarily as an encouragement ... to Christians who were persecuted for faith in Jesus.
2. It was written in symbolism or "code" language.
3. God promises blessings for reading, hearing and taking to heart" what is written in Revelation - therefore it must be possible to understand what is read and heard from it.
4. We get really messed up when we interpret symbolism as though it were literal. E.g. The 1000 year reign of Jesus and 144,000 who are saved are symbolic, not literal, numbers.

5. Despite what is happening on earth, God is still in control.

Daily Bible readings:

"New" Things -See pages 10 & 11 in this Newsletter

NEW Women's Wednesday Evening Study:

WEDNESDAYS @ 6:30

"Seamless"

Seamless covers the people, places, and promises of the Bible, tying them together into the greater story of Scripture.



Moms' Study: Wednesdays @ 9:30 am

Boundaries

Uncover the secrets to cultivating the habit of setting and maintaining healthy boundaries that provide the framework for rich, productive relationships. Drawing on principles from the Bible, Boundaries nine interactive sessions can make a life-changing difference in all of your relationships.



Could you provide child care for the moms while they do the study? Please talk to Pastor David. Thanks!

4-6th Grade Group

Meets again on Wednesday, February 7

Pastor David & the Confirmation students will again lead our monthly gathering for our 4-6th graders.

(We meet the first Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m.)

Sunday School: See page 19 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.)

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Thot for a day: I keep some people's phone numbers in my phone just so I know not to answer when they call.

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E-mail Wisdom....

EVERYTHING I NEEDED TO KNOW ABOUT LIFE
I LEARNED FROM A JIGSAW PUZZLE

1. Don't force a fit - if it's meant to be, it will come together naturally.
2. When things aren't going so well, take a break. Everything will look different when you return.
3. Be sure to look at the big picture. Getting hung up on the little pieces only leads to frustration.
4. Perseverance pays off. Every important puzzle goes together bit by bit.
5. When one spot stops working, move to another. But be sure to come back later (see #4).
6. The creator of the puzzle gave you the picture as a guidebook. Refer to the Creator's guidebook often.
7. Variety is the spice of life. It's the different colors and patterns that make the puzzle interesting.
8. Working together with friends and family makes any task fun.
9. Establish the border first. Boundaries give security and order.
10. Don't be afraid to try different combinations. You might be surprised.
11. Take time often to celebrate your successes (even little ones).
12. Anything worth doing takes time and effort. Don't rush it!
13. When you finally reach the last piece, don't be sad. Rejoice in the masterpiece you've made and enjoy a well-deserved rest!

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Thank God For...

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



- Cars That Start
- The January Thaw
- Everett Strohbeen Baptized into God's Family
- Lock-In Chaperones

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

Mark Your Calendars...



Court Whist Fellowship !
Sunday, February 11th @ 5:30
 Bring a snack to share AND some friends !

2018 Women's Retreat

Friday night- Sunday , April 27th-29th.



" Reach 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!!

WHO CAN YOU BRING TO... Friendship Sunday ? February 11

As always, our annual "Friendship Sunday" is a great opportunity to invite some friends to come and meet Our Greatest Friend - Jesus !

Special Friendship Sunday Events:

- Worship celebrating our Greatest Friend
- VALENTINES BRUNCH after worship
 (prepared & served by the men of Living Word)



Fish Fry

Swedish Meatballs

Potatoes/Onions

Bread

Cole Slaw

Milk / Juice / Coffee

Ice Cream (with lots of toppings!)

Talk to God about your friends. Then talk to your friends about God
 (simply invite them to join you for worship & brunch!)

Congratulations

- Everett Allen Strohbeen - baptized into the family of God on January 27

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

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That for a day: : Nothing is worse than that moment during an argument when you realize you're wrong.

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Ash Wednesday....



The Season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday. This year on **February 14**. Ashes symbolize our mortality, humility and need for repentance before God. In ancient times people showed their grief over sin and repentance by putting on sackcloth and covering themselves with ashes. Ashes also suggest a need for cleansing - which comes to us through the blood of Christ that was shed for us on the cross.

During Ash Wednesday worship, ashes are applied to the foreheads of all worshipers in the form of a small cross. Join us at 7:00 p.m., February 14.

Lenten Soup & Sandwich Suppers ...

Each Wednesday during Lent we will provide a soup and sandwich supper prior to the Lenten devotion.

Supper will be served from **5:30-6:20**
 (Except Ash Wednesday when supper concludes at 6:50)

The **devotion** will be from **6:30 - 7:00**
 (Except Ash Wednesday which has a full worship service at 7:00)

Women's study will begin at **7:00**
 (Except Ash Wednesday where worship replaces classes/studies)

Confirmation class will stay at **6:00**

Please sign up if you can provide soup or sandwich any of the Wednesdays.

Seen on Church Signboard...

"You can give without loving, but you cannot love without giving.

February... 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 February Make-a-Meal volunteers are Laurel & Jamie Iverson

Miscellaneous Notes...

CHOIR...

Easter is coming quickly. Only 4 more rehearsals and Easter is here. Now is the time to join choir if you can only make a short commitment. All ages and voices are welcome. Rehearsals are on the 3rd and 4th Sundays after coffee fellowship. It will be fun to be a part of "Early in the Morning on Easter Day".

Keep a song in your heart, Leone



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.

The NEXT PLANNING MEETING for the LC-MS Youth Gathering Will Be in Early January.

- We'll be needing adult leaders (i.e. chaperones).
- We'll plan more fundraising opportunities (we raised almost \$400 at the Bake Sale earlier this month)
- We'll also need to know who's planning to attend.



Guys: Looking for a Valentine's Gift ?

Consider a Marriage Enrichment Retreat

I'll bet she'll appreciate it more than flowers or chocolate! It's not 'scary', it's actually fun!



We've had inquiries about holding another Marriage Enrichment Retreat this winter. If you would be able to attend a weekend retreat late February or early March, please talk to Pastor David or Violet. We need a commitment from a minimum of 4 couples by February 18, so we can schedule a retreat.



Connecting faith & finances for good.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Since 2010, over \$370 million has been distributed to thousands of churches, schools, and

other nonprofits just like yours through Thrivent Choice®. Through this program, eligible members can recommend where Thrivent donates millions of charitable outreach dollars each year.

We are excited to share, based on member recommendations, Living Word Lutheran Church received \$500 in charitable outreach funding

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That for a day: The only thing harder than breaking a bad habit, is refraining from telling people how you did it.

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in 2017. We hope this gift helped to further support your incredible work.

All 2017 Choice Dollars® have been made available for members to direct. Thrivent members, you have until March 31, 2018 to direct your 2017 Thrivent Choice Dollars.

Start saving Toothpaste

for the Link's annual "Just the Basics" giveaway.

Saturday, April 28th, 9am to 10:30am at Cross Roads Church



Check out our "Free Stuff" Table

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

- Read With Me Bibles for toddlers
- Devotional books
- February Living Word newsletters
- February Daily Bible readings
- Jan - March Portals of Prayer - daily devotionals
- Faith, Hope and Love Scripture bags
- Pocket Calendar



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)

Jan 7	"What Made the Wise Men Wise."
Jan 14	"How to Choose the Wise Path - And Stay On It"
Jan 21	"The Story of Jonah - It's NOT About Jonah!"
Jan 28	"Jesus Reveals What God is Really Like"

Offering Envelopes Available for 2018

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.

February 2018 - Daily Readings

Our readings this month have to do with various themes of February.

Wk of JAN 28 Daily Readings ... **PRINCIPLES OF FRIENDSHIP**
(Remember to invite a friend to Friendship Sunday, Feb 11)

Jan 29 Proverbs 17:17 _____

Jan 30 Proverbs 27:6-10 _____

Jan 31 Proverbs 16:27-29 _____

Feb 1 Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 _____

Feb 2 John 15:13-18 _____

Feb 3 James 4:4-10 _____

Wk of FEB 4 Daily Readings... **EXAMPLES OF FRIENDSHIP**
(Remember to invite a friend to Friendship Sunday, Feb 11)

Feb 5 Ruth 1:15-18 _____

Feb 6 1 Samuel 20:17 _____

Feb 7 2 Kings 2:2-12 _____

Feb 8 1 Kings 5:1-12 _____

Feb 9 Matthew 11:19 _____

Feb 10 Matthew 27:55-61 _____

Wk of FEB 11 Daily Readings ... What God says about LOVE

Feb 12 Psalm 136 _____

Feb 13 Mark 12:28-34 _____

Feb 14 Luke 6:27-36 _____

Feb 15 John 15:9-17 _____

Feb 16 Romans 5:1-11 _____

Feb 17 Romans 8:28-39 _____

Week of FEB 18 Daily Readings ... **SELF-DENIAL AND SELF-SACRIFICE**
(Lent is here)

Feb 19 Matthew 16:24-25 _____

Feb 20 Matthew 19:21 _____

Feb 21 Romans 14:21 _____

Feb 22 Proverbs 23:20 _____

Feb 23 Galatians 5:16-25 _____

Feb 24 Luke 18:29-30 _____

Wk of FEB 25 Daily Readings... MORE of What God says about LOVE

Feb 26 Romans 12:9-21 _____

Feb 27 1 Corinthians 13 _____


Feb 28 Ephesians 5:25-33 _____

Mar 1 2 Timothy 3:1-5 _____

Mar 2 1 John 3:11-24 _____

Mar 3 1 John 4:7-21 _____

February 2018 - Living Word Church Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
January 28 9:00 ADULT STUDY - Sunday School 10:00 WORSHIP 11:15 Fellowship 11:30 Choir Practice	29	Jan 30 6:30 MEN'S STUDY "Revelation"	Jan 31 9:30 - MOM'S STUDY 6:00 - Confirmation - Prayer Meeting 6:30 - WOMEN'S STUDY "Seamless"	Feb 1 Circuit Pastors @ Redeemer Willmar	2	3
4 ARIANA OLSON BAPTISM 9:00 - ADULT STUDY- Revelation - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 WORSHIP w/communion 11:15 Fellowship 11:45 Baptism Party Lunch	5	6 6:30 MEN'S STUDY: "Revelation"	7 9:30 - MOM'S STUDY 11:30 LWML @ Bonnie Hansen's 6:00 - 4-6th Gr. Group - CONFIRMATION - Prayer Meeting 6:30 - WOMEN'S STUDY "Seamless"	8	9	10
11 FRIENDSHIP SUNDAY 9:00 - ADULT STUDY- Revelation - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 WORSHIP 11:15 FRIENDSHIP BRUNCH 5:30 WHIST FELLOWSHIP 	12	13	14 ASH WEDNESDAY 5:30 SOUP SUPPER 6:00 - CONFIRMATION 7:00 ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP	15	16	17
18 9:00 - ADULT STUDY- Revelation - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 WORSHIP w/communion 11:15 Fellowship 11:45 CHOIR PRACTICE	19	20	21 5:30 SOUP SUPPER 6:00 - CONFIRMATION 6:30 - LENT DEVOTION 7:00 - WOMEN'S STUDY	22	23	24
25 9:00 - ADULT STUDY- Revelation SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 WORSHIP 11:15 Fellowship 11:45 CHOIR PRACTICE	26	27	28 5:30 SOUP SUPPER 6:00 - CONFIRMATION 6:30 - LENT DEVOTION 7:00 - WOMEN'S STUDY	Mar 1	Mar 2	Mar 3

Lord's Supper Dates

- Sunday, February 4th
- Ash Wed, February 14th
- Sunday, February 18th

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

Feb 4	Violet Dauk / Laurel Iverson
Feb 11	Friendship Brunch
Feb 18	Linda Dilley / Bonnie Hansen
Feb 25	Gwen Ruchti / Ruth Vegdahl
Mar 4	Mike & Brooke Knutson
Mar 11	Marcia Welsh & Pam Johnson
Mar 18	Nancy Jo Wendy & Tammy Fuglie
Mar 25	Wendy R / Alicia S / Mary Lee M

Usher Schedule

Feb 4	Wendy & Lonny Robbin
Feb 11	Brady & Andrew Sharp
Ash Wed	Confirmation Students
Feb 18	Linda Dilley & Davis Rustad
Feb 25	Wally Abraham & Joe Johnson
Mar 4	Mark Fuglie & Tim Geer
Mar 11	Larry Levin
Mar 18	Kevin Welsh & Jamie Iverson
Mar 25	Duane Hansen & Chuck Weflen
M Thurs	Confirmation Students

Make A Meal Volunteers

February	Jamie & Laurel Iverson
March	Mona Hjelle & Linda Dilley

Elders

Feb 4/11	Kevin Welsh & Keith Hanson
Feb 14/18/25	Ed Vegdahl & Joe Johnson
Mar 4/11	Jason Miller & Kevin Welsh
Mar 18/25/28	Keith Hanson & Ed Vegdahl

Acolyte (little brothers & sisters)

Feb 4	Addison Arends-Schmidt
Feb 11	Gage Dahl
Ash Wed	Levi Miller
Feb 18	Eli Sharp
Feb 25	Alison Sarsland
Mar 4	Zoe Rustad
Mar 11	Lexi Macik
Mar 18	Alex Meis
Mar 25	Carson Sawatzky
Feb 25	Alison Sarsland

Thot for a day: My memory is SO bad I changed my password to "incorrect." That way when I enter the wrong one, it'll tell me, "Your password is incorrect."

Sunday School Helpers

Feb 4	Noah & Davis
Feb 11	Lance & Andrew
Feb 18	George & Ryland
Feb 25	Carson & McCartney
Mar 4	Noah & Davis
Mar 11	Lance & Andrew
Mar 18	George & Ryland
Mar 25	Carson & McCartney

Altar Guild

Feb	Nancy Jo Wendt
Mar	Mona Hjelle

Custodian

Feb	Wendy & Lonny Robbin
March	Wendy & Lonny Robbin

Confirmation Parent Helper

Feb 7	Miller
Feb 14	Rustad
Feb 21	Sawatzky
Feb 28	Sharp
Mar 7	Arends-Schmidt
Mar 14	Jaspersen
Mar 21	Knutson
Mar 28	Miller

Nursery

Feb 4	Pam Johnson
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Feb 11	Violet Dauk
Feb 18	Mona Hjelle
Feb 25	Laurie Hanson
Mar 4	Pam Johnson
Mar 11	Violet Dauk
Mar 18	Mona Hjelle
Mar 25	Laurie Hanson

Scripture Readers

Feb 4	Linda Dilley
Feb 11	Jason Miller
Feb 18	Mark Fuglie
Feb 25	Ruth Vegdahl
Mar 4	Tammy Fuglie
Mar 11	Nykki Foshau
Mar 18	Mona Hjelle
Mar 25	Sarah Olson

Accompanying Musicians

Feb 4	Sharon Willen
Feb 11	Scott Wachter
Ash Wed	
Feb 18	Pam Johnson
Feb 25	Scott Wachter
Mar 4	Sharon Willen
Mar 11	Scott Wachter
Mar 18	Pam Johnson
Mar 25	Scott Wachter
M Thurs	
Good Fri	



February Discipleship Verse...

Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil. Cling to what is good.
Romans 12:9

Email Humor...

They had been up in the attic together doing some cleaning. The kids uncovered an old manual typewriter and asked her, "Hey Mom...what's this?"

"Oh...that's an old typewriter," she answered, thinking that would satisfy their curiosity.

"Well what does it do?" they asked.

"I'll show you," she said and returned with a blank piece of paper. She rolled the paper into the typewriter and began striking the keys, leaving black letters of print on the page.

"WOW!" they exclaimed, "that's really cool...but how does it work like that? Where do you plug it in?"

"There is no plug," she answered. "It doesn't need a plug."

"Then where do you put the batteries?" they persisted.

"It doesn't need batteries either," she continued.

"Wow! This is so cool!" they exclaimed. "Someone should have invented this a long time ago!"

A few years ago, I caught a story on the radio about a Baptist church that had a problem. It was with the Methodists down the street. Some Baptists were unable to find a space in their own parking lot because members of the nearby Methodist church, which met earlier than the Baptists, got there first. So the Baptist church had a problem.

Now, they COULD have towed the Methodist's cars away. Or, they COULD have patrolled their lot Sunday mornings. Or, they COULD have written a letter to the offending church members imploring them to park elsewhere. But they didn't.

Instead, they did something else. One Sunday morning they stuck a bumper sticker to every car in the lot -- Baptist and Methodist alike. They all got one. The sticker read: "I'M PROUD TO BE A BAPTIST!"

No more problem.



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Thot for a day: On a job application form, an applicant was asked to "Briefly describe yourself." She responded, "Concise." She got the job.

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Thank You... It's hard to say good-bye to someone who has been a part of your life for many years, but we found that you never do this alone. Our sisters and brothers of our church community walked with us. You are greatly appreciated and we are truly blessed! Thank You!
-Nancy Jo Wendt

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.

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 remind us that Jesus has grace and power for our lives
- Who to invite to Friendship Sunday.
- God's power working in the lives of your friends.
- A 'full slate' of attendees & volunteers for the National Youth Gathering
- Thanking God for all the kids in our church - and all we learn from them
- What to "give up" and what to "take up" during Lent this year.
- Continued wisdom for guidance and decisions (BIG and small)
- The power to LOVE like Jesus did - unconditionally.
- Safe travel for everyone in the winter weather
- An overturn of laws that promote and encourage abortions
- Courage to take a stand for Jesus at school and work.
- Protection from the deceitful messages Satan sends your way
- 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 raise up leaders in our nation who seek His will
- The mission and ministry of the Jastrams in Japan

LWML News...

Our first quarterly event was Christian Paint on Canvas and Fancy Coffees on Saturday, January 20, 2018 from 9 am to noon. Nicole Santjer taught the class. Nicole provided the supplies and instructed step-by-step how to mix and apply the paints.

17 people signed up, 14 people attended, including one teen who plans to display his painting at his confirmation party in June! Some men were probably interested in coming but didn't because it was an LWML event, so in the future we will be sure to invite all who are interested.

Fancy coffees, teas, and breakfast breads were served. Thank you to all who provided refreshments, helped set up and clean up!

Mark your calendars for our next quarterly event, the spring salad luncheon on Saturday, May 12. The theme is "A Re-purposed Life."

Future planning meetings (after February) will be held on the second Wednesdays of each month at 11:30

Feb 7 at Bonnie Hansen's
March 14 hostess is Laurie Hanson
April 11 at church

LWM Zone Meeting

Saturday, January 20, 2018, 1 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran, Montevideo
Spring Meeting tentatively scheduled for Saturday, May 5 at Nicolai Lutheran in Canby. The theme will be Psalm 82:4. Registration will remain at \$3. Everybody is asked to bring a dessert. VP will contact possible speakers:

- 1st choice: Heartland Girl's Ranch, rescue organization for people who had been in human trafficking
- 2nd choice: Project Turnabout, addiction treatment program

MN North LWML Convention will be June 18-20, in Bemidji. There are many hotels nearby. The theme is Forever Written in His Hands. If someone wants to fill a district office, nominations are due by May 15. Barb Kye, near Monte, and I are on the call committee for 3 offices.



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Hot for a day: Chocolate comes from cocoa, which is a tree. That makes it a plant. Therefore chocolate is salad.

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Secretary Marilyn Schmidt agreed to continue. Treasurer Lois Brehmer will also serve again. President Julie said it would be good to have new person serve in this role. She will also ask her pastor to be the Pastoral Counselor.

Mites: We voted to send \$500 more to our zone mites. 25% of our mites go to the national LWML organization.

Food Shelf Reminder.

Thank you for remembering the 2nd Sunday each month to bring your donations. (February 11 this month). Your donations are greatly appreciated!

Thank You...

A HUGE "Thank You" to all the guys who served as chaperones at the Youth Lock-In!

Sunday School...



We continue with "The Life of Jesus."

- Feb 4 Jesus heals a lame man by a pool
- Feb 11 A Roman officer demonstrates faith
- Feb 18 Jesus eases John's doubts
- Feb 25 The parable of a Farmer and the Seed
- March 4 Jesus describes His true family

+ **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 Frieht

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.

Opportunities to Serve...

Bring Soup or Sandwiches for Lenten Suppers

Soup Suppers will start serving at 5:30 every Wednesday during Lent (from February 14 - March 20). Please sign up at church if you can bring food or serve.

Chaperone 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!

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. **We are in need of custodians after March.**

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.

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: In filling out an application, where it says, 'In case of emergency, notify: I put DOCTOR.

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Community Outreach...

Our youth participated in an event: **We served hot chocolate** to people at the children's fishing contest in Spicer at Winterfest on Sunday, January 21, from 1-3 p.m.

The public enjoyed receiving the beverages. We had enough to serve everyone who wanted and even seconds to many. Youth serving were Ryland, Davis, Carson, Lance, Levi, Noah, Ricardo,



and Jace. Adults serving were Pastor Dave, Wendy Robbins, Chuck Weflen, Jason Miller, Ed and Ruth Vegdahl.

Ryland brought a 4 wheeler and a table to help us set up the serving area. The youth also went around and collected used cups in a trash bag before we left.

Thank you to all who contributed supplies, equipment, and helped with the event!



Story Behind The Song...

"Shine, Jesus, Shine"

Shine Jesus Shine (Lord, the light of your love is shining)

Shine Jesus Shine, Graham's best known song was written in 1987 and has proved to be enduringly popular not just in the UK but all round the world. It deposed 'Jerusalem' from the BBC's Songs of Praise Top Ten Hymns survey and consistently appears as one of the top songs in the CCL (Church Copyright License) chart both in the UK and USA.

In a recent interview Graham said:

"This song is a prayer for revival. A songwriter can give people words to voice something which is already in their hearts but which they don't have the words or the tune to express, and I think 'Shine Jesus shine'

caught a moment when people were beginning to believe once again that an impact could be made on a whole nation."

Graham explains how the song came together...

"Bearing in mind the worldwide popularity of this song, perhaps the most surprising thing about the writing of it is the ordinariness of the circumstances. I had been thinking for some time about the holiness of God, and how that as a community of believers and as individuals, His desire is for us to live continually in his presence. My longing for revival in the Churches and spiritual awakening in the nation was growing, but also a recognition that we cannot stand in God's presence without 'clean hands and a pure heart'. So I wrote the three verses and 'road tested' it in my home church. Though there was clearly merit to the song, it seemed incomplete, so as I was unable at the time to take it any further, I put it back in the file. Several months later I was asked to submit new songs for a conference song book, and as I reviewed this three verse song I realized that it needed a chorus. I remember standing in my music room with guitar slung round my neck trying different approaches. The line 'Shine Jesus Shine' came to mind, and within about half an hour I had finished the chorus, all but some 'polishing'. Though I felt an excitement in my spirit at the time, I had no inkling at all that it would become so widely used. There were other songs I rated more highly at the time that most people have never heard of!"

'Shine Jesus Shine' has been sung at numerous high profile occasions like Billy Graham crusades, and the largest ever open air mass in Mallorca where the Pope "swung his cane in time to the music"!!

The original version is available on a recently released anniversary edition of the album 'Shine Jesus Shine'

Lord, the light of your love is shining
In the midst of the darkness, shining
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us
Set us free by the truth you now bring us
Shine on me, shine on me

Shine, Jesus, shine
Fill this land with the Father's glory
Blaze, Spirit, blaze
Set our hearts on fire
Flow, river, flow
Flood the nations with grace and mercy
Send forth your word
Lord, and let there be light

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That for a day: The nice thing about cold weather is that you immediately know if you've walked outside with your fly unzipped.

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Lord, I come to your awesome presence
From the shadows into your radiance
By the blood I may enter your brightness
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness
Shine on me, shine on me

As we gaze on your kingly brightness
So our faces display your likeness
Ever changing from glory to glory
Mirrored here may our lives tell your story
Shine on me, shine on me

Graham Kendrick
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Editor's note: Listen to Graham Kendrick sing at <https://youtu.be/AzMuSP5NJ9Q>. There is even a disco version by the Chipmunks at <https://youtu.be/2InecV44szw>, but I prefer the version by Hillsong United at https://youtu.be/etxzs_tbjgl

