

Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope.

August 2022 Newsletter

"Communicating the Love of Jesus"

Worship Service: 9:00 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...

Can you put together a brief history of Living Word?

This question came at our recent Building Committee meeting. It's a great question, because knowing the history of an organization can help you come to a greater understanding of where it is now and how it got there. So, here goes:



Living Word was chartered as a congregation of the Missouri Synod (LC-MS) in 2004, so we haven't been around all that long. Our history does go back just a little further, though. Living Word was actually formed by the joining together of two other LC-MS congregations: Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran located in New London, and New Life Lutheran located in Spicer.

Shepherd of the Hills began life as Redeemer Lutheran Chapel in 1977 - a daughter congregation of Redeemer Lutheran in Willmar. It was formed by Redeemer members who lived in Spicer and New London. It was chartered as a separate congregation taking the name of Shepherd of the Hills in 1981. Shepherd had purchased the New London Covenant Church's old building on Ash Street to worship in. (That building now houses the Ash Street Apartments.)

By the late 1990's Rev. Paul Biegner, the Redeemer pastor who was instrumental in helping Shepherd of the Hills get started, had become the Mission executive at the Minnesota North District LC-MS of which Living Word is a part. Pastor Biegner was always looking for ways to reach more people for Jesus and felt that Shepherd had grown to the point where it was able to plant a daughter church in Spicer much like Redeemer had planted Shepherd.

A group of members from Shepherd caught that vision and planted a congregation chartered as New Life Lutheran Church. New Life began worship in the annex of The Agape' Coffee House (now Lake Affect Coffee) on Main Street in New London. It soon found a home in Spicer in a building next to the Spicer Library that had previously been home to

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Larry's Power Equipment. Just as Pastor Biegner had served both Redeemer and Redeemer Chapel, Pastor David served both mother and daughter congregations of Shepherd and New Life.

As a result of the expansion of Highway 23 from a 2-lane to a 4-lane road through Spicer, the building New Life was renting needed to be torn down or moved (It is now the Krupke Chiropractic building near the Country Stop). At that point some folks at the North District suggested that we bring New Life and Shepherd together at a location between New London and Spicer. They even offered to buy us land for that to happen.

Unfortunately, the District had apparently made some bad investments with that money and no longer had it available to purchase land when we got to that point. District then suggested we could buy land with the proceeds from selling the Shepherd building. The Shepherd building was sold and, after an extensive search for land, the 6+ acres Living Word sits on was purchased from Charlie Koch

Living Word rented office and worship space in the Prairie Meadows Learning Center in Spicer until we had sufficient funds to erect a multipurpose building on our land in 2012. MANY members helped take our current building from ground-breaking in May all the way to "move-in" in September!

After ten years in this multi-purpose building, we have been blessed to have our mortgage down to a level where we are able to begin planning for Phase 2 of the building: A dedicated sanctuary!

That's a brief "nuts and bolts" of our history. But more important is the purpose behind the nuts and bolts: Reaching more and more people with the truth of the Gospel of Jesus and the hope, peace and joy that Gospel brings! As we keep our eyes fixed on Jesus and seek and follow His guidance we will continue to do that in greater numbers!

Thanks for asking! Pastor David

Send your questions to pastor@livingwordlutheran.net









Opportunities for Growth...

Sunday Morning Bible Study

Is on "Summer Break" until Rally Sunday (Sept 11)

Monthly Morning Women's Study:

Due to busy summer schedules, we will not meet during June July, and August.

Evening Women's Study

Is on Summer Break

Men's Study

Is on break until September

Church Choir...

Is on summer break. Back in September!



Confirmation

Confirmation News...

Confirmation classes start up again in September.

Please help your student catch up on Sermon Notes

this month. (Pastor will send you a text with how many your student needs). Thanks!

We will have a parent meeting on Wednesday,

August 31 @ 6:30 for parents of both the returning class of 8-9th graders and parents of the NEW CLASS of 6-7th Graders!

Check: The PowerPoint Clicker-Person Schedule

Each student takes a turn operating the "clicker" that changes the PowerPoint screens during Sunday Worship.

"Participate" in Worship from home...

If you can't be here in person: Watch on our YouTube channel with Sunday services being livestreamed at

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCG9eU-

VvIJEU22vCYxbhwjg/featured

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Can You Bake Some Cookies ???

We would like to have a freezer "full" of cookies that we can just pull out to serve for an after-worship "Coffee and Cookies" time of fellowship.

You won't have to make the cookies (unless you really want to)! We'll have lots of pre-made, ready-to-bake cookies that you can just pop into the oven here at church on a "Cookie-Baking Day" (or at your home if you'd rather bake them that way).



We'll send a "Cookie Baking" sign-up around after worship for a couple Sundays - or you can just text or email Pastor and tell him you'd be willing to do some baking. Thanks!

Wanted...

PLAYGROUND TOYS NEEDED

We are in need of replacing some of our playground toys, like hot wheels or other small riding items. Items that are safe and in good working order could be donated or possibly found at garage sales.

Lutheran Island Camp...



Is finishing out their summer schedule in August

Check out the camp-schedule poster at church go to <u>www.islandcamp.org</u> for complete descriptions and pricing information. Camp Scholarships are Available!

The Living Word LWML has made a limited number of scholarships available. Talk to Pastor David for information!



Summer Worship Time: 9:00 a.m.

Runs through Labor Day Weekend.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE (We'll be back to 10:00 a.m. worship on September

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:

- LOTS of things for kids to take home!
- . 100 or so Key Chapter Bible Reading Booklets
- The July—Sept Portals of Prayer are available mid-June in your mailbox or on the "free stuff" table.



Recorded videos of Sermons

Sermons can be found in on our Living Word YouTube channel (New London Living Word) at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCG9eU-VVIJEU22vCYxbhwig/videos



- July 3 "What Jesus Does for ALL THINGS" (Youth Gathering Theme)
- July 10 "The Good Samaritan: 3 Take-aways (2 of Them New!)
- July 17 "Mary & Martha How Our Obsessions Keep Us from Jesus"
- July 31 "Gratitude and Perseverance go hand-in-hand"

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.

Offering Envelopes Are Available for 2022

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 picked up. Thanks!

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PRAYER

Remember to use "The Prayer Force"

Please continue to call, text (320-220-1816) or email (<u>pastor@livingwordlutheran.net</u>) 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:

- That God would show you who you can invite to VBS
- God to open everyone's heart to accept an invitation to VBS
- God's guidance for all the VBS planning
- God to raise up all the volunteers we need for a great VBS
- That all the children would leave VBS know that Jesus loves them
- That all the children would make a commitment at VBS to follow Jesus
- That new families would join Living Word as a result of VBS
 - ΔΙς
- Thank God for the rain we have received
- Ask God to continue to provide the rain needed for a great harvest
- · God's continued work in our National Youth Gathering Attendees!
- Asking God's continued guidance for our Building Committee.
- Thanking God that His Word is Truth amidst the lies of the world.
- Protection from the deceitful messages Satan sends your way
- God to show you opportunities to Share His Love in Practical Ways.
- God's protection, guidance, wisdom & courage for government leaders
- · The ministry of the Jastrams in Japan

Congratulations...

 Bryson and Shannon (and Caleb) on the new addition to your family - Cooper James Wachter!

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

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Mark Your Calendars...

Mission & Ministry Team

Thursday, August 11th @ 6:30 p.m. Elders' Team @ 5:30 prior to MMT

We still need suggestions for people to fill the Stewardship and Vice Chair positions. If you have members you'd like us to consider, please give their name to a Mission and Ministry Team member.

At their July meeting, the MMT appointed ScottWachter to fill one of the two open Elder positions.

Who Can You Invite to VBS?

- Talk to God about them.
- Then talk to them about VBS!

Trap-Shooting Fellowship 2022

We meet the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of August with supper at 6:00 and shooting at 6:30



August Saturday Shoot: August 27

August 27 Lunch at noon. Shooting from 12:30 - 1:30



REMINDER: Daily prizes! Plus an end-of-the-year Grand Prize!

Building Committee...

At our July meeting:

 We discussed the details of the Feasibility Study that will conducted by Mark Davy and Associates (approved by the MMT in July)

We meet next on: Thursday, August 25th @ 6:30

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Upcoming FUN Stuff...

- Hinterland Vineyards
 - Saturday, August 6th @ 6:00 PM



- Big Kahuna
 - Thursday, August 18th 5:30—8:00 PM



From the Green Lake Cruise...



Community Outreach News...

Seriously considering not doing the Mexican Fiesta this year, unless I hear strong opposition.

We're thinking of replacing it with an actual outreach event.

A Kids Carnival is a possibility or . . . I'm looking for ideas and assistance!

Please text or call Tammy at 320-905-2434. Thank you!!

Communion Notes...

The Lord's Supper will be celebrated in July on the 1st and 3rd Sundays—August 7th & August 21st.



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.

Vacation Bible School...



Living Word Lutheran Church invites kids from age 3 Years - 6th Grade to join us for

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!!!!

August 15 - 17th
Monday- Wednesday
5:30 - 8:00 p.m.

The kids will see God's hand in Nature and Science! We will look at Why Water is important to life, Planting Seeds of Faith, God and Jesus is our Rock and Seeing God's love in Summer Storms and more!!

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Vacation Bible School News...

As an offering of the kids attending VBS, I am asking that they bring some of the items needed to fill the 15 Backpacks for Orphan Grain Train.

The items that are checked off we already have! Thank you for participating!!* If there are any questions about VBS contact me 212-0069!





CONTENTS

- 1 backpack
 - ☐ 1 ruler ☐ 2 glue sticks
- 2 pencils
 2 pens
- ☐ 1 scissors
- 10 sheets of construction paper
- ☐ 1 package colored pencils (12 count)
- ☐ 1 package crayons ☐ 1 pencil sharpener (24 count)



We will wrap up VBS with:



I invite ALL kids, big and little to join in the fun!!

Thursday, Aug. 18th

5:30 – 8:00!!

We will eat at 5:45 – 6:15!!

Cost is \$14.00 a person

Please let me know by Monday

August 15 with a head count of those attending!!

August 2022 - Daily Readings

We accept Jesus' invitation to "Come with me privately to an isolated place and rest a while." as we "get away" to spend time reading the end of the book of Daniel to start the month. We finish with the "multiple letters" books of the New Testament..

July 31	Spend today worshiping our Risen Lord and Savior
Aug 1	Daniel 7
Aug 2	Daniel 8
Aug 3	Daniel 9
Aug 4	Daniel 10
Aug 5	Daniel 11
Aug 6	Daniel 12
Aug 7	Spend today worshiping our Risen Lord and Savior 1 Thessalonians 1-3
	1 Thessalonians 4
Aug 10	1Thessalonians 5
Aug 11	2 Thessalonians 1
Aug 12	2Thessalonians 2
Aug 13	2Thessalonians 3
Aug 14	Spend today worshiping our Risen Lord and Savior
Aug 15	1 Timothy 1
Aug 16	1Timothy2

Aug 17	1 Timothy 3-4
Aug 18	1Timothy 5-6
Aug 19	2 Timothy 1-2
Aug 20	2Timothy 3-4
Aug 21	Spend today worshiping our Risen Lord and Savior
Aug 22	1Peter 1
Aug 23	1 Peter 2-3
Aug 24	1 Peter 4-5
Aug 25	2Peter 1
Aug 26	2 Peter 2
Aug 27	2 Peter 3
Aug 28	Spend today worshiping our Risen Lord and Savior
Aug 29	1 John 1
Aug 30	1John 2-3
Aug 31	1 John 4
Sep 1	1 John 5
Sep 2	2 John
Sep 3	3 John
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August 2022 - Living Word Lutheran - Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
July 31 9:00 - WORSHIP	1 2		Lord's Supper Dates Sunday, August 7th Sunday, August 21st		5	6 6:00 HINTERLAND VINEYARDS OUTING
9:00 - WORSHIP W/Communion	9	10	6:00 - BRATS, etc 6:30 - TRAP SHOOTING	11 MISSION Winistry 5:30 - ELDERS' TEAM 6:30 - MISSION & MINISTRY TEAM	12	13
9:00 - WORSHIP 10:30 - YOUTH GATHERING ATTENDEES MEET	15 VACATION VBS 5:30 - 8:00	16 BIBLE VBS 5:30 - 8:00	17 S C H O O L VBS 5:30-8:00	5:30 - VBS WRAP-UP @ BIG KAHUNA	19	20
9:00 - WORSHIP w/Communion	22	23	6:00 - BRATS, etc 6:30 - TRAP SHOOTING	6:30 - BUILDING COMMITTEE	26	Noon - BRATS 12:30 - TRAP SHOOTING
28 BACKPACK BLESSING SUNDAY 9:00 - WORSHIP W / Blessing of Backpacks	29	30	6:30 - PARENTS INFO MTG, (For parents of 6-9th Confirmation students)	Sept 1	Sept 2	Sept 3

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

Aug 7 Wendy & Lonny Robbin

Aug 14 Open

Aug 21 Larry Levin

Aug 28 Open

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

Aug 7, 14, Joe & Duane Aug 21, 28 Steve & Scott

Custodian

August Living Word Youth Sept Living Word Youth

PowerPoint Operator

Aug 7 Jonah Sharp

Aug 14 Rya Sharp

Aug 21 Will Dahl

Aug 28 Autumn Foshaug

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Nursery

(Volunteers needed - please talk to Mona H.)

Altar Guild

Aug Mona Hjelle Sep Mona Hjelle

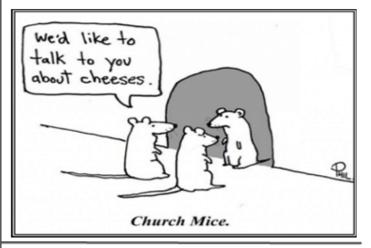
Make A Meal Volunteers

Aug Wachters Sep Wendy Robbin Accompanying Musicians

Aug 7 Sharon Willen Aug 14 Scott Wachter Aug 21 Pam Johnson

Aug 28 Open

Share the Good News...



Seen on Church Signboards...

We're not DQ,
But we have great Sundays!

August Discipleship Verse...

"We rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character and character produces hope." Romans 5:3-4



The Link...

June/July 2022 Updates

We are looking for your help! In the past few months, we have seen a huge increase of need in The Food Pantry. Unfortunately, the current food shortage is also effecting what we have

available to us for distribution. We are looking to churches to see if anyone would be interested in hosting a food drive to help stock our shelves and refrigerators? Please call Ashley at 320-354-5555 if you are interested in having a food drive and we can share more details.

In June, **The Food Pantry** welcomed 15 new families, served 87 children, 129 adults and 22 seniors. 4114 pounds of food was distributed and 360 pounds of food was donated from community members and churches. Food Rescue also brought in 1685.5 pounds of food from Cashwise and ALDI. We are currently also in need of more Food Pantry volunteers for Thursday afternoons. If you, or anyone you know, would be interested in volunteering, please contact Ashley at 320-354-5555.

The Wildcat Backpack Program- This program will start up again when school starts this fall. Families are eligible to come in and pick up backpack food for their children any time The Food Pantry is open, Tuesday-Thursday 10am-3pm.

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 Ashley at 320-354-5555.

The Link's Client Outreach and Household Exchange programs served 9 families in the month of June. Throughout the month, The Link was able to help with rental expenses, medical bills and utility bills for those in need. The Household Exchange program also helped 5 families with furnishing their homes.

The Community Revival Boutique and Thrift Store Volunteers Needed!!! We do have a specific need for regular Saturday volunteers (which could be anything from once a month to every Saturday). The Store hours are Wednesdays & Fridays 10am-3pm, Thursdays 10-4 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.

**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.

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Volunteer Hours totaled 927 for the month of June! The work that is done at The Link and Community Revival would not be possible without the dedication to all of our faithful volunteers willing to give their time! Thank you is not enough....we are grateful to each and every one of you!!!

Tuesday's Table:

TUESDAY'S TABLE IS SCHEDULED TO START UP AGAIN SEPEMBER OF 2022!!!! If your church would like to take part in hosting Tuesday's Table, please call Ashley at 320-354-5555 or email ashley@youarethelink.org or call 320-354-5555.

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.

Email Wisdom...

A Wise Woman's Prayer

Dear Lord...

So far today, I am doing all right. I have not gossiped, lost my temper, been greedy, grumpy, nasty, selfish, or self indulgent. I have not whined, complained, or cursed. I have not charged on my credit card or eaten any chocolate.

However, I am going to get out of bed in a few minutes, and I will need a lot more help after that! Lord, have mercy! Thank you!

Amen.

Simple Ways to Lift Your Spiritual Life...

Take Jesus up on His invitation:

"Come with me privately to an isolated place and rest a while." Mark 6:31

> Get "away" and read through the New Testament's "First and Second" books this month!

(1 & 2 Thessalonians, 1 & 2 Timothy, 1 & 2 Peter, 1,2 & 3 John)

That for a day:

Email Humor...

"Thoughts"

- I hate it when I see an old person and then realize we went to high school together.
- My wife says I only have 2 faults: I don't listen and ... something
- Day 12 without chocolate. Lost hearing in my left eye.
- A dog accepts you as the boss. A cat wants to see your resume.
- Life is too short to waste time matching socks.
- Wi-fi went down for five minutes, so I had to talk to my family. They seem like nice people.
- I won't be impressed with technology until I can download food.
- Some people call me crazy. I prefer "Happy with a twist!"
- I really don't mind getting old, but my body is having a major fit.
- Camping: where you spend a small fortune to live like a homeless person.

Car Trouble

I recently saw a distraught young lady weeping beside her car. "Do you need some help?" I asked.

She replied, "I knew I should have replaced the battery in this remote door unlocker. Now I can't get into my car. Do you think they (pointing to a distant convenience store) would have a battery for this?"

"Hmmm, I dunno. Do you have an alarm, too?" I asked.

"No, just this remote 'thingy,'" she answered, handing it and the car keys to me.

As I took the key and manually unlocked the door, I replied. "Why don't you drive over there and check about the batteries - it's a long walk."

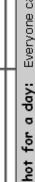
Thank You from the Jastrams...

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/2rxtjdpd



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LWML News...

LWML MEETING:

Due to busy summer schedules, LWML will not meet in May, June July, and August.

NEXT LWML MEETING: Wednesday, September 14th at 10:00a.m.

SHOES FOR MISSIONS:

A huge thank you to all who have donated!

This is a continuing fundraiser for Lutheran Island Camp. Please bring shoes, boots, slippers, sandals (in rubber banded pairs, or with shoestrings tied) to

church, and place them in the SHOES FOR MISSIONS box near the entrance.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

LWML MINNESOTA NORTH DISTRICT CONVENTION

June 20-22nd at Courtyard by Marriot in Moorhead, Minnesota



Youth Gathering...

The National Youth Gathering IsInthe Rearview Mirror !!!

We'll meet after worship on August 14 to share what we learned and make plans to put some of it into practice.

Thanks to everyone who helped in any way to make this possible.

Please keep the Group in your prayers!

Youth attending:	Chaperones:
Noah Miller,	Becky Sarsland,
Levi Miller,	Mike Macik
Zoe Rustad,	Jason Miller.
Lexi Macik	
Alison Sarsland.	

Thank You...

ScottWachter for volunteering to fill one of our open Elder spots

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

A Minute for Couples...

(from the Prepare-Enrich blog)

When you think of relationship advice, it's hard to beat the adage of "Never go to bed angry." It might sound ideal, but when you find yourselves still hashing out an argument at 2 am you might start to wonder if it's advice worth following.



Every couple is different, so if this rule works of you, that's great!

If it doesn't, you're not alone. In fact, there are times when going to bed angry – or with unresolved conflict – is okay. In fact, it might actually be in your relationship's best interest. Let's take a look.

When you're tired

If you're already sleep deprived, staying up late to try to resolve an argument probably isn't the most productive choice. Many people aren't at their best when they're lacking sleep, and if you're both exhausted, conflict resolution skills might start to degrade. Your patience and empathy might be wearing thin, making it difficult to really communicate with each other in the way you want to. Getting a good night's rest can help you feel fresh and ready to restart your discussion.

When you're emotionally flooded

When strong emotions have taken over, your rational problemsolving side is not going to be at its strongest. This is when you are most at risk to say things you might later regret. Trying to resolve things in this state might seem like a long shot. When you could both use some time to cool off, getting some shut-eye could be the answer. However, you'll want to keep in mind the caveats at the end of this post.

When you're going in circles

If you've come to an impasse, sometimes the best thing you can do is take a step back to clear your head. This can help you gain some much-needed perspective and open your mind up to new solutions. Agree to get some rest and set a time to pick up the discussion again. You might find you're able to come to a quick resolution after you've both had time to zoom out, see the bigger picture, and consider each other's perspectives.

4. When you need more time to process

Forcing yourselves to work through a conflict when one or both

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of you are still processing your feelings or the situation itself is sort of like trying to flip a pancake too soon — it can turn into a mess. Giving yourselves the space to sort through emotions can help you both be primed for a more level-headed discussion.

A couple of REALLY IMPORTANT caveats:

If you're too upset or anxious to fall asleep (or get quality sleep), it's probably helpful to get to a point where your mind is more at ease.

Even if the issue is not resolved, do what you need to do to be able to get some good rest – maybe that is hugging it out for a few minutes, letting each other know it'll be okay, or decompressing with a book for a few minutes before crawling into bed.

Communication is always key. **Don't just stalk off to bed without letting your spouse know you need some time or space.** Be respectful and empathetic of each other's needs, too.

Going to bed angry or with unresolved conflict does NOT mean putting it off indefinitely or avoiding/forgetting the issue. Whenever possible, try to verbally agree on a specific time to pick up where you left off. If you need to jot down notes to help you remember things you want to bring up, go for it. Knowing that you're both invested in working through your conflicts – even if it takes more than one day—can provide a sense of security and reinforce your commitment to each other.

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 July we thanked God for...

- Jim Meis
- Freedom
- Parades and Fireworks
- Air Conditioning
- Rain

Let Pastor know how you'd complete that sentence in August.

Thot for a day: I don'tknow about you, but I've thought I ever did as a child.

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 July, October, November, & December. 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 August Make-a-Meal volunteer –the Wachters 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.

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 teal-colored box on the back-wall table where you can put in your receipts.

Donate to Living Word when you order from Amazon

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

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PRAYING

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Living Word: https://smile.amazon.com/ch/41-1513306 Living Word has recently been issued a \$20.64 donation from the AmazonSmile Foundation as a result of AmazonSmile program activity between January 1 and March 31, 2022.

Custodian Volunteers Needed.

Pick Your Month for you (or your family) to be our Church Custodian: We are still in need of volunteers for... October, November and December. Talk to our Trustee, Lonnie Robbin, to sign up or find out more details.

Thanks to our National Youth Gathering attendees for covering the months of May, June, August and September!

Church Clean Up

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

CLEAN / ORGANIZE WEST FURNACE ROOM

Story Behind The Song...

A few months ago we talked about Fanny Crosby and her hymn "Near The Cross". Miss Crosby was America's most prolific hymn writer, writing 8,000 Gospel songs and hymns during a lifetime, which spanned nearly a century. She passed away in her 95th year. All of her days, except the first six weeks, were spent in blindness. However, not even the loss of eyesight could render defeat to this astoundingly courageous soul. Aunt Fanny, as she later was affectionately called, also wrote 1,000+ nonreligious songs, and had four books of poetry and two bestselling autobiographies published. Perhaps her most famous and wellknown hymn is "Blessed Assurance"

Frances Jane Crosby was born in Putnam County, New York, on March 24, 1820. A poorly trained doctor applied a mustard plaster poultice to her eyes when she was only six weeks old, rendering her totally blind. Even in her childhood, she realized she had a special gift.

She said, "It seemed intended by the blessed providence of God that I should be blind all my life, and I thank him for the dispensation. If perfect earthly sight were offered to me tomorrow I would not accept it. I might not have ever sung hymns to the praise of God if I had been distracted by the beautiful and interesting things about me. She also once said, "when I get to heaven, the first face that shall ever gladden my sight will be that of my Savior". She had an ability to craft words,

day σ for Thot phrases and thoughts so vividly that would allow us to see the Savior so clearly in her songs.

One day in 1873, Fanny was visiting with a friend, Mrs. Joseph Knapp, a musician of sorts and wife of the founder of Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. In the Knapp home was installed what was believed to be the largest pipe organ ever placed in a private dwelling. However, all the "nuts and bolts" had not been added yet to the organ. Mrs. Knapp called Fanny over to the piano to listen to a new melody she had just composed. After playing the tune a few times she asked, "What do you think the tune says?" After kneeling in prayer for a few moments, she rose and declared, "It says, "Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!" She then continued: "Oh what a foretaste of glory divine, Heir of salvation, purchase of God, Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood."

Fanny began to dictate verses to Mrs. Knapp, who wrote them down, fitting them to the melody. The pair continued working on the song and within a few hours, the hymn was completed, with Franny writing 3 verses and a chorus just as we hear it sung today. It was just a short time after this meeting that the song began to spread across the area churches and more and more congregations heard the song.

Crosby captured the poetic essence of Christian perfection in the phrase, "O what a foretaste of glory divine!" The entire hymn is focused on heaven, a place where "perfect submission" and "perfect delight" [stanza 2] will take place. The earthly existence is one of "watching and waiting, looking above" [stanza 3]. As we submit ourselves to Christ and are "filled with his goodness" and "lost in his love" [stanza 3], we are remade in Christ's image and are moving toward Christian perfection.

The refrain calls us to "praise... my Savior all the day long," echoing I Thessalonians 5:17, "Pray without ceasing."

Written in 1873 "Blessed Assurance" still remains a favorite among Christians everywhere....

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine! Heir of salvation, purchase of God Born of his Spirit, washed in His blood

Chorus: This is my story, this is my song

Praising my Savior all the day long This is my story, this is my song Praising my Savior all the day long

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Perfect communion, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on my sight. Angels descending bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of love. [Chorus]

Perfect submission, perfect delight
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight
Angels descending bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love [Chorus]

Editor's note: Lots of versions of this song, but one of my favorites is this performance by Jeremy Riddle at https://youtu.be/7SSJicZO6 g

I also really like the version performed by another Branson Missouri bluegrass group Southern Raised at https://youtu.be/SggpAD4Aosl

This month's bonus music video is a performance of Amazing Grace by the Petersens at https://youtu.be/J7M8_8NO2zQ

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson

