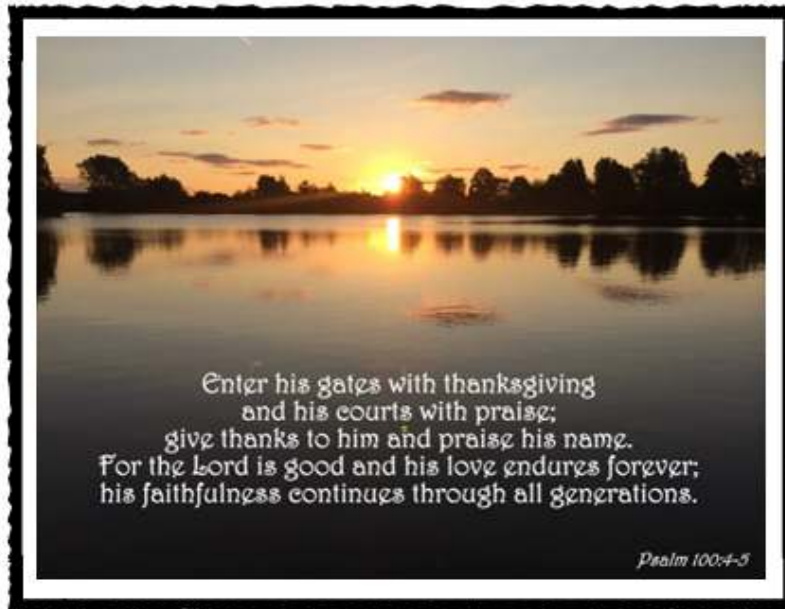



Living Word
Lutheran Church
LCMS



November 2021 Newsletter

"Communicating the Love of Jesus"

Sunday School: 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

Questions for Pastor...

A few random, easy-to-answer questions this month:

- Can we go to Air Maxx (trampoline park) again? (This was from the confirmation group.)

"Yes, if you all pass your Commandments Quiz." They did!

Now, we need to find a date that works - possibly over Christmas- as well as drivers/chaperones. Please let me know if you could help with transportation. Thanks!

We will also include 4-6th Graders in the outing.

- Would it be okay to have the Pumpkin Pie Fellowship after Thanksgiving Eve worship again this year?

"I don't know why not! It would be good to have a time of fellowship after the service."

We will start Thanksgiving Eve Worship at 6:30, so the evening doesn't get too late.

You can find out the details elsewhere in this Newsletter.

- Would December 19 work to have a simple Sunday School Christmas program during worship?

"Yes, that will work!"

So, this year you will have three opportunities to invite people to join you to celebrate Jesus' birth:

- The Living Nativity -December 5
- The Sunday School Christmas Program - December 19
- Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship - December 24



Thanks for asking!
Pastor David

Send your questions to pastor@livingwordlutheran.net

LWML News...



LWML MEETING:

Wednesday, November 10th @ 10:00 a.m.
We'll have a business meeting, followed by Women's Bible Study (video & discussion).

SHOES FOR MISSIONS:

This is a continuing fundraiser for Lutheran Island Camp. Please bring shoes, boots, slippers, sandals (in rubber banded pairs, or with shoe-strings tied) to church, and place them in the SHOES FOR MISSIONS box near the entrance.



FELLOWSHIP AFTER THANKSGIVING-EVE SERVICE:

On Wednesday evening, November 24th, following the Living Word Thanksgiving Eve service, we will serve pumpkin pie and coffee.



Please invite your family and friends to come to the service, and for the fellowship afterward. If you could assist with this, either by bringing a pie, helping serve, or cleaning up, that would be much appreciated! Please contact Bonnie Hansen (796-5605).

Thank You from the Jastrams..

We are so happy to have you as part of our missionary team. Your support for LCMS mission work in Asia means a lot to us. Dan & Joan Jastram

Read the current newsletter at

<https://tinyurl.com/ypkchffb>



A New Way to "Participate" in Worship

If you can't be here in person:

We have begun livestreaming the entire Sunday worship service on the Living Word Facebook group page. NOTE: You need to join the Living Word Facebook group in order to watch.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/131798513523470/>

NEW:

We now have a YouTube channel with Sunday services being livestreamed at.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCG9eU-VvIIEU22vCYxbhwjg>

Opportunities for Growth...

Sunday Morning Study:

Sunday mornings @ 9:00
NEW STUDY BEGINNING NOV 7:
"The Radical Teachings of Jesus"
Please join us for coffee and God's Word!



Sunday Morning Youth Study

Sundays @ 9:00
"Feed the Dog" study.
Bring friends!

Monthly Morning Women's Study:

Wednesday, November 10th @ 10:00 a.m.
Bible Study & video
All are welcome to attend



NEW

Wednesday Evening Women's Study

Beginning December 1st @ 6:15
Violet Dauk will host the study at her home (5126 Co Rd 40 NE, New London). Violet will also host a time of prayer prior to the study at 5:45 for anyone who wants to come and pray.

Men's Study

Tuesdays @ 6:30

2 Peter: "Surviving Attacks on Your Faith—Part 2"
(Come at 6:00 for Brats, etc...)
Who can you invite to join you?



Communion Notes...

The Lord's Supper will be celebrated on the First and Third Sundays in November (Nov 7th & 25th) and on Thanksgiving Eve (Nov 24th)



COMMUNING AT THE ALTAR HAS RESUMED: Those who are not comfortable coming to the altar should inform an Elder or Usher, and communion will be brought to you in your pew.

Reminder: Gluten-free bread wafers are available for those who have gluten-sensitive conditions. You will find these wafers in a separate cup in the communion tray.

Page 4

Thot for a day: It's that time of year when I get to pretend the 5-pound bag of candy I'm buying is for trick-or-treaters.

Page 5

Sunday School News...

Lessons for November:

- Nov. 7 - "Giving Thanks" Psalm 100:4-5
- Nov. 14 - "Five Kernels" "Give Thanks To God" Psalm 107:1-9
- Nov. 21 - "The Pilgrims Gave Thanks" 1 Thess. 5:16-18
- Nov. 28 - "Waiting and Watching" Luke 21:25-36

Operation Christmas Child Dedication November 14 !



The congregation and the children are invited to participate in "Operation Christmas Child". Brochures, boxes and labels provided. We will dedicate the shoe boxes during worship on November 14. The absolute last day for the boxes to be brought back to church, will be Wednesday, November 17th. If you need more info, go to www.samaritanspur.org. Thank you for partnering with Samaritan's Purse, as we share God's love with children around the world. Thanks,!

Shoe Box Dedication Nov. 14.
Final day to bring is Wednesday Nov. 17th

Confirmation News...

- Class starts at 6:15 (Nov 3, 10, 17)
- Pastor will have PB & J sandwiches and hotdogs at 5:45 for those who want to eat before class.
- Thanksgiving Eve (Nov 24)
Be at church by 6:30, to assist with Thanksgiving Eve worship



Mark Your Calendars... Mission & Ministry Team...

Meets: Thursday, November 11th @ 6:30 p.m.

Elders' Team @ 5:30 prior to MMT

Pumpkin Pie Fellowship...

After Thanksgiving Eve Worship

We are serving pumpkin pie, or pumpkin dessert after the Thanksgiving service. Anyone wanting to bring a pie or dessert can contact me at textbooks@tds.net or call me at 796-5605. Thanks!



Bonnie Hansen

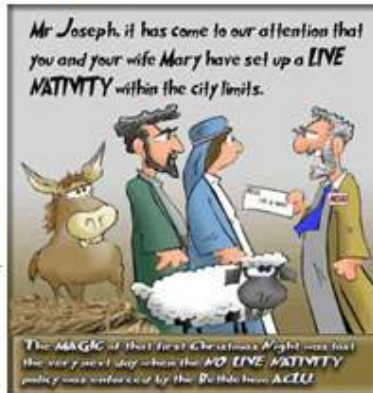
Community Outreach...

Living Nativity,

Sunday December 5,
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

What a fun and amazing event...

- Special appearance from ~~Cledus~~ the Camel (Carl's younger brother) also Donkey, Ox, Sheep and Goats!!
- Drive through OR Walk through this year!
- Hot Chocolate and cookie table!!



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

- We need lots of Characters to play NON-Speaking parts,
- Signup will be at church or call or text Tammy at 320-905-2434 if interested in ANYTHING!
- All Ages are encouraged to participate. make it a FAMILY event!!
- We will have rotating shifts to help keep everyone warm.
- We will need a few self contained fire pits so we can have a few warming stations, so if you have one you can spare please have it at church by Saturday, December 4. Just set it by the shed, and we will move it as needed.
- If you can build a make shift Manger for that day, let me know!!

Page 6

Thot for a day: I just finished a positive thinking course. What a waste of time.

Page 7

Youth Gathering...

The NEXT National Youth Gathering (2022 in Houston)



We have roughly \$5000 in our Youth Gathering account with a total needed by July 2022 of \$12,000.

Youth attending: Noah Miller,
Levi Miller,
Zoe Rustad,
Lexi Macik
Alison Sarsland.

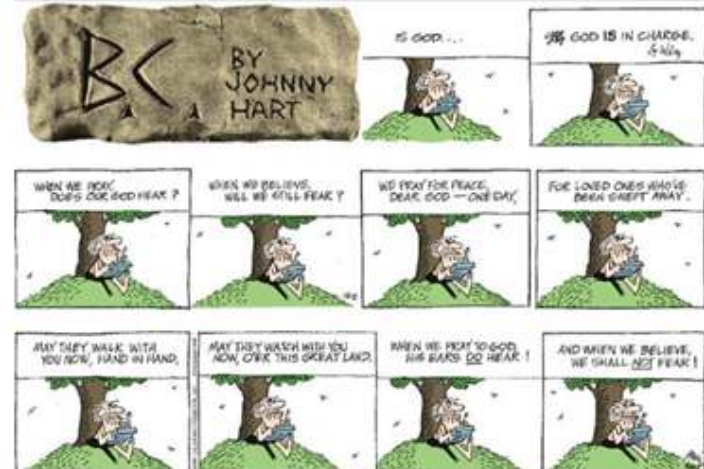
Chaperones: Becky Sarsland,
Carmen Macik
Jason Miller.

(Pastor & Violet have volunteered to drive the group to Texas if we decide not to fly)

We are VERY excited about this great group!

Give Your Spiritual Life a Lift...

Read through the Psalms- Find a daily schedule of Psalm readings beginning on page 11 of this newsletter.



Thanksgiving Eve Worship....

Wednesday,
November 24
@ 6:30 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-Offering 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

Thank You...

Mexican Fiesta Volunteers

Many thanks to all who donated food items and all the volunteers that helped with the Mexican Fiesta!!!

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 each of you!

If you have someone you'd like to offer thanks to, just email Scott at webmaster@livingwordlutheran.net

Page 8

Remember when we had to smack the TV because the channel wasn't coming in clearly? I feel that way about far too many people.

That for a day:

Page 9

Email Humor...

Grandpa wonders how much 6-year-old Tommy knows about money. Just for fun, he pulls two bills from his wallet - a ten and a twenty - and asks Tommy which one he'd rather have. Tommy grins and takes the ten dollar bill.

"Thanks, Grandpa!"

Grandpa thinks it's kinda funny, so he does it again. Again Tommy chooses the ten-dollar bill.

Grandpa calls over Uncle Joe and says, "Watch this." He again offers Tommy a ten and a twenty, and again Tommy chooses the ten.

Both men chuckle, and then call over Tommy's dad. Grandpa again offers a ten and a twenty, and Tommy gleefully takes the ten.

Dad takes Tommy aside. "Son, don't you know twenty is more than ten?"

"Sure," says Tommy. "But if I took the twenty, Grandpa wouldn't keep playing the game. Now I have forty dollars."

+++

I was teaching pre-school, and we were discussing family during carpet time, and a 4-yr-old boy asked me,

"Miss Laura, do you have a Grandpa?"

I replied, "I used to have 2 Grandpas, but they went to Heaven to be with Jesus."

He thought, shook his head sadly, and said,

"My Grandpa didn't go to Heaven."

(Long pause while I tried to figure out how to proceed.)

"He went to Iowa!"



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Fall Voters' Assembly...

Approved: A Budget for 2022

Approved the following Goals set forth by the Mission and Ministry Team:

Elders' Team

- Establish Elder Groups,
- Rebirth of a Building Committee,
- Get a new electronic outdoor sign,
- Find different areas to get others involved such as a Bell Choir

Congregational Outreach Team:

- Continue to with the Card Ministry (birthdays, anniversaries, etc...)
- Continue offering Fellowship Outings similar to 2021

Community Outreach Team:

- Host a "Blessing ceremony" for: Emergency workers,
- Host a Kingery Concert,
- Continue with the Mexican Fiesta and Living Nativity.

Trustee Team:

- Forming a Building Committee to address the Hail damaged siding
- Seal coat the Playground equipment.

Education/Sunday School Team:

- Operation Christmas Child: Shoebox dedication is November 14th
- Looking at a simple Christmas program this year possibly on December 19th. + Encourage the kids 3rd grade and up to actively bring their Bibles and help them learn how to use them
- Encouraging more kids to attend Sunday school.

Youth Team

- Attending the National Youth Gathering in July is our Major Goal for 2022. (Including fundraising events)

Page 10

That for a day: Do you ever have so much planned the next day and then you wake up and just say, "Nah."

Page 11 November 2021 - Daily Readings

In order to keep the list to 3 per day, not all the Psalms are listed. As you read, record next to each Psalm occasions when you would turn to this Psalm. e.g. In times of ... Fear, Guilt, Confusion, Joy, etc.

NOTE: Sundays are not listed, so you can Come to Worship to "Recharge Your Spiritual Batteries!"

- Nov 1 Psalm 1 _____
Psalm 2 _____
Psalm 4 _____
- Nov 2 Psalm 6 _____
Psalm 8 _____
Psalm 9 _____
- Nov 3 Psalm 11 _____
Psalm 13 _____
Psalm 15 _____
- Nov 4 Psalm 16 _____
Psalm 19 _____
Psalm 22 _____
- Nov 5 Psalm 23 _____
Psalm 24 _____
Psalm 25 _____
- Nov 6 Psalm 26 _____
Psalm 27 _____
Psalm 28 _____
- Nov 8 Psalm 29 _____
Psalm 30 _____
Psalm 32 _____
- Nov 9 Psalm 34 _____
Psalm 36 _____
Psalm 37 _____
- Nov 10 Psalm 39 _____

Psalm 42 _____
Psalm 43 _____
Nov 11 Psalm 46 _____
Psalm 47 _____
Psalm 50 _____
Nov 12 Psalm 51 _____
Psalm 53 _____
Psalm 56 _____
Nov 13 Psalm 62 _____
Psalm 64 _____
Psalm 66 _____
Nov 15 Psalm 67 _____
Psalm 70 _____
Psalm 71 _____
Nov 16 Psalm 73 _____
Psalm 78 _____
Psalm 81 _____
Nov 17 Psalm 84 _____
Psalm 86 _____
Psalm 88 _____
Nov 18 Psalm 91 _____
Psalm 92 _____
Psalm 93 _____
Nov 19 Psalm 96 _____
Psalm 97 _____
Psalm 98 _____
Nov 20 Psalm 100 _____
Psalm 102 _____
Psalm 103 _____

Nov 22 Psalm 104 _____
Psalm 105 _____
Psalm 107 _____
Nov 23 Psalm 110 _____
Psalm 111 _____
Psalm 113 _____
Nov 24 Psalm 116 _____
Psalm 117 _____
Psalm 118 _____
Nov 25 Psalm 119 _____
Nov 26 Psalm 121 _____
Psalm 124 _____
Psalm 125 _____
Nov 27 Psalm 126 _____
Psalm 127 _____
Psalm 128 _____
Nov 29 Psalm 130 _____
Psalm 131 _____
Psalm 133 _____
Nov 30 Psalm 136 _____
Psalm 138 _____
Psalm 139 _____
Dec 1 Psalm 141 _____
Psalm 142 _____
Psalm 145 _____
Dec 2 Psalm 146 _____
Psalm 147 _____
Psalm 148 _____
Dec 3 Psalm 150 _____

November 2021 - Living Word Lutheran - Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>OCTOBER 31 <i>Reformation Sunday</i></p> <p>9:00 - SUNDAY SCHOOL - YOUTH STUDY - ADULT BIBLE STUDY</p> <p>10:00 - WORSHIP w/Communion</p> <p>11:30 - CHOIR PRACTICE</p>	1	2	<p>3</p> <p> Confirmation</p> <p>6:15 CONFIRMATION</p>	4	5	6
<div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #90EE90; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> <p>Lord's Supper Dates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sunday, November 7th Sunday, November 21st Thanksgiving Eve, November 24th </div>						
<p>7</p> <p>9:00 - SUNDAY SCHOOL - YOUTH STUDY - ADULT BIBLE STUDY</p> <p>10:00 - WORSHIP w/Communion</p>	8	9	<p>10</p> <p>10:00 LWML & WOMEN'S STUDY</p> <p>6:15 CONFIRMATION</p>	<p>11</p> <p>MISSION Ministry</p> <p>5:30 - ELDERS' TEAM</p> <p>6:30 - MISSION & MINISTRY TEAM</p>	12	13
<p>14</p> <p>9:00 - SUNDAY SCHOOL - YOUTH STUDY - ADULT BIBLE STUDY</p> <p>10:00 - WORSHIP</p>	15	16	<p>17</p> <p> Confirmation</p> <p>6:15 CONFIRMATION</p>	18	19	20
<p>21</p> <p>9:00 - SUNDAY SCHOOL - YOUTH STUDY - ADULT BIBLE STUDY</p> <p>10:00 - WORSHIP w/communion</p>	22	23	<p>24 THANKSGIVING EVE</p> <p>6:30 WORSHIP w/ Communion</p> <p>7:30 PUMPKIN-PIE FELLOWSHIP</p>	25	26	27
<div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #f0f0f0; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> <p> HAPPY Thanksgiving</p> </div>						
<p>28</p> <p>9:00 - SUNDAY SCHOOL - YOUTH STUDY - ADULT BIBLE STUDY</p> <p>10:00 - WORSHIP</p>	29	30	<p>Dec 1</p> <p>6:15 CONFIRMATION</p> <p>6:15 NEW WOMEN'S STUDY</p>	Dec 2	Dec 3	Dec 4
					<div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #000; color: white; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> <p><i>Living Nativity</i></p> </div>	
						<p>TOMORROW: LIVE NATIVITY SUNDAY @ 2:00</p>

Upcoming Schedules...

After-Worship Fellowship

We've had requests to re-start our after-worship fellowship time (complete with coffee, juice, and maybe even goodies).

COORDINATOR NEEDED

Here's what that would involve:

- + Putting together a rotating schedule of Fellowship Servers.
- + Reminding servers of their date to serve.
- + Making sure there are cups, plates, napkins, etc... to use.

If you could take on this ministry to our congregation, there are LOTS of folks who would be extremely grateful for your effort!

Usher Schedule

- Nov 7 Wendy & Lonny Robbin
- Nov 14 Open
- Nov 21 Larry Levin
- Nov 24 Open
- Nov 28 Sawatzky family

USHERS NEEDED AGAIN:

Since we are back to "normal" after covid restrictions, we are in need of ushers to greet people at the door as well as to usher people to the altar for communion.

Please sign up at church on the table by the door (you can choose which type of ushering you are interested in)!

Scripture Readers

NOTE: Pastor David will read the Scriptures in Worship until COVID restrictions are eased

Elders

- Nov 7, 14 Joe & Duane
- Nov 21, 25 (Thanksgiving Eve) & 28 Jason & Ed

Confirmation Parent Assistants

- Nov 3 Jonah Sharp family
- Nov 10 Will Dahl family
- Nov 17 Autumn Foshaug family
- Dec 1 Alex Meis family

NEW: Communion Wafer Makers

- Nov 21 Miller family

Thot for a day: When I look at chocolate, I hear two voices in my head. The first one says, "You need to eat the chocolate." The second one says, "You heard. Eat the chocolate."

Custodian

- November Pam Johnson
- December Volunteer Needed

Altar Guild

- Nov Mona Hjelle

Nursery

(Volunteers needed - please talk to Mona H.)

- Oct 31 Volunteer Needed
- Nov 7 Pam Johnson
- Nov 14 Volunteer Needed
- Nov 21 Mona Hjelle
- Nov 28 Violet Dauk

Make A Meal Volunteers

- Nov Bonnie Hansen

Accompanying Musicians

- Nov 7 Open
- Nov 14 Scott Wachter
- Nov 21 Pam Johnson
- Nov 24 Open
- Nov 28 Carmen Macik

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.

In October we Thanked God for ... Our Mexican Fiesta Dinner Ducks, Geese & Deer

Let Pastor know how you'd complete that sentence in November

Seen on Church Signboards...

**Thank God !!!
(Literally)**

November Discipleship Verse...

"Give thanks to Him; bless His name! For the Lord is Good; His steadfast love endures forever; and His faithfulness to all generations"

Psalm 100:4-5

Miscellaneous Notes...

Food Pantry Reminder

Please remember to bring your donations for the Food Pantry on the 2nd Sunday of each month. Place them in the purple container by the door at church. Thank to everyone for donating!



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 Bible
- 100 or so Key Chapter Bible Reading Booklets
- Oct-Dec Portals of Prayer

Sermons can be found in on our Living Word Facebook page at

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/131798513523470>

or on our YouTube channel (**New London Living Word**) at

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCG9eU-VvIJEU22vCYxbhwjg>



- Oct 3 "Why Communion is a Really Big DEAL!"
- Oct 10 "God's Attributes Motivate Us to Have No Other Gods"
- Oct 17 "The Best Question to Ask When Making Decisions."
- Oct 24 "Whatever You're Feeling... There's A Psalm for That!"

Offering Envelopes Are Available for 2021

If you like to use dated envelopes for your offerings, we have them available. Just pick up a box of envelopes from under the mailboxes. Write down the # of the box you took. Thanks!

Still Available: Direct Deposit for Your Offerings

Living Word has the option of an electronic option for making regular offerings. Contributions can be debited automatically from your checking or savings account .

Our electronic giving program offers convenience for you and much-needed donation consistency for our congregation.

If you are currently giving on a weekly basis, you will no longer need to write out 52 checks a year or prepare 52 envelopes. And, when travel, illness or other circumstances prevent you from attending services, this program will allow your weekly offerings to continue on an uninterrupted basis.

An authorization form and a "Frequently Asked Questions" flyer are available from the church office.

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That for a day: Nothing messes up your Friday like realizing it's only Tuesday.

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Prayer...

Remember to use "The Prayer Force"



Please continue to call, text (320-220-1816) or email (pastor@livingwordlutheran.net) prayer requests to Pastor David for the Prayer Force prayer chain to include in their prayers. Thanks!

And an Invitation to Join our "Prayer Force"

Being a part of our prayer chain is a HUGELY important - and very simple - way you can serve God and His people! When a request to pray comes in, Pastor forwards it via text message (or email for those who don't have a cell phone). Then you simply include that request in your prayers. Text Pastor today and tell him "Yeah, I can do that!" Thanks!

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 PRAY for things like... these VBS Prayers:

- People you can invite to join you for Thanksgiving Eve worship (& pie)
- Safety during hunting and harvesting
- Thanking God for all Veterans and those who currently serve
- An "Attitude of Gratitude" everyday - not just on Thanksgiving Day
- Safe travels over the Thanksgiving holiday
- For students to grow through Sunday School and confirmation classes
- Asking God to replace fear with trust in Him
- God to show you opportunities to Share His Love in Practical Ways.
- Asking God for His power to bring healing to our nation - in all ways!
- Asking God to humble you, seek Him and repent (2 Chronicles 7:14)
- Protection from the deceitful messages Satan sends your way
- God's protection, guidance, wisdom & courage for government leaders
- Continued wisdom for guidance and decisions (BIG and small)
- Courage to take a stand for Jesus at work AND school
- Protection and boldness in witness for all persecuted Christians
- The ministry of the Jastrams in Japan

Congratulations...

Please email pastor@livingwordlutheran.net if there's someone you'd like us to extend congratulations to.

A Minute for Couples...

(from the Prepare-Enrich blog)

A "Must-Read" before holiday gatherings with family . . .

Whether your relationship with your in-laws and your own family is usually pretty great or has its ups and downs, there are situations that test your family boundaries. If your families already struggle with boundary issues, certain circumstances (like Times of Crisis, Becoming Parents and Holiday Gatherings) may aggravate them even more, putting additional strain on the relationships. If your boundaries are usually pretty healthy, you might still experience some tension as you navigate the situation at hand.

What do we mean by "family boundaries"?

Think of them as protective barriers around your time, you mental/emotional energy and well-being, your money, or your physical space. You might have boundaries for yourself, for your relationship with your spouse, or around your entire immediate family. Boundaries can come in the form of explicitly agreed upon rules or clearly defined expectations, but they are just as often unspoken. We learn them from the family we grew up in, and we might not even realize it until later in life as we experience our family dynamics in relation to our spouse's.

Every family and relationship is unique, so there is no universal set of boundaries. The ones that are healthy and effective for one family, couple, or individual will not be the same for another. That being said, here are some boundary examples:

- We don't talk about our relationship issues with our families.
- When we visit, we'll stay in a hotel.
- We want to create and enjoy our own traditions with our kids, so we don't travel on [holiday].
- If you don't voluntarily bring up [topic], I won't ask?
- We don't ask each other for money.
- We won't criticize each other's family in front of our kids.

Celebrating holidays - Prime Time for Family Boundaries

As a couple, you've likely had to figure out how you're going to celebrate holidays. Which ones do you spend with your family or your partner's? How do you create your own traditions for your own family? How do you meet everyone's expectations while not ruining the holidays for yourself? In the process of finding solutions to these questions and many more, there might be some moments you catch your-



Page 20

That for a day: Getting older is just one body part after another saying, "Ha ha, you think that's bad? Watch this."

Page 21

self gritting your teeth in annoyance. Whether it's gift-giving traditions that stress you out, too much togetherness with your extended family, or awkward conversations you'd rather not participate in, the complicated family dynamics really come out to play during holidays.

How can we establish healthy boundaries?

Below are some universal tips that can help you create healthy boundaries across all areas. Incorporate these suggestions to give you steady footing even in circumstances that have the potential for conflict.

1. Communicate directly and respectfully.

It's tempting to "beat around the bush" when we're trying to communicate our boundaries. Maybe we don't want to come across as harsh or hurt anyone's feelings, and that's totally understandable. However, by being clear and direct, we make it easier for others to respect our boundaries, because they don't have to try to interpret any vagueness. (And don't have to guess wrong about them!)

2. Set realistic expectations from the start.

Often boundaries come in the form of setting realistic expectations. If our expectations are not communicated or are very different from someone else's it can seem like boundaries were crossed, when really it's just a matter of adjusting expectations.

3. Enforce boundaries consistently.

The previous tips don't mean much if you're not actually following through on the boundaries you've set. You and your spouse will gain confidence in assertively enforcing boundaries, while also setting examples for your children or other family members. It's okay to say "No, we can't do that."

4. Be on the same page as your spouse.

Consistently enforcing boundaries with each of your families will be difficult if you and your spouse are not aligned and on board. Supporting each other in times when it might be difficult to stick to them can make a world of difference!

Families are complex systems, especially when you consider both of your families intertwining around you as a couple. Understanding when it's natural for issues arise and how to create healthy family boundaries can hopefully help you minimize strained relationships with your loved ones.

Pastor David says, "The vast majority of the problems in life can traced to "boundary" issues: Not setting them; Not communicating them; Not sticking to them!" If you'd like to learn more about any aspect of boundaries, here's a great book called *Boundaries: When to Say Yes, How to Say No To Take Control of Your Life* by Henry Cloud and John Townsend



The Link...

October 2021 Updates

Thanksgiving is upon us, which means there will be Thanksgiving baskets available to families in need. These boxes will include turkey, potatoes, a veggie, bread and a dessert. Requests for these baskets will be taken until November 12th. If you know someone that could use one of these boxes, please contact Ashley at 320-354-5555 to sign up. Pick up will be scheduled for the 23rd and 24th of November.

The Community Revival Boutique and Thrift Store has been open for over a month now and the amount of support has been extremely humbling to witness. The store has been welcomed to downtown with open arms and in the first month took in over \$13,000 (which is kicked back into The Link's programs) along with 711 volunteer hours to make it happen. Shawna Roemeling is excited to be back after being gone for 2 years as the store manager. From being part of starting Revive and Redeem to seeing where it is today, she is thrilled to be back and a part of The Link's mission and The Link couldn't be happier to welcome her back!

Donations of clothing and most household items are being taken Wednesdays-Fridays 10-3 and Saturdays from 10-2 (or by appointment). Please call if you have any questions about when/where to drop off items and if there is a need for any of your bigger household items.

Volunteers Needed!!! We are in need of more volunteers!!! The Store hours are Wednesday-Friday 10am-3pm and Saturdays 10am-2pm. If you or anyone you know would like to volunteer on a regular basis in a fun, fast paced environment, please contact Shawna at 320-347-1047 or stop in during store hours. We have a lot of different jobs available from sorting and pricing donations to opening the store and running the till.

In September, **The Food Pantry** welcomed 5 new families, served 39 children, 60 adults and 14 seniors. 2445.5 pounds of food was distributed and 961.5 pounds of food was donated from community members and churches.

The Wildcat Backpack Program is officially up and running. There are 2 kids from the High School that come help pack the backpacks and deliver each week. So far, there are approximately 50 kids that are utilizing this program weekly. If you would like to donate any food for this program, please contact Ashley at 320-354-5555 for more information.

Senior Food Delivery- The Senior Food Delivery program is designed to deliver food to anyone that is homebound. If you, or someone you know, is interested in learning more about this program please have them call

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Thot for a day: Give some people an inch and they think they're rulers.

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Ashley at 320-354-5555.

The Link's Client Outreach program served 6 families in the month of September. Throughout the month, The Link was able to help with utility bills, rent payments, medical bills, phone bills, car payments and gas for medical appointments. The Household Exchange Program also served 3 families in September by giving families in need beds, living room furniture, kitchen appliances and dishes and dining room furniture.

Tuesday's Table:

Tuesday's Table continues to be cancelled until further notice.

Monthly Giving Opportunities:

The Link makes monthly giving a convenient option for our donors. You can set up online giving through The Link's website at www.youarethelink.org or directly through your bank. If you would like to make a one-time donation, you can send a check to P.O. Box 823, New London, MN 56273 or via Venmo @The-Link-1. Please contact Ashley at 320-354-5555 or email her at ashley@youarethelink.org for more information.

Confirmation Class Wisdom...



In a discussion about the 3rd Commandment (Remember the Sabbath Day to Keep It Holy) the confirmation class came up with this list of things that God changes as a result of us worshipping Him together:

We Come to Worship With . . .

Fear
Stress
Bitterness
Chaos
Guilt
Selfishness
Hopelessness

We Leave Worship With . . .

Courage
Relief
Contentment
Peace
Forgiveness
Selflessness
Hope

Why settle for the things left-hand column when you can have those in the right-hand column - just for coming to worship ???

Church Choir...

Practices after Worship.

No experience necessary. Please join us!



Opportunities to Serve...

Help With Our Nursery

We need a couple more volunteers to help with our during-worship nursery (2-6 year olds). Please talk to Mona Hjelle if you can help.

Pick Your Month for you (or your family) to be our Church Custodian: We are still in need of volunteers for December and into next year. Talk to our Trustee, Steve Wulf, to sign up or find out more details.



Make A Meal

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 call Pastor David or our November Make-a-Meal volunteer Bonnie Hansen if you know of someone who would appreciate a meal.



We are also looking for a person to be the Make-a-Meal coordinator -

The coordinator is NOT responsible for making the meals, but rather notifies the meal makers when a meal is needed and then arranges for the meal to be delivered. If you could be that person, please talk to Pastor David. Thanks!

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

We'd like to send out a card or two each week to people we prayed for during worship.

Please contact pastor@livingwordlutheran.net with the address of someone you asked us to pray for who would be greatly encouraged by getting a card. We are currently in need of a volunteer to mail the cards. If you could help, talk to Pastor David



Operate our new Video Camera...

to record the worship service that we livestream and later upload our YouTube channel (New London Living Word). Talk to Pastor David if you can help out with this - at least one Sunday a month. (Hint: It's not difficult!)

Remember the Teal's Rebate Program.

Teal's Grocery gives a 1% rebate to eligible organizations. There's a box under the mail boxes where you can put in your receipts.



Thanks to everyone who turned in Teal's Receipts in 2020! We received back \$160 from 700 receipts!

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That for a day: Sometimes it takes me all day to get nothing done.

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Donate to Living Word when you order from Amazon

Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of eligible smile.amazon.com purchases to Living Word. Use this link to have your purchases support Living Word:

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/41-1513306>



2021.

Church Clean-up...

You can sign up to take on any of these "spring cleaning" projects. They can be completed any time that works for you this month (there won't be a designated "Clean Up Day").



- ADD PAVER SAND TO SIDEWALK
- CLEAN / ORGANIZE EAST FURNACE ROOM
- CLEAN / ORGANIZE WEST FURNACE ROOM
- CLEAN / ORGANIZE STORAGE SHED
- ORGANIZE NURSERY



Story Behind The Song...

To God Be The Glory

I was searching for an appropriate Thanksgiving song to showcase this month. The first couple that came to mind, "Now Thank We All Our God" and "All Creatures of Our God and King" have been talked about in previous newsletters so I decided upon "To God Be The Glory".

Fanny Crosby (1820-1915) was blinded by an illness as an infant, but she lived a long life full of joy and accomplishment. She entered the New York School for the Blind at age 15, and remained there for 35 years, first as a student and then as a teacher.

She wrote poetry from the time that she was a child, and published her first book of poetry, *A Blind Girl and Other Poems*, at age 24.

But Fanny Crosby is best known for her hymns. She wrote more than 9000 hymns during her lifetime. Many, such as "All the Way My Savior Leads Me" and "Blessed Assurance" quickly became standards—and are still included in many hymnals a century after her death.

Fanny wrote "To God Be the Glory" about 1872, and included it in a collection of hymns entitled *Brightest and Best*. However, while many of the hymns in that collection became quite famous, this one didn't catch on—at least, not in America.

But Evangelist Ira Stankey published the song in his *Sacred Songs and Solos*, and took it with him to England. It caught on well enough there to be included in several hymnals.

Then in 1954, Billy Graham went to England for his London Crusade. Someone (almost certainly English) gave a copy of the song to Cliff Barrows, Graham's song leader, and suggested including it in the songbook that they were compiling for the crusade. Barrows had heard the song on an earlier visit to England, and was impressed with its strong note of praise—so he included it in the songbook and used it in the crusade. The crowd responded so enthusiastically that he sang it nearly every night.

Upon returning to the United States, Graham and Barrows introduced the song to an American audience for the first time at their Nashville Crusade. Once again, the crowd responded enthusiastically, so Graham and Barrows adopted the song as one of their standards. Because of their influence, the compilers of hymnals began including it in new hymnals. It has become sufficiently popular that I was surprised to learn that it had languished in disuse for such a long time.

To God be the glory, great things He hath done;
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,
And opened the life gate that all may go in.

Chorus: Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory, great things He hath done.

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
To every believer the promise of God;

The vilest offender who truly believes,
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

(Chorus)

Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
But purer, and higher, and greater will be
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

(Chorus)

Editor's note: Here is a great acoustic version by Vision Worship—
<https://youtu.be/KWHm-3iFnzc>

As a bonus, here is a great mash-up of this hymn by Caleb & Kelsey Grimm at <https://youtu.be/VYztoZYQOM4>

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