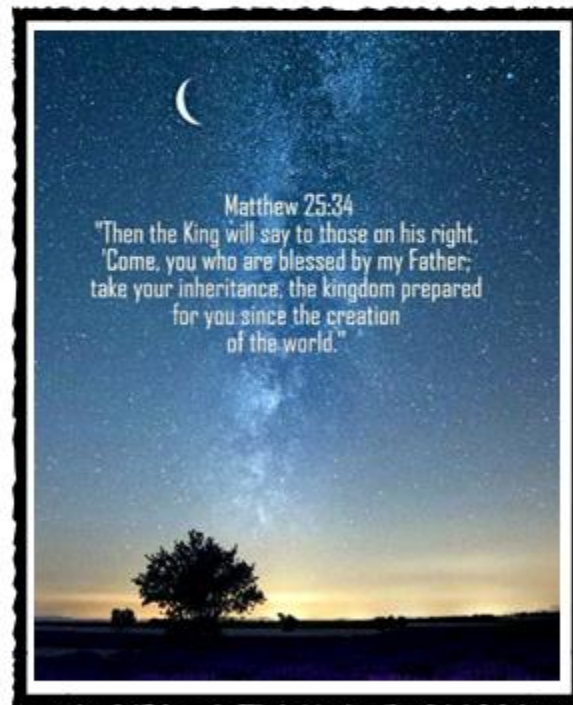


  
**Living Word**  
**Lutheran Church**  
LCMS



**October 2023 Newsletter**

**"Communicating the Love of Jesus"  
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](mailto:pastor@livingwordlutheran.net)  
Website: [www.livingwordlutheran.net](http://www.livingwordlutheran.net)

## Questions for Pastor...

What were those prayers again?

I received this question after last Sunday's sermon on "Growing as a Disciple by Praying." I listed several short prayers that are found in the Bible. Prayers that are good for many "spur of the moment" situations. This is by no means an exhaustive list of short prayers found in God's Word, but here are the ones I referenced in the September 24 message:

"God have mercy on me, a sinner." Luke 18:13

"We do not know what to do, but our eyes are on you."  
(i.e. We trust that You DO know what we should do)  
2 Chronicles 20:12

"I do believe! Help me overcome my unbelief!" Mark 9:24

"Strengthen my hands!" (i.e. Give me YOUR strength.)  
Nehemiah 6:9

"Father, forgive them, they know not what they do." Luke 23:34

"I desire to do Your will, my God" (Show me what it is) Psalm 40:8

"Thank you, Father!" (From the instruction in Colossians 4:2)



Thanks for asking!  
Pastor David

**P.K. PREACHER'S KIDS**

BY DAVID AYERS



## Building Committee News...

### Living Word's Feasibility Study is complete!

Thank you to those who participated!

Summaries have been mailed. If you didn't get one, we have several extra at church.



### OUR NEXT BUILDING COMMITTEE MEETING:

Thursday, October 12 @ 5:30

(Prior to Elders' Meeting)

## Simple Ways to Give Your Life A Spiritual Lift...

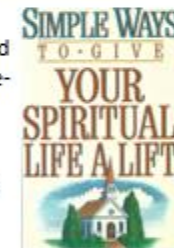
### Read 100 (or so) Key Bible Chapters

(Or listen to Pastor read them on our website. He will text or email you a link to each day's recording)

<https://www.livingwordlutheran.net/summer%20devotions.htm>

Refresh your memory about God's work in His world through these basics of the Christian faith, from Creation to John's Vision of Heaven.

You'll find the readings listed on our Daily Readings page s 14 & 15



## Communion Notes...

The Lord's Supper will be celebrated on the normal First and Third Sundays, **October 1st and 15th**, as well as on Reformation Sunday, **October 29th**.



### 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

9:00

Please join us for coffee and study of the Book of Romans

### Monthly Morning Women's Study:

September 13 @ 10:00 a.m.

All ladies are invited!

### Evening Women's Study

Is on Break.

### Men's Study

Tuesdays @ 6:30

(Come at 6:00 for food.)

## Pastor is Planning a Membership Class...

Please talk to him if you are interested in finding out about membership at Living Word.

## 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 August we thanked God for...

- Sunday School Teachers

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

## "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-VvJIEU22yCYxbhwjg/featured>

## Page 4

That for a day: I choked on a carrot today and all I could think of was, 'I bet a donut wouldn't have done this.'

## Page 5

## From The MMT...

### The MMT (Mission and Ministry Team) Goals:

We are very excited to share with you the goals we have for the coming year!

- Continue the Make A Meal program. ( it was very successful!)
- Creating a Visitors Table ( Give Aways Supplied with church and prayer ministry info)
- Bringing back the Secret Paul Program ( adults "adopting " a kid to pray for , send cards etc...)
- A Concert!! (Summer...outdoor) Jason Gray possibly? Any other suggestions?
- Chili Cook off...

### Trustee Goals:

- Lawn/ property beautification
- Eliminating clutter on the property (better storage??)
- Develop a structure to ushering
- Structured/consistent calendar for cleaning church ( volunteers)

If anyone has ANY ideas for 2024 please let us know. Most importantly, if you have any interest in leading or helping with any of these fun activities, let us know.

We also have 2 open positions on the MMT. Vice Chair and stewardship. Interested?

**A church that prays AND plays together stays together!**

## Living Nativity coming soon!

November 18, 2023

Time: TBD

It will be same day as New London Home For the Holidays.

Can you help organize, set up, be a character?  
Please contact Tammy Miller 320-905-2434



## 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 :

- Kids books
- October Newsletters
- October-December Portals of Prayer
- Extra batteries from our outreach—pick some up for your family and give to friends and neighbors

### Recorded videos of Sermons

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

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

Sept 3	"Lessons from a Flight"
Sept 10	"More Sermons on Growing from Sunflowers"
Sept 17	"How to Grow as a Disciple by Forgiving"
Sept 24	"Great, short prayers in the Bible"

### 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.

## Congratulations...

- Kasey Nieland and Tyler Bryant on being united in marriage on September 29!

Please email [pastor@livingwordlutheran](mailto:pastor@livingwordlutheran) if there's someone you'd like us to extend congratulations to.

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That for a day: My wife says I only have 2 faults: I don't listen and ... something else ...

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## LWML News...

Our next meeting and Bible study will be Wednesday, October 11th @ 10:00 a.m.



### 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.

## Outreach...

### Our Annual Smoke-Detector Battery Giveaway

October 28 @ 10:00 a.m.

Please join Pastor and the confirmation students in our annual community service project of handing out free smoke-detector batteries to folks who live near the church. (It's really fun to see the looks on people's faces when they find out that instead of asking for something, we are giving them something.)



## Youth Events...

### 11-12th Grade YOUTH:

11-12th Grade Bible Study meets every other Wednesday at 5 pm at Becky's office in Willmar (October 4 & 18)



### 9-10th Grade Youth

Meet Wednesday, October 11 @ 6:00  
Game night

## Choir News...



Starts again this fall.

## Mark Your Calendars...

### Mission & Ministry Team

October 12th @ 6:30 p.m.  
Elders' Team @ 6:00 prior to MMT

### Building Committee Meeting

October 12th @ 5:30

MISSION  
Ministry

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## Upcoming Fellowship Outings...

### **Celebrate October Birthdays**

October 16  
at Zorbaz 11-1:30.  
Anyone is welcome!!

### **Bonfire at Pam Johnson's**

October 20  
6:30-?  
Bring a chair, something to drink, and a snack to share.

### **Supper at Hilltop Tavern in Mannanah**

October 26 6:00-?  
Please sign up so I can get reservations!

**Redeemer (Willmar) asked if anybody from our church would like to go watch the Looney Lutherans.**

Look for a poster with more information, and please sign up!!

All are welcome to everything!!!



"Prayer is no longer allowed in churches because it discriminates against non-believers."

That for a day: It's probably my age that tricks people into thinking I'm an adult.

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## Confirmation News...

- 7-8th Confirmation classes are Wednesdays @ 6:00 (Pastor will have a light supper @5:45 for those who need)
- Please, remember to check the "PowerPoint Clicker" schedule.



## Sunday School News...

### Our Sunday School Teachers are :

Tammy Wachter,  
Meggie Ashburn,  
Lexi Marik,  
Lara Dahl  
Mona Hjelle.

All kids are invited to come!!



### Orphan Grain Train (VBS Mission Project)

13 Drawstring Bags were filled along with another two boxes of extra supplies that are being sent to Orphan Grain Train.

Thanks to everyone who participated in this mission!

God's blessings to everyone who receives this gift!

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Operation Christmas Child kickoff is October 15th!



The congregation and the children are invited to participate in "Operation Christmas Child". Kick-off date for this mission will be Sunday, October 15, with brochures, boxes and labels provided. Deadline for the boxes to be brought back to church, will be Wednesday, November 15th. If you need more info, go to [www.samaritanspurse.org](http://www.samaritanspurse.org). Thank you

for partnering with Samaritan's Purse, as we share God's love with children around the world.



## The Link...

### August 2023 Updates

The impact The Link has been able to make in the lives of others has been more visible than ever these past few months! The need for food and outreach services continues to

rise and it is extremely humbling to have the support of the community to be able to help those in need.

In August, The Link was able to serve 10 families with common household needs with our **Household Exchange Program**. The Household Exchange program takes in donations such as smaller furniture, bedding, towels, kitchen utensils, pots and pans etc. to provide families when they are getting back on their feet.

**The Food Pantry** continues to see an increase in need, welcoming 25 new families and serving 136 households in August (including: 229 adults, 135 children and 34 seniors) and distributed a total of 8283 pounds of food.

**The Wildcat Backpack Program** is back up and running. Currently, there are 86 children from the NLS schools receiving backpacks each week! It has been fun to see the kids again that come from the High School to help pack and deliver the bags!!! If you know a family that could benefit from this program, please have them call Ashley at 320-354-5555 or Vicki Mickelson at NLS schools at 320-354-2252 ext. 2607.

**The Link's Client Outreach program** served 17 families in August by helping with transportation, medical bills, gas, utility bills and rental payments. This program also provided advocacy for 7 families, in-depth budgeting support for 17 families, networking for 10 families and provided 16 families with referrals for additional assistance to meet basic needs.

The Link partnered with the **United Way's Stuff the Bus** program this year. We were able to connect 76 families with needed school supplies for the 23-24 school year!

**Tuesday's Table's** schedule is as follows: 1st Tuesday of the month: Our Lady of the Lakes (Spicer), 2nd Tuesday: Evangelical Covenant (New London), 3rd Tuesday: Faith Lutheran (Spicer), 4th Tuesday: Peace Lutheran (New London), 5th Tuesday: Rotating (call 320-354-5555 for more information).

**Volunteer Opportunities:** If you or someone you know would like to be a part of The Link's mission and volunteer at the

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**That for a day:** At my age, rolling out of bed in the morning is the easy part. Getting off the floor is a while other story.

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**Community Revival Boutique and Thrift**, we are looking for extra help on-call and on a consistent basis (mostly Fridays and Saturdays). Our store hours are 10-3 Wednesday-Friday and 10-2 Saturdays. Volunteer hours do not have to cover the entire shift- if you are interested, but can only commit to part of a shift, we still encourage you to reach out! Our current volunteers are amazing and have a great time together building friendships. If you'd like to join the fun, call Shawna at 320-347-1047 or Ashley at 320-354-5465.

As always, a HUGE THANK YOU to those who have donated food and/or monetarily and to those who have prayed for and with us here at The Link! With the increased need for food and in client outreach, we are asking for your continued support- financially and prayerfully.

### 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](http://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](mailto:ashley@youarethelink.org) for more information.

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[www.glasbergen.com](http://www.glasbergen.com)



**"Forgive us our debts as we forgive those who call to harass us about our debts..."**

## A Minute for Couples...

### Showing Love When You Don't Really Feel Like it

from the Prepare-Enrich blog

Real talk. You love your spouse. But sometimes, you don't really feel all that loving. Maybe you are angry with them or are still processing emotions around a conflict. Perhaps you're emotionally flooded or you've had a horrible day and just need some space. Whatever the case, it's normal to not feel loving and affectionate toward your spouse 100% of the time. However, constantly taking your anger, frustration, or other difficult emotions out on them (even when they might be the cause), will take a toll on your relationship.



Fortunately, there are ways to let your spouse know your love for them hasn't wavered – that you're still "with" them and committed to your marriage even if you're not feeling especially warm towards them at the moment. These small things provide reassurance that you will reconnect, even if it's not immediately. Let's explore.

#### Communicate (kindly).

Need to step away from a conversation after a triggering comment from your partner? Craving some alone time to decompress after a frustrating day at work? So irate with your spouse you can't even look at them right now? You have choices for how to respond. Do you fire back with some cutting words, completely ignore them when they ask how your day was, or dramatically stomp out of the room? In the moment, when you're feeling emotional or tapped out, it's natural to fall back on these responses. Unfortunately, they all create distance and tension between you and your spouse.

What should you do instead? It takes practice, but learning to communicate what you need in a calm way can make all the difference. It might be saying, "I just need a few minutes to calm down. I'll come find you when I'm ready to talk again," or "I'm not angry with you, I just had a hard day and needs some alone time." By letting them know what's going through your mind in a neutral way, you keep the lines of connection open between you so they're not feeling shut out or in the dark.

#### Offer a small physical gesture.

When you're feeling at odds with your spouse, showing them physical affection usually isn't the first thing on your mind. That's understandable. But a small gesture – a gentle hand on their arm as you tell them

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Hot for a day: Maybe eating tacos wasn't cheating on my diet. Maybe going on a diet was cheating on my tacos.

## Page 13

you need space, a squeeze of their shoulder before you leave the room, or reaching out to hold their hand even if you aren't ready to talk – reinforces the idea that you love your partner no matter what, even if you don't especially like them in the moment. It gives the sense that this is just a pause instead of a hard disconnection.

#### Remain considerate.

We've probably all had the urge to be rude to our spouse at some point. If you've ever given into that urge, you probably ended up regretting it later. Sure, in the moment it's somewhat of an outlet for our frustration, but at the end of the day it simply doesn't feel good. Not only can it be like a slap in the face to your spouse, it adds even more distance and tension between you, when really that's the last thing either of you probably want.

It can take effort, but try to be intentional about maintaining a basic level of kindness and consideration toward your partner, even when you're in conflict. Hold the door for them instead of letting it close in their face. Listen to what they're saying instead of walking away mid-sentence or visibly ignoring them. Treating your spouse with the same level of consideration and respect, whether you're in the middle of a heated discussion or in a bad mood – is a basic way to show love through it all. Of course, this is the ideal situation. No one is perfect, especially when emotions get the better of us. Part B of this one is recognizing when you've been inconsiderate, taking responsibility, and apologizing if you need to.




#### Follow through on initiating reconnection.

If you were the one to request some space to process or calm down, then initiating reconnection in a timely manner is a great way to show your spouse that coming back together is important to you, too. It builds a sense of trust and takes the pressure off of them to know when you're ready to connect again, and sets a positive precedent for how you might handle future conflicts.

When you're not feeling loving toward your spouse, due to conflict or other circumstances, it's normal for negative emotions to win out. If this happens too often, it can take a toll on the dynamic of your relationship. By working on being more intentional and showing love in small ways, you'll reinforce your commitment and connection, even during tough moments.

Mary was Jesus' mother and Jesus was the Lamb of God...  
Does that mean the Mary had a little Lamb?

# October 2023 - Living Word Lutheran - Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> 9:00 - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 WORSHIP w/communion 11:15 - FELLOWSHIP 5:00 - Feast of Tabernacles Potluck at J&S Miller's	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 5:00 - 11-12th GRADE BIBLE STUDY 6:00 - CONFIRMATION	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 9:00 - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 - WORSHIP 11:15 - FELLOWSHIP	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 6:30 - MEN'S STUDY	<b>11</b> 10:00 - LWML & Women's Study 6:00 - CONFIRMATION GAME NIGHT	<b>12</b> <i>Mission Ministry</i> 5:30 - BUILDING COMMITTEE 6:00 - ELDERS 6:30 - MMT	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> Operation Christmas Child Kickoff 9:00 - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 - WORSHIP w/communion 11:15 - FELLOWSHIP	<b>16</b> 11:00 OCTOBER Birthdays @ Zorbaz 	<b>17</b> 6:30 - MEN'S STUDY	<b>18</b> 5:00 - 11-12th GRADE BIBLE STUDY 6:00 - CONFIRMATION	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 6:30-BONFIRE @ Pam Johnson's 	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 9:00 - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 - WORSHIP 11:15 - FELLOWSHIP	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 6:30 - MEN'S STUDY	<b>25</b> 6:00 - CONFIRMATION	<b>26</b> 6:00 - OCTOBER OUTING @ Hilltop Tavern Mannanah	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 10:00 Smoke Detector Battery Outreach 
<b>29</b> REFORMATION SUNDAY 9:00 - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 - WORSHIP w/communion 11:15 - FELLOWSHIP	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 6:30 - MEN'S STUDY	<b>NOV 1</b> 5:00 - 11-12th GRADE BIBLE STUDY 6:00 - CONFIRMATION	<b>NOV 2</b>	<b>NOV 3</b>	<b>NOV 4</b>

**Lord's Supper Dates**

- Sunday, October 1st
- Sunday, October 15th
- Sunday, October 29th



# October 2023 - Daily Readings

This month we finish reading about the Holy Spirit's work in the OT. Then take a look at 100 (or so) Key Chapters of the Bible, chapters that are basic to understanding the message of God's Word.

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](mailto:pastor@livingwordlutheran.net)

## Week of October 1 More of the Holy Spirit - in the Old Testament

- Oct 2 Judges 14:5-7 & 19-20 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Oct 3 Numbers 27:12-23 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Oct 4 1 Samuel 16:1-13 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Oct 5 Psalm 139:1-12 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Oct 6 Nehemiah 9:26-31 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Week of October 8 We Begin our "100 - or so - Key Chapters of the Bible"

- Oct 9 Genesis 1 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Oct 10 Genesis 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Oct 11 Genesis 3 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Oct 12 Genesis 6 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Oct 13 Genesis 7-8 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Week of October 15

- Oct 16 Genesis 9 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- Oct 17 Genesis 11:1-10 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Oct 18 Genesis 15 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Oct 19 Genesis 18-19 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Oct 20 Genesis 22 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Week of October 22

- Oct 23 Genesis 25 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Oct 24 Genesis 37 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Oct 25 Genesis 49:29-50:26 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Oct 26 Exodus 3 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Oct 27 Exodus 12-14 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Week of October 29

- Oct 30 Exodus 16 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Oct 31 Exodus 20 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Nov 1 Exodus 32 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Nov 2 Exodus 34 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Nov 3 Leviticus 19 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Recordings of the Daily Readings can also be found on our website at:

<https://www.livingwordlutheran.net/summer%20devotions.htm>

## Upcoming Schedules...

### After-Worship Fellowship

We will have coffee / water and cookies at 11:15 after worship . Please join us when you can!



### Usher Schedule

Oct 1 Wendy & Lonny Robbin  
Oct 8 Pam Johnson & \_\_\_\_\_  
Oct 15 Larry Levin & Jim Stinson  
Oct 22 Jason & Levi Miller  
Oct 29 Open

#### 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

Oct 1, 8 Duane & Kevin  
Oct 15, 22 & 29 Steve & Scott

### Custodian

October - Joe Johnson  
November - Lonny Robbin

### Nursery

( Volunteers needed - please talk to Mona H.)

### Altar Guild

October Mona Hjelle

### Power Point Clicker

Oct 1 Carter  
Oct 8 Parker  
Oct 15 Ella  
Oct 22 Troy  
Oct 29 Evelyn

## Page 18

That for a day:

## Page 19

### Confirmation Parent Helpers

Oct 4 Foshaug  
Oct 11 Hjelle  
Oct 18 Knutson  
Oct 25 Sarsland

### Communion-Bread Maker

October 29 Parker

### Accompanying Musicians

Oct 1 Sharon Willen  
Oct 8 Scott Wachter  
Oct 15 Sharon Willen  
Oct 22 Pam Johnson  
Oct 29 Scott Wachter

### Church Mice

Copyright: Karl A. Zorawski



### *Seen on Church Signboards...*

**I Hate This Church  
- Satan**

## October Discipleship Verse...

*Then the King will say to those on his right, "Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world."* Matthew 25:34

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 Carson Sawatzky's verse.

## Email Wisdom...

A young woman went to her mother and told her about her life and how things were so hard for her. She did not know how she was going to make it and wanted to give up. She was tired of struggling.

Her mother took her to the kitchen. She filled three pots with water. In the first she placed carrots, in the second she placed eggs, and in the last she placed ground coffee beans.

She let them sit and boil without saying a word. In about twenty minutes she turned off the burners. She fished the carrots out and placed them in a bowl. She pulled the eggs out and placed them in a bowl. Then she ladled the coffee out and placed it in a bowl.

Turning to her daughter, she asked, "Tell me, what do you see?" "Carrots, eggs, and coffee," she replied.

She brought her closer and asked her to feel the carrots. She did and noted that they were soft and mushy. She then asked her to take an egg and break it. After pulling off the shell, she observed the hardened egg. Finally, she asked her to sip the coffee.

The daughter smiled as she tasted its deep flavour and inhaled its rich aroma. The daughter then asked, "What's the point, mother?"

Her mother explained that each of these objects had faced the same adversity - boiling water - but each reacted differently. The carrot went in strong, hard and unrelenting. However, after being subjected to the boiling water, it became weak. The egg had been fragile. Its thin, outer shell had protected its liquid interior, but after sitting through the boiling water, its inside became hardened.

The ground coffee beans were unique, however. After they were in the boiling water they had changed the water.

"Which are you?" she asked her daughter. "When adversity knocks on your door, how do you respond? Are you a carrot, an egg, or a coffee bean?"

Think of this: Which am I? Am I the carrot that seems strong? But with pain and adversity, do I wilt and lose my strength? Am I the egg that starts with a malleable heart, but changes with the heat? Did I have a fluid spirit but, after a death, a breakup, a financial hardship or some other trial, have I become hardened and stiff? Does my shell look the same, but on the inside am I bitter and tough with a stiff spirit and a hardened heart? Or am I like the coffee bean? The bean actually changes the hot water - the very circumstance that brings the adversi-

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**That for a day:** What's the difference between a hippo and a zippo? One is really heavy and the other is a little lighter.

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ty, the pain, the hardship – into something quite wonderful. When the water gets hot, it releases its fragrance and flavor. If you are like the bean, when things are at their worst, you get better and change the situation around you for the better.

When the hours are the darkest and trials are their greatest do you elevate to another level? How do you handle adversity?

ARE YOU A CARROT, AN EGG, OR A COFFEE BEAN?

## Monthly Music Videos...

Again this month I want to feature some new songs that you may not have heard yet. Enjoy...

- We will start this month's list with a really fun song titled *Jesus Music* by Cain (with lots of guests)...  
<https://youtu.be/wwwuJ810x-o?si=zc-uxvKa5mrAIGV2>
- New from *MercyMe* is *Forgivable*...  
[https://youtu.be/5nXxZgNzfyQ?si=R6\\_F6IK8pfiRNxEc](https://youtu.be/5nXxZgNzfyQ?si=R6_F6IK8pfiRNxEc)
- A great new song called *Dreams* by NeedToBreathe with Judah & the Lion...  
<https://youtu.be/jaw0gaex66E?si=C2g0IEijzmsiBffk>
- *All Because of You* is a great new song by David Leonard...  
[https://youtu.be/-78TB\\_bA0xs?si=bqntQ\\_SSJZ17kkqn](https://youtu.be/-78TB_bA0xs?si=bqntQ_SSJZ17kkqn)
- Stephen McWhirter is one of my favorite artists that has not reached mainstream. His new song is called *Heavy Load*...  
[https://youtu.be/sIIFP0Y\\_ocs?si=3KZaFFKtgFGkjsAM](https://youtu.be/sIIFP0Y_ocs?si=3KZaFFKtgFGkjsAM)
- Great lyrics in Leanna Crawford's new song, *Jesus Is*...  
<https://youtu.be/3LvVnDtO57w?si=sKXIUNzxWYKu-wTP>
- Jordan St. Cyr has a new release called *Life Before You*...  
<https://youtu.be/t5Q7RY5XqTg?si=H0j0CvOutRr13mZ>
- *He Got Ahold of Me* is a new song from Ben Fuller (with Jo Dee Messina)...  
<https://youtu.be/bWuAPZ3x6M8?si=4TJRv8lCwyt1xay>
- The ultimate "mash-up" may be *Every Worship Song Ever* by Caleb & Kelsey ...  
<https://youtu.be/R4V0e8vBnLw?si=M2YIOY679ACYUZmG>
- Finally a brand new song from We The Kingdom that hasn't even been released yet called *Church Music*...  
<https://youtu.be/uykoc-XUpw8?si=Cjkw00TDDQArE6oD>

I hope you find some new favorites from this list.

## Opportunities to Serve...

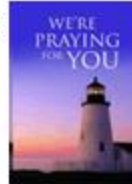
### Help With Our Nursery

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 December on. Talk to our Trustee, Lonnie Robbin, to sign up or find out more details.



## 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.

The freezer at church is full of meals waiting for you to grab and take to someone.



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

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## Prayer...

### **Remember to use "The Prayer Force"**

Please continue to call, text (320-220-1816) or email ([pastor@livingwordlutheran.net](mailto: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 any of our upcoming studies or events
- For the Holy Spirit to help kids who don't know Jesus to discover Him as their Lord and Savior through Sunday School
- For the Holy Spirit to work through the teachers of our classes
- The Holy Spirit to bring growth through our Confirmation classes
- Asking God for continued good weather for the harvesting season.
- Asking God's 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
- 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.

### **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?"

## Email Humor...

A four-year-old was at the pediatrician for a check up. As the doctor looked in her ears, he asked, "Do you think I'll find Big Bird in here?"

The little girl stayed silent.

Next, the doctor took a tongue depressor and looked down her throat. He asked, "Do you think I'll find the Cookie Monster down there?"

Again, the little girl was silent.

Then the doctor put a stethoscope to her chest. As he listened to her heartbeat, he asked, "Do you think I'll hear Barney in there?"

"Oh, no!" the little girl replied. "Jesus is in my heart. Barney's on my underpants."

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A minister decided that a visual demonstration would add emphasis to his Sunday sermon.

Four worms were placed into four separate jars.

- The first worm was put into a container of alcohol.
- The second worm was put into a container of cigarette smoke
- The third worm was put into a container of chocolate syrup.
- The fourth worm was put into a container of good dean soil

At the conclusion of the sermon, the Minister reported the following results:

- The first worm in alcohol - Dead
- The second worm in cigarette smoke - Dead
- Third worm in chocolate syrup - Dead
- Fourth worm in good dean soil - Alive

So the minister asked the congregation, "What can you learn from this demonstration?"

Maxine was sitting in the back, quickly raised her hand and said, "As long as you drink, smoke and eat chocolate, you won't have worms!"

That pretty much ended the service...



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**That for a day:** The most fattening thing you can put in an ice cream sundae is a spoon.

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## Story Behind The Song...

Robert Lowry was a composer more remembered for the more than 500 hymns he wrote instead of the sermons he preferred to give. He once stated: "Music, with me has been a side issue... I would rather preach a gospel sermon to an appreciative audience than write a hymn. I have always looked upon myself as a preacher and felt a sort of depreciation when I began to be known more as a composer." However, it is as a hymn writer that he remains renowned.

A Christian meeting ground called Ocean Grove came especially alive in the summer of 1876. It was in that summer that one of history's greatest hymnists traveled there with a Bible in his hand and a new hymn in his heart.

Ocean Grove was born on July 31, 1869. A group of Methodist ministers was looking for a spot to escape the summer heat and study the Word. They found a well-shaded, well-drained piece of land on the seashore of New Jersey. Twenty tents were pitched, and the ministers enjoyed their campsite so much that they decided to make it a permanent meeting

site in years to come; not only for themselves, but for other Christians too. No time was wasted, and by next summer, the piece of land was being transformed into a little town.

Over the 1870's, the campsite grew rapidly in popularity. It especially boomed in 1877 when over 710,000 train tickets were sold for the Ocean Grove-Asbury Park train station. What caused this boom in attendance? It is no coincidence that this was the year directly after Robert Lowry introduced Nothing but the Blood to the summer visitors of Ocean Grove in 1876, causing a revival within the camp, and word to spread far beyond.

Robert Lowry was a well-known preacher in the nineteenth century, and took notice of the booming popularity of Ocean Grove. Lowry famously wanted to be known for his sermons rather than his hymns. He loved music, but thought it to be of lower importance than putting a sermon together and delivering it. Nevertheless, Lowry thought up a new hymn for the occasion. He thought it would be a nice add on to the main event of preaching. He was not prepared for the impact that "add on" would have in Ocean Grove that year.

Robert Lowry wrote the hymn as a reminder of what truly saves us from sin: the blood that Christ shed for us on the cross. He repeats the title phrase 12 times to emphasize how "Nothing But the Blood of Jesus" can "make me whole again" and "makes me white as snow."

Lowry based the gospel song on Hebrews 9:22, which reads: "The law requires that nearly everything be cleansed and without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sin."

In the 1950s-1960s, Nothing but the Blood was among the top five hymns sung in churches.

What can wash away my sin?  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.  
What can make me whole again?  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Refrain:

O precious is the flow  
that makes me white as snow;  
no other fount I know;  
nothing but the blood of Jesus.

For my pardon this I see:  
nothing but the blood of Jesus.  
For my cleansing this my plea:  
nothing but the blood of Jesus. [Refrain]

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**That for a day:** I think people who use the wrong word should have the humility to admit it.

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Nothing can for sin atone:  
nothing but the blood of Jesus.  
Naught of good that I have done:  
nothing but the blood of Jesus. [Refrain]

This is all my hope and peace:  
nothing but the blood of Jesus.  
This is all my righteousness:  
nothing but the blood of Jesus. [Refrain]

*Note from the editor:*

My favorite version is a great a cappella version by Anthem Lights at <https://youtu.be/AeRo-CIAG1c?si=I6pREa6AhacBFacS>

Another great version is by Carrie Underwood accompanied by Bear Reinhart (of NeedToBreathe) at <https://youtu.be/L6XMSPJzfEU?si=O4r0leFX48wAnHm4>

My thought most mornings ...

