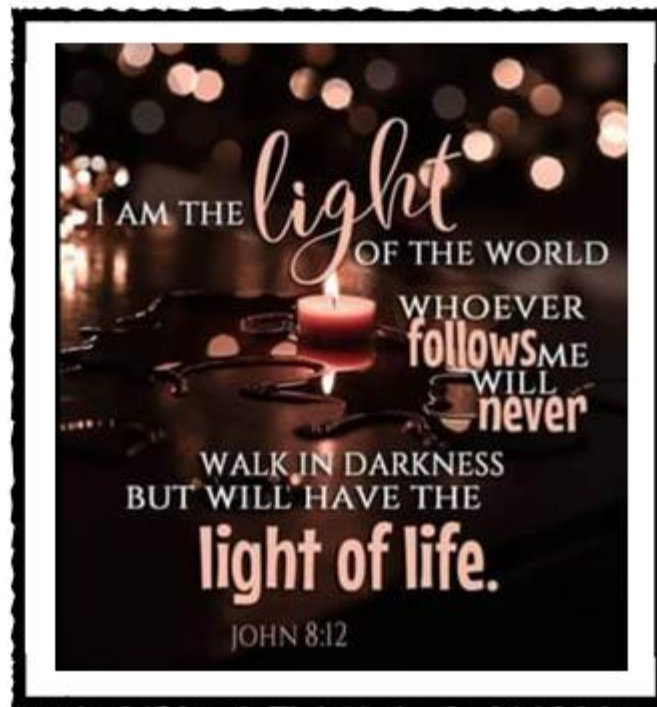



Living Word
Lutheran Church
LCMS



August 2023 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...

What is the meaning of life?

Whoa! Talk about deep questions! This is another question from one of our recent confirmands. I'm guessing it's also a question many more of you have pondered a time or two.



I answered it by having the class look up several passages from God's Word and then summarizing what God tells us about our purpose in life.

So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.
1 Corinthians 10:31

And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.
Colossians 3:17

An expert in the law, tested him with this question: "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?"

Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: "Love your neighbor as yourself."
Matthew 22:37-39

Then they asked him, "What must we do to do the works God requires?" Jesus answered, "The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent."
John 6:28-29

Maybe a good summary of those passages (and lots of others) would be:

God created us to center our lives around Him, not, as usually happens, around ourselves. Trust Him. Love Him. Serve Him (and when we love and serve our "neighbors", we are really serving Him). When God is the center of our lives, we find true satisfaction. When "we" are the center of our lives, we'll never truly be satisfied, because we were not created to find meaning apart from God.

This paragraph from our devotion at a recent trap shoot also says it well:

Page 3

We weren't made to enjoy life apart from our Creator. The book of Genesis shows us a major design feature about us as people: We were meant to find our significance, pleasure and acceptance in a close relationship with our Maker. God created us to be with Him... We are all created to need this closeness to God. From "In Pursuit" by Zeke Piper

Our sin drove a wedge in the close relationship we were created to have with God. Jesus came to earth for the express purpose of restoring our relationship with God by removing that wedge, forgiving our sin. We accept that restored relationship by putting our trust in Jesus and seeking to follow Him. (That's why Jesus calls "believing in the One God sent" the "work" God requires. It is what brings us back to our original purpose of having a close, loving, trusting relationship with our Creator.)

Once we've accepted that restored relationship by trusting Jesus, we find meaning in life (our purpose) by serving Him and serving others.

Thanks for asking!
Pastor David

Send your questions to pastor@livingwordlutheran.net



Summer Worship Time:
9:00 a.m.

Began Memorial Weekend
and runs through
Labor Day Weekend
(September 3rd)

Communion Notes...

The Lord's Supper will be celebrated on the normal First and Third Sundays, **August 6th & August 20th**



Reminders:

- 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.
- **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.

Opportunities for Growth...



Sunday Morning Bible Study

Is on break for the summer. Join us at 9:00 for worship and fellowship afterwards.

Monthly Morning Women's Study:

Does not meet during summer.
(Next study: September 13)

Evening Women's Study

Is on Summer Break.

Men's Study

Is on Summer Break, but ... Everyone is encouraged to join us for a meal and devotion prior to our trap shooting evenings - even if you don't shoot!

Building Committee News...

Living Word Building-Feasibility Study

Thank you to those who have already participated!
There is still time if you haven't yet returned your study!

Every household should have received a letter inviting you to participate in a feasibility study survey. The study will assess our capability to move forward with a capital campaign to fund Phase II of our building project to construct a new sanctuary.

If you have not yet participated, please do so as soon as possible by completing the survey and mailing it back or visiting www.markdavyassoc.com/livingword

OUR NEXT BUILDING COMMITTEE MEETING:
With Michael Davy on THURSDAY, AUGUST 10 @ 5:00
to review the results of the Feasibility Study



"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-VvJEU22yCYxbhwjg/featured>

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That for a day: Some people can't tell a lie, others can't tell the truth, and others can't tell the difference.

Page 5 | VBS...

THE FAITH OF JOSEPH

Living Word Lutheran Church

invites ALL kids
to join us for

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!!!!

July 31 – August 3, 2023
Monday – Thursday
5:30 – 8:00 p.m.
(supper provided)

We will explore the Genesis story of Joseph:

- *Faith in Family
- *Faith in Bad Times
- *Faith in God's Leading
- *Faith that Continues to Grow

We can have faith in God loving us and He will never leave us!

Need more information??
Contact Mona Hjelle 212-0069

Email Inspiration...

One rainy afternoon I was driving along one of the main streets of town, taking those extra precautions necessary when the roads are wet and slick. Suddenly, my son, Matthew, spoke up from his relaxed position in his seat. "Mom, I'm thinking of something."

This announcement usually meant he had been pondering some fact for a while, and was now ready to expound all that his six-year-old mind had discovered. I was eager to hear.

"What are you thinking?" I asked.

"The rain!," he began, "is like sin, and the windshield wipers are like God wiping our sins away."

After the chill bumps raced up my arms I was able to respond. "That's really good, Matthew."

Then my curiosity broke in. How far would this little boy take this revelation? So I asked... "Do you notice how the rain keeps on coming? What does that tell you?"

Matthew didn't hesitate one moment with his answer: "We keep on sinning, and God just keeps on forgiving us." I will always remember this whenever I turn my wipers on.

In order to see the rainbow, you must first endure some rain.

We must continually come to the Lord and seek His forgiveness.

-Brenda Hunter



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That for a day: It's true that we don't know what we've got until we lose it, but it's also true that we don't know what we've been missing until it arrives.

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LWML News...

LWML will not meet in June, August. Our next meeting and bible study will be Wednesday, September 13th.



SHOES FOR MISSIONS:



A huge thank you to all who have donated!

This is fund-raiser for Lutheran Island Camp. Please continue to bring your good used shoes, slippers, or boots to church. Collection tote is in the entry of the church.

Email Wisdom...

- To the world you might be one person, but to one person you might be the world.
- Going to church (or watching it online) doesn't make you a Christian anymore than going to McDonald's makes you a french fry.
- Real friends are those who, when you feel you've made a fool of yourself, don't feel you've done a permanent job.
- I don't have to attend every argument I'm invited to.
- Lead your life so you won't be ashamed to sell the family parrot to the town gossip.
- Life is 10 percent of what happens to you, and 90 percent of how you respond to it.
- Did it ever just occur to you that nothing "just occurs" to God?
- Learn from the mistakes of others. You can't live long enough to make them all yourself.
- There are 2 things I've learned: There is a God-and I'm not Him!
- Following the path of least resistance is what makes both rivers and people crooked.
- Your worst days are never so bad that you are beyond the reach of God's grace. Your best days are never so good that you are beyond the need of God's grace.

--Source unknown.

Mark Your Calendars...

Mission & Ministry Team

Thursday, August 10 @ 6:30 p.m.
Elders' Team @ 6:00 prior to MMT

MISSION
Ministry

Building Committee Meeting

August 10 @ 5:00

August Fellowship Outings...

Green Lake Cruise -

Sunday, August 6, 2-4 p.m.

Includes Fajitas meal



Saucedo's Mexican Restaurant

(in Belgrade)

Thursday, August 31, 6:00 p.m.



Free Movie Night...

Sunday, July 30

7:00 - 9:00

"Wind Runner"

Sunday, August 13

7:00 - 9:00

"The Inheritance"



Popcom included !

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That for a day: Instead of a sign that says "Do Not Disturb", I need one that says "Already Disturbed, Proceed With Caution".

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Trap Shooting Fellowship 2023...

Wednesdays in July:

- August 9th
- August 23rd

Brats, hot dogs and devotion @ 6:00

Shooting @ 6:30

Please join us - and bring a friend!



Confirmation News...

- August Bible Study at Pastor & Violet's for those confirmed this spring:

Sunday, August 13 @ 6:30

- Confirmation classes start up again in September.

- Parent meeting on Wednesday, September 6 @ 6:30 for parents of the returning class of 7-8th graders!



Youth Events...

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH:

Return home from the CIY "Move" Event in Salisbury Maryland.

Please keep them in your prayers for God to continue to work in their lives through what they learned and experienced at the event!

+++

STUDY FOR THOSE CONFIRMED THIS YEAR:

6:30 p.m., Sunday, August 13

at Pastor & Violet's home (5126 Co. Rd. 40 NE, New London)



Choir News...



Starts again this fall.

A Minute for Couples...

(from the Prepare-Enrich blog)

The Downside of Comparing Your Relationship to That of Others -And What to Do Instead

Oh look, one of your favorite couples that you follow on social media just went on (another) amazing vacation. They look so happy! They must be doing something right. Scroll, scroll, scroll. Ah, and there's an old classmate gushing on for paragraphs about their spouse... Should I be doing that? Should my spouse be doing that? Hmm, when was the last time we went on a romantic vacation or gushed about each other like that? Is our marriage going stale? Are we doing something wrong?



The pervasiveness of social media and the rise of "influencers" (both individuals and couples) has created innumerable opportunities for comparison to take hold. Even when you know it's an unhealthy habit to fall into, comparison can creep into your thinking— especially when you're constantly bombarded with what other couples are sharing about their own lives and relationships. You might begin feeling like your own life and marriage isn't what it should be. These nagging feelings often start out small, but they can become a larger problem if you're not careful.

To avoid getting stuck in a rut of comparison, keep these things in mind:

Other couple's highlights are a skewed measuring stick for your marriage. Material or superficial things like the beautifully decorated houses, luxurious vacations, perfectly coordinated family photos for every occasion, and even the public declarations of how wonderful one's marriage and spouse are – are not a measure for your own marital success!

You're seeing the "cherry-picked" version of others' lives.

Even the most authentic personalities are likely not sharing all of the details— the tension, the arguments, or the issues that never seem to get resolved. Constantly comparing your day-to-day life to the highlights you see online is going to wear on your mental health.

Every couple and relationship is unique.

That means what works for one couple might not work for you, and vice versa. Think of the differences between you and your spouse. You both have different personalities, love languages, triggers, and tendencies, which creates dynamics in your relationship that are one-of-a-kind. Trying to mold yourselves to be like other couples will leave you both feeling like you're failing, when you could be succeeding at being yourselves.

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That for a day: If money talks, why won't it have a conversation with me??

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The grass is NOT always greener.

Take a moment to list how the "grass is greener" in your relationship. Focusing on "living up to" or matching what others seem to be doing could mean you're not paying attention to the real issues in your marriage that need attention, which can be detrimental to relationship over time. Try to work on watering your own grass, so to speak.

Of course, even if you're pretty mindful about falling into a comparison funk, it can be helpful to have some tips to fall back on when you need them. Here are a few things to help you get back on the right track:

Be discerning.

Glean what is actually helpful, inspires you to be a better spouse, and gives you tools and confidence. Leave the rest behind. People have lots of thoughts and opinions on what you should and shouldn't be doing in your marriage – you don't have to do it all. Be picky about what you take in.

Take periodic breaks from social media.

It could be a few days each month or one day every weekend. Many people find it refreshing and beneficial to their mental and emotional well-being. You might also consider cleaning up the list of people you follow, unsubscribing from any accounts that actually make you feel kind of bad.

Reflect on what need you're trying to fulfill.

If you find yourself fixated on the idea that having or doing a certain thing is going to be the magical key to feeling like you've "made it" in your life and marriage, take some time to reflect and see the bigger picture. What need or underlying area are you trying to fix or fulfill? Are you craving more romance or spontaneity? Do you wish you and your spouse expressed your love more often? Work on getting to the root of the problem.

Talk to your spouse.

When you're struggling with feelings of inadequacy or find yourself living vicariously through others' social media posts, talking to your partner about it can be a big help. They might be able to give you the refreshed perspective you need. Maybe you both agree you could benefit from less scrolling and more time doing other activities together. Or perhaps they can relate to the way you're feeling, and together you can take steps to stop the comparison game.

It's natural to compare ourselves to others; it's just how our brains work. Unfortunately, the combination of current cultural trends and technology results in a constant overload of seeing what other people are doing and how they're doing it— and that includes marriage. Learning to maintain a healthy perspective while being discerning about what you take in will ultimately benefit both your mental health and your relationship.

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 :

- Some of Elaine Abraham's books and doilies!
- August Newsletters
- July- September Portals of Prayer
- Extra batteries from our outreach (please pick some up for your family, friends and neighbors)



Recorded videos of Semons

Sermons can be found in on our Living Word YouTube channel (New London Living Word) at

<https://www.youtube.com/@newlondonlivingword8097/streams>

July 2 "The Right, Wrong Car -

Swallow your pride and follow your God"

July 9 "A Parable Illustrating: 'The Last Shall Be First'"

July 16 "The Power of God's Word"

July 23 "Christianity in America: 1988 and Today"

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: Nobody is as blind as a person who refuses to see.

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Prayer...

Remember to use "The Prayer Force"

Please continue to call, text (320-220-1816) or email (paston@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:

- God to show you who you can invite to VBS
- God to open everyone's heart to accept an invitation to VBS
- That all the children would leave VBS knowing 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
- Asking God for continued good weather for the growing season.
- Asking God's guidance for our Building Committee
- Asking God's continued work in our CIY Youth Gathering Attendees!
- Asking God to provide safe travel for all who are vacationing
- Thanking God that His Word is Truth amidst the lies of the world.
- Protection from the deceitful messages Satan sends your way
- Asking God for faith to stand for His Truth like Daniel's 3 friends did!
- Continued wisdom for guidance and decisions (BIG and small)
- Asking God to humble you, seek Him and repent (2 Chronicles 7:14)
- God's protection, guidance, wisdom & courage for government leaders
- The ministry of the Jastrams in Japan.

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/3n4dk56e>



August 2023 - Living Word Lutheran - Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
July 30 BAPTISM 9:00 - WORSHIP w/ Daryl Wendroth Baptism 10:15 - FELLOWSHIP 7:00 - MOVIE NIGHT	July 31 V A C A T I O N 5:30 - 8:00	1 B I B L E S C H O O L 5:30 - 8:00	2 5:30 - 8:00	3 5:30 - 8:00	4	5
6 9:00 - WORSHIP w/Communion 10:15 - FELLOWSHIP 2:00-4:00 GREEN LAKE CRUISE	7	8	9  6:00 - TRAP SHOOTING (w/devotion & grilling)	10 <i>Mission Ministry</i> 5:00 - BUILDING COMMITTEE 6:00 - E:DERS 6:30 - MMT	<div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #d8bfd8; padding: 5px;"> Lord's Supper Dates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunday, August 6th • Sunday, August 20th </div>	
13 9:00 - WORSHIP 10:15 - FELLOWSHIP 6:30 - 7-10th GRADE STUDY At Pastor & Violet's 7:00 - MOVIE NIGHT	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 9:00 - WORSHIP w/Communion 10:15 - FELLOWSHIP	21	22	23  6:00 - TRAP SHOOTING (w/devotion & grilling)	24	25	26
27 BACKPACK BLESSING DAY 9:00 - WORSHIP w/ Blessing of Backpacks 10:15 - FELLOWSHIP	28	29	30	31 6:00 - FELLOWSHIP OUTING: Saucedo's Mexican in Belgrade	Sept 1	Sept 2

August 2023 - Daily Readings

Our Summer Devotion Readings this month begin with lessons learned from miracles Jesus performed. We end with extended conversations Jesus had. Pastor records the readings (along with devotions based on the readings) if you would like to receive these audio recordings daily, just email him: pastor@livingwordlutheran.net

Week of JULY 30 MIRACLES IN MARK'S GOSPEL

- Aug 1 Healing the Paralytic - Mark 2:1-12 _____

- Aug 2 Healing Two Men with Demons Mark 5:1-20 _____

- Aug 3 Jairus' Daughter and Woman with Bleeding - Mark 5:22-43 _____

- Aug 4 Healing a Man with a Speech Impediment - Mark 7:32-37 _____

- Aug 5 Healing a Boy with an Unclean Spirit - Mark 9:14-27 _____

Week of AUG 6 MIRACLES IN LUKE'S GOSPEL

- Aug 7 Healing a Man with an Unclean Spirit - Luke 4:31-37 _____

- Aug 8 Healing a Centurion's Servant - Luke 7:1-10 _____

- Aug 9 Raising the Son of a Widow from Nain - Luke 7:11-17 _____

- Aug 10 Curing Ten Lepers - Luke 17:12-19 _____

- Aug 11 Restoring Malchus' Ear _____

Week of AUG 13 MIRACLES IN MATTHEW'S GOSPEL

- Aug 14 Calming a Storm - Matthew 8:23-27 _____

- Aug 15 Walking on Water - Matthew 14:24-34 _____

- Aug 16 Healing the Daughter of a Canaanite Woman - Matthew 15:21-28 _____

- Aug 17 Feeding 4000 - Matthew 15:32-38 _____

- Aug 18 Providing a Shekel - Matthew 17:24-27 _____

Week of AUG 20 EXTENDED CONVERSATIONS JESUS HAD . . .

- Aug 21 With Nicodemus - John 3:1-21 _____

- Aug 22 With the Samaritan Woman - John 4:1-42 _____

- Aug 23 With the Woman at the Well - John 8:1-11 _____

- Aug 24 With the Pharisees - John 10:1-21 _____

- Aug 25 With Pilate - John 18:28-19:16 _____

Week of AUG 27 JESUS' EXTENDED CONVERSATION WITH THE DISCIPLES

- Aug 28 John 13 _____

- Aug 29 John 14 _____

- Aug 30 John 15 _____

- Aug 31 John 16 _____

- Sept 1 John 17 _____

Upcoming Schedules...

After-Worship Fellowship

We will have coffee / water and cookies at 10:15 after worship during the summer. Please join us when you can!



Usher Schedule

August 6	Wendy & Lonny Robbin
August 13	Jason & Levi Miller
August 20	Larry Levin & Jim Stinson
August 27	Volunteers needed

USHERS NEEDED

Since we have resumed gathering the offerings during worship, we are in need of more ushers to help with that. Please sign up at church if you could take a turn once ever month or so. Thanks!

Scripture Readers

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

Elders

August 6, 13	Steve and Scott
August 20 & 27	Duane and Dan

Custodian

August - Jason & Levi Miller

Nursery

(Volunteers needed - please talk to Mona H.)

Altar Guild

August Mona Hjelle

Accompanying Musicians

August 6	Sharon Willen
August 13	Scott Wachter
August 20	Open
August 27	Pam Johnson

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That for a day: Sign outside a church in Louisiana: "The Saints win here every Sunday."

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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..." 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 June we thanked God for...

- Freedom
- Parades
- Vacation Bible School

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



A Reminder to Wear Your "Living Word" Sweatshirts

Not only are they warm (and look really "cool") but they could also be a conversation starter when people ask things like, "And where is Living Word located?"

Seen on Church Signboards...

**We Don't Change God's Message
God's Message Changes Us**

August Discipleship Verse...

*Jesus said, "I am the light of the world.
Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness,
but will have the light of life."*

John 8:12

Note:

Our Discipleship Verses through November will be the verses that our Confirmands chose as their Confirmation Verse on April 30. This month we have Alex Meis's verse.

BACKPACK BLESSING SUNDAY - AUGUST 27

During the 9:00 a.m. Service

For students returning to school and for the OGT Backpacks we send off



Thank you for making a difference in these children's lives. Your love of your Savior, Jesus Christ, is seen with each kit packaged. May God continue to bless your life as you serve Him.

YBS MISSION PROJECT

As a Mission Project for the kids attending Vacation Bible School (and any of the congregation) there are 24 backpacks that would like to be filled to send to

Orphan Grain Train!

The list below is what is needed.

Backpacks and Construction Paper are provided .

Thank you for making a difference in a child's life.

CONTENTS

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 backpack | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 ruler |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 spiral notebooks | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 glue sticks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 pencils | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 scissors |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 pens | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 eraser |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10 sheets of construction paper | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 package colored pencils (12 count) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 package crayons (24 count) | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 pencil sharpener |

CHRISTMAS IN AUGUST???

Summer is a great time to purchase items for Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes! Especially with back to school sales.

(Plus, if you buy stuff now, that's one less thing for your "Christmas To Do" list later in the year!

That for a day: People say 80 is the new 60. The cop who just pulled me over didn't agree.

Some Music Videos...

This month I thought I would share a few favorite contemporary Christian songs about finding God in unusual places...

- First is Larry Fleets song "Where I find God" featuring Morgan Wallen at https://youtu.be/o_4s8HbDgto
- Next is a fairly new song by Cochran & Co. that I really like called "Parking Lot". Listen at <https://youtu.be/AOIT268uzDk>
- From the family group, CAIN is "Windows Down" at <https://youtu.be/4qrMMS7bFSk>
- If you listen to Christian radio, I'm sure you have heard Leanna Crawford's current hit song "How Can You Not". Listen at <https://youtu.be/70JD5YTemJc>
- "God Is In This Story" by Katy Nichole and Big Daddy Weave at <https://youtu.be/ryD3D9X2myk>
- Also, Zach Williams song, "Lookin' for You" at <https://youtu.be/pJGPd5Cw8GI>
- Lots more to choose from, but I'll end with MercyMe's new song, because once you find Him this is the proper response... "Not To Worship You." <https://youtu.be/3xLziNghMKM>

LWML has Camp Scholarships

\$25 / Attendee (ages 8-14)

Please contact Bonnie Harsen at 796-5605 (LWML treasurer) for details.

If you would like more information on Lutheran Island Camp and the weekly camps (dates, cost, etc.) that are offered in 2023, there are brochures available at church, or

Find out more about camp at: www.islandcamp.org



Thank You...

...to Dan Miller and Kevin Welsh for filling our open Elder positions.

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

Opportunities to Serve...

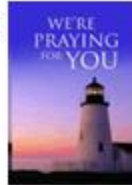
Help With Our Nursery

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.

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



Help Record our Worship Services . . .

that we livestream and later upload our YouTube channel (New London Living Word). Talk to Pastor David if you can help out with this - just one Sunday a month. (Hint: It's really not difficult - even Pastor figured it out!)

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.



Custodian Volunteers Needed.

Pick Your Month for you (or your family) to be our Church Custodian.

We are still in need of volunteers for any month from October—December Talk to our Trustee, Lonnie Robbin, to sign up or find out more details.



NEW 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.

On our last "Make-a-Meal Day" we made 20 more meals you can take to someone who needs.

We are in need of someone to coordinate a Meal-Making Day in August. If you could be that person, please talk to Marcia Welsh. Thanks!



That for a day: If you can't find a lawyer who knows the law, find a lawyer who knows the judge.

Host Families Needed for Foreign Exchange Students...

We need families - anywhere in America (so tell your friends and relatives) - who can host foreign exchange students!

Basic Requirements:

Your family doesn't have to be perfect, but it does need to be safe and loving! The student needs a clean bed and three meals per day. They can share a room with a sibling that is within four years of their age, or they can have their own room. Students come with their own spending money and insurance.

Please, consider opening your heart and home to welcome a great student from another country. They are interested in learning about American culture and improving their English. Students are ages 14 to 17 when they arrive in America! I know from experience, this is an opportunity that will be remembered forever!

Please, call Lori Sherod at 320-305-2495 or sherodlori@gmail.com to start the process!

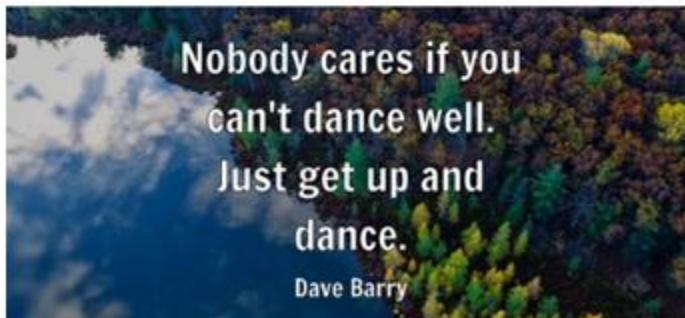


"I downloaded them from a cloud."

Email Humor...

Dave Barry Quotes (Again, Google him if you don't know who he is.)

- Your hand and your mouth agreed many years ago that, as far as chocolate is concerned, there is no need to involve your brain.
- Everyone has a right to be stupid. Some just abuse the privilege.
- If a woman has to choose between catching a fly ball and saving an infant's life, she will choose to save the infant's life - without even considering if there are men on base.
- It is inhumane, in my opinion, to force people who have a genuine medical need for coffee to wait in line behind people who apparently view it as some kind of recreational activity.
- You can only be young once. But you can always be immature.
- You can say any fool thing to a dog, and the dog will give you a look that says, "My goodness! You're right! I NEVER would have thought of that!"
- Dogs feel very strongly that they should always go with you in the car, in case the need should arise for them to bark violently at nothing - right in your ear!
- Each year, millions of skiers come to Colorado to experience its superb emergency medical facilities.
- The one thing that unites all human beings regardless of age, gender, religion or ethnic background is that we all believe we are above-average drivers.
- It always rains on tents. Rainstorms will travel thousands of miles, against prevailing winds, just for the opportunity to rain on a tent!
- Camping is nature's way of promoting the motel business.



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That for a day: Just remember, once you're over the hill you begin to pick up speed.

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Story Behind The Song...

My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less

Edward Mote (1797-1874) falls into the rare category of hymn writers who grew up without religious training and whose parents were pub owners. He was apprenticed at a young age by his parents to a cabinet-maker, but found faith when he heard the preaching of John Hyatt at the Tottenham Court Road Chapel in London at age 15.

Living in Southwark near London, he established a successful cabinet-making enterprise and became a Baptist minister in 1852, at 55 years of age. He ministered for 21 years at Strict Baptist Church in Horsham, Sussex.

Singing hymns was of great interest to him. The master cabinetmaker became a prolific hymn writer, composing more than 100 hymns. He published his hymns with selections by others in 1836 in *Hymns of Praise, A New Selection of Gospel Hymns*. Hymnologists note that this is the first time the now common term "gospel hymn" appears.

American Methodist hymnologist and hymnal editor Robert Guy McCutchan notes that the hymn was probably written in 1834 and originally began, "Nor earth, nor hell, my soul can move." The original title was "Jesus, my All in All."

"One morning it came into my mind as I went to labor, to write an hymn on the 'Gracious Experience of a Christian.' As I went up to Holborn I had the chorus,

*On Christ the solid Rock I stand,
All other ground is sinking sand.*

The refrain of "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less" refers to the Parable of the Wise and the Foolish Builders and builds around the metaphor of Christ as a rock with a firm basis in scripture.

"In the day I had written four complete verses. On the Sabbath following... I composed the last two verses..."

Baptist hymnologist William Reynolds summarizes the rest of the story: "The next Sunday, Mote visited the home of some fellow church members where the wife was very ill. The husband informed Mote that it was their custom on the Lord's Day to sing a hymn, read the Bible, and pray together. Mote produced the new hymn from his pocket, and they sang "The Solid Rock" together for the first time." Instantly, the lady liked the song and asked for a copy of it. After hearing this compliment, Mote became more inspired to finish the hymn. After adding two more verses to the first song, Mote sent the lyrics to a publisher.

The version in our hymnals today is the result of careful editing of the original six stanzas into four, choosing the most coherent lines from the original. One can quickly see how the best lines of Mote's two original stanzas were combined to make a much more articulate whole.

Dr. Young comments on the revised product: "This hymn's compelling topic—the parable about the security of building a house on rock, as opposed to sand (Matthew 7:24-27)—and subsequent redaction and setting to a simple, repetitious, foot-stomping tune have merged to form a hymn of faith that over the generations has proved useful and comforting to many in their daily spiritual journey."

The "foot-stomping" tune was composed by American gospel song composer, William Bradbury, a fellow Baptist, for Mote's text in 1863.

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus Christ, my righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

CHORUS

On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale,
My anchor holds within the veil.

CHORUS

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That for a day: I've had a lot of education, but the one thing that has been the most consistently useful in my life is "righty tighty, lefty loosey."

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His oath, His covenant, His blood,
Support me in the whelming flood;
When all around my soul gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay.
CHORUS

When He shall come with trumpet sound,
Oh, may I then in Him be found;
In Him, my righteousness, alone,
Faultless to stand before the throne.
CHORUS

Note from the editor:

A great classic version is by Ricky Skaggs and The Whites at <https://youtu.be/5XWIVNpdp-o>

As a bonus, listen to this beautiful mashup by Caleb & Kelsey at <https://youtu.be/1oHN1-ifsT8>

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson

AMAZING GRACE, how sweet
the sound.. that saved a
DESPICABLE ME.. like ME!

