



September 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 Website: www.livingwordlutheran.net

Ouestions for Pastor...

Are you going to stop sending out your devotions now summer is over?

As many of you know, at the start of summer I began making audio recordings of devotions based on Parables Jesus told. I sent them out daily via text or email to everyone who signed up for them. I followed



that up with devotions based on Jesus' mirades. These past couple of weeks have been devotions based on the extended conversations John records Jesus having with various people and groups in his Gospel. (Each of these audio devotions can also be found on our website,

livingwordlutheran.net)

The original intent was to just provide a way for people to stay connected to God's Word over the summer months. I've received quite a few requests to continue the devotions now that summer is in the rear view mirror, so the answer to the question above is, "No, I'm going to keep recording devotions to send out Monday through Friday even after summer is over."

This month we will start with devotions based on Jesus' "I Am" sayings where He was dearly equating Himself with God the Father who told Moses that His name was "I Am." We'll follow that up with readings of the Holy Spirit's work through people in the Old Testament.

Each devotion is about ten minutes long, and they come as a link that you can click on and listen to. I send them out around 7:00 a.m. each morning, but you can listen to them at whatever time works best for you during the day.

If you would like to be added to the list of people who receive these audio devotions, you can just text me (320-220-1816) or email me (pastor@livingwordlutheran.net) or just tell me at church.

> Thanks for asking! Pastor David

Send your questions to pastor@livingwordlutheran.net

Page 3

Who Can You Invite...

Who Can You Invite to Rally Sunday?

- Talk to God about them.
- Then talk to them about joining you. (Make sure to tell them you can pick them up!)



Fall/Winter/Spring Worship Time: 10:00 a.m.

Resumes Rally Sunday, September 10

(9:00 a.m. Worship ends September 3)



"I don't know all Ten Commandments. The only ones I remember are 'settle down', 'act your age' and 'take that out of your mouth'."

Communion Notes...



The Lord's Supper will be celebrated on the normal First and Third Sundays, September 3rd and 17th

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
- . 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

Resumes at 9:00 Rally Sunday, September 11th Please join us for coffee and God's Word

Monthly Morning Women's Study:

September 13 @ 10:00 a.m. All ladies are invited!

Evening Women's Study

Is on Summer Break

Men's Study

Starts Tuesday, September 12th @ 6:30

Pastor is Planning a Membership Class...

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

Rally Sunday...

Sunday September 10



- Sunday School Classes Resume! 9:00 a.m.
- Sunday Morning Bible Study Resumes! 9:00 a.m.
- Worship returns to Fall/Winter/Spring Schedule! 10:00 a.m.
- Picnic Lunch (Sloppy Jo's, Hot Dogs, Brats)! Following 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-

VvIJEU22vCYxbhwig/featured

Page 4

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Thank You...

- ..To ALL who served in some way with Vacation Bible School! To the people who provided meals and served, helped with Games, teaching, crafts, registration table, etc.!!
- ...To those who brought school supplies for our VBS Mission project for "Orphan Grain Train"! A HUGE THANK YOU!!
- ...To Sharon Willen for teaching the kids songs for VBS!
- ...To Mona Hjelle for organizing and leading VBS again!
- ...To Marcia Welsh for booking our Green Lake Cruise and Saucedo's Restaurant outings. Both were great!
- ...To Tammy Miller for organizing our "Pray at the School" Day
- ..To Becky Sarsland and Jason Miller for taking the 11-12th grade youth to CIY MOVE in Baltimore! Double thanks to Becky for organizing the trip!

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



THANK GOD FOR ... AN AWESOME PLAYGROUND!

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...

- Rain
- Vacation Bible School
- County Fairs and Old Cars That Run
- Teachers

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

- Kids books
- September 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

Aug 6 Youth share insights from their event in Baltimore

Aug 13 "An unexpected lesson from Jesus (and Peter) walking on the water.)

Aug 20 & 27 We apologize for not getting these services recorded!

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.

Early Christmas Shopping...

Fall 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!

Page 6

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LWML News...

Our next meeting and Bible study will be Wednesday, September 13th @ 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.

PHOTOS...

...from Youth at CIY MOVE And College Visit





That for a day:

Mark Your Calendars...

Mission & Ministry Team

Yearly Planning Meeting Thursday, September 14 @ 6:30 p.m Elders' Team @ 6:00 prior to MMT



Building Committee Meeting

Tuesday, September 12th @ 6:00

Rally Sunday

September 10th (see page 4 for more info)

September Fellowship Outings...



Rustic Designs Harvest Fest Sunday September 17th.

Free admission to go in walk the fields pick the flowers you would like. You'll be charged for the ones you pick. Bring a bucket to keep moist. We can go as a group right after church around Noon.

Building Committee News...

Living Word's Feasibility Study is complete! Thank you to those who participated! Watch your mail for a summary of the study.

OUR NEXT BUILDING COMMITTEE MEETING: Tuesday, September 12 @ 6:00 (Prior to Men's Study)



Sunday School News...

Please join us for Rally Sunday, September 10 @ 9:00

- + Classes for all ages Pre-K 9th grade!!
- + Sloppy Jo's, Hot dogs & Brats after worship

Page 8

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Page 9

Trap Shooting Fellowship 2023...

We're going to try to schedule one more shoot during September.

Watch for details on a specific date/time/



Confirmation News...

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



- 7-8th Confirmation class starts up again Sept. 13
- Please, remember to check the "PowerPoint Clicker" schedule.

Youth Events...

11-12th Grade YOUTH:

11-12th Grade Bible Study plans to meet every other Wednesday at 5 pm at Becky's office in Willmar starting Wednesday, September 6th!





We kicked off the year with a canoe ride down the Crow River. The Youth did awesome, and Cody and Troy "helped" (i.e. did most of the dirty work).

9-10th Grade Youth Meet Wednesday, September 13 @ 6:30 For a short study, then game night

Choir News...



Starts again this fall.





The Link...

July 2023 Updates

The need for food and financial assistance has continued to reach record numbers at The Link due to the increase in food and cost of living expenses. This has kept us ex-

tremely busy, serving as many as 5 families at a time in the food pantry! We are extremely grateful to our amazing volunteers that continue to show up and serve their neighbors in need- allowing staff to work behind the scenes to find ways to keep up with the growing need for help in our community.

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

Community Revival Boutique and Thrift, we are looking for extra help on-call and on a consistent basis (mostly Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays). Our store hours are 10-3 Wednesday-Friday and 10-2 Saturdays. 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.

In July, The Link was able to serve 6 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 23 new families and serving 128 households in July (including: 209 adults, 112 children and 32 seniors) and distributed a total of 6981 pounds of food.

The Wildcat Backpack Program Summer packs are available for families if they stop in at The Link and request them. 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 13 families in July by helping with transportation, medical bills, gas, utility bills and rental payments. This program also provided advocacy for 13 families, In-depth budgeting support for 12 families, networking for 10 families and provided 13 families with referrals for additional assistance to meet basic needs.

Tuesday's Table's schedule is as follows: 1st Tuesday of the month:

Page 10 Page 11

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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). The 5th Tuesday in August will be hosted by Crossroads Community Church in Spicer.

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 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 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.

That for a day:

(from the Prepare-Enrich blog)

Learn something new about your spouse - and tips on how to do that.

How well do you know your partner? Probably pretty well. You know their tendencies and preferences that pop up on a daily basis. You have a good idea of their triggers and what gets them riled up in an argument. So here's another question for you: When was the last time you learned something new about them?



When you're first dating, it seems you're constantly learning new things about each other, and you can't get enough. You're still getting to know all the different facets of one another, and you hear new stories and tidbits at every turn.

Flash forward to a point in time when you've been together for years. How often are you learning something new about each other now? While you and your spouse probably aren't changing drastically daily, the fact is that you do grow and change as individuals over time. However, it's often in ways that aren't going to come up in your usual day-to-day conversations. So how do you keep up with these changes in each other? How do you keep learning new things about your spouse when you've been together for years? What if we challenged you to do just that? Sounds simple enough, right? Here are some tips to get you started:

Dig deeper.

There is a lot you already know about your partner. But do you know the deeper reasoning behind those things? The history? The why? Let your curiosity get the best of you and ask questions to find out. Maybe the next time it's your turn to cook dinner, you ask your spouse if chicken pot pie is still their favorite meal. You might find out they've actually been loving something else even more lately, or they might confirm that yep, that's still their fave. If it's the latter, ask them what they love about it. The answer could be simple ("Because it's delicious and comforting, of course!"), or you might be surprised to learn something new ("It reminds me of when we'd visit my grandparents' farm.")

Do a quiz.

They might have a reputation for being kind of corny, but those "How well do you know each other" quizzes can actually be a fun way to spark conversation and learn something new about each other. Plus,

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Page 12

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you can find a countless to choose from with a simple internet search. Pull one up on your next date night. Make it fun and focus on learning about each other, not worrying about your score. Make it a tradition by doing one on every anniversary, or add a twist by seeing if you can stump each other (ultimately learning something new in the process).

Set yourself up for good conversations.

The TV is blaring, the kids are running wild, and your spouse is trying to respond to an urgent email before you sit down for dinner. Needless to say, this is probably not the most ideal time for a good conversation. Instead, take advantage of or try to create moments when you have limited physical distractions, a fully present mindset, and nothing to make you feel hurried or rushed. This gives you a chance to get past the usual surface level banter about how your day was and the home maintenance chores you need to get done, and get into the good stuff. Maybe it's about your relationship, personal struggles you're having, or even an in-depth analysis of the latest episode of your favorite show. When you can share your deepest thoughts, feelings, and opinions with each other, you also set the stage for learning new things about each other.

Let them surprise you.

There's a sense of comfort in knowing each other well. It can be a way that you show love and feel loved in return, like when your partner knows exactly how you like your coffee or your ideal way to spend a Friday night. Of course, the negative side of this is when you begin to make assumptions and predictions about one another, inadvertently boxing each other into "the usual." Giving your spouse the space to stretch outside of their usual tendencies allows you to see new sides of them.

It feels good to know your spouse well. It would actually be a bit strange if you didn't, right? But as human beings, we're dynamic; we grow, change, and evolve over time. This means that In order to fully know each other over the course of your marriage, you have to put effort into continuously learning about each other. So lean into that curiosity and accept this challenge to learn something new about your spouse today.



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?"





Page 14

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Page 15 | Prayer...

Remember to use "The Prayer Force"

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

And an Invitation to Join our "Prayer Force"

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

Please Remember to Pray At 11:09 Every day

(inspired by Luke 11:9: "So I say to you, Ask and it will be given to you; Seek and you will find; Knock and the door will be opened to you")

Remember to take a time-out to PRAY for things like... these VBS Prayers:

- People you can invite to any of our upcoming studies or events
- For a great turnout for Rally Sunday & the start of Sunday School
- 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
- Thanking God for a great turnout for Vacation Bible School
- God to continue to work through what we learned at VBS
- The Holy Spirit to bring growth through our Confirmation dasses
- 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.

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

Come to church on Rally Sunday!

September 10 (10:00 a.m.)

September 2023 - Living Word Lutheran - Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9:00 - WORSHIP w/communion 10:15 - FELLOWSHIP	Jabor Day	5	6 5:00 - 11-12th GRADE BIBLE STUDY 6:30 - CONFIRMATION PARENTS' MEETING	7		9 r Dates eptember 3rd eptember 17th
9:00 - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 - WORSHIP 11:15 -RALLY SUNDAY BRUNCH	11	6:00 - BUILDING COMMITTEE 6:30 - MEN'S STUDY	13 10:00 - LWML & Women's Study 6:30 - CONFIRMATION 6:30 - 9-10th GRADE Study & Games	MISSION Ministry 5:30 - ELDERS 6:30 - MMT PLANNING	15	10:00 MEAL MAKING Make A
9:00 - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 - WORSHIP w/communion 11:15 - FELLOWSHIP Noon - Rustic Designs Harvest Fest	18	19 6:30 - MEN'S STUDY	20 5:00 - 11-12th GRADE BIBLE STUDY 6:30 - CONFIRMATION	21	22	23
9:00 - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 - WORSHIP w/communion 11:15 - FELLOWSHIP	25	26 6:30 - MEN'S STUDY	27 6:30 - CONFIRMATION	28	29 Kasey Nieland & Tyler Bryant Wedding	30
9:00 - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 - WORSHIP w/communion 11:15 - FELLOWSHIP	OCT 2	OCT 3 6:30 - MEN'S STUDY	OCT 4 5:00 - 11-12th GRADE BIBLE STUDY 6:30 - CONFIRMATION	OCT 5	OCT 6	ост7

September 2023 - Daily Readings

This month we begin reading where God reveals His personal name, I Am. Then we move to passages where Jesus applies that name to Himself. We finish reading about the Holy Spirit's work in the OT.

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 September 3 God Reveals F	lis Name: "I Am"
Sept 4	Exodus 3:13-22	
Sept 5	Exodus20:1-7	
Sept 6	Exodus34:1-6	
Sept 7	John 4:16-26	
Sept 8	John 6:11-21	
Sept 11	Week of September 10 Jesus' "I Am" Say	100 7 .0
Sept 12	2 John 8:12-30	
Sept 13	3 John 8.48-58	
Sept 14	4 John 10:1-10	
Sept 15	5 John 10:11-21	
	Week of September 17 More of Jesus' "I	Am" Sayings
Sept 18	3 John 11:17-27	

Sept 19	John 13:12-20
Sept 20	John 14:1-11
Sept 21	John 15:1-11
Sept 22	John 18:1-11
Sept 25	Week of September 24 The Holy Spirit - in the Old Testament Acts 2:1-20
Sept 26	Genesis 1:1-5
Sept 27	Exodus31:1-11
Sept 28	Judges 3.7-11
Sept 29	Judges 6:28-35
	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
0d 5	Psalm 139:1-12

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

Sept 3	Wendy & Lonny Robbin
Sept 10	Pam Johnson &
Sept 17	Larry Levin & Jim Stinson
Sept 24	Jason & Levi Miller

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

Kevin & Steve
Scott & Dan

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

Custodian

September -	Jason & Levi Mille
October -	Joe Johnson
November -	Lonny Robbin

Power Point Clicker

Sept 10-	Carter Foshau
Sept 17-	Parker Hjelle
Sept 24-	Ella Knutson
Oct 1-	Troy Sarsland

Nursery

(Volunteers needed - please talk to Mona H.)

Page 20

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Page 21

Altar Guild September

Mona Hjelle

Accompanying Musicians

September 3	Sharon Willen
September 10	Scott Wachter
September 17	Open
September 24	Pam Johnson



"It says on your résumé that you were created in God's image. Very impressive."

Seen on Church Signboards...

Well, you asked me for a sign. Here it is!

- God

September Discipleship Verse...

"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16

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 Kala Miller's verse.

Monthly Music Videos...

This month I thought I would share some lessor known songs by artists that you may not be familiar with or that you may not have heard because they are not on the radio or are just starting to get airplay. Enjoy...

- This one has been out a while, but I really like it... Hallelujah Feeling by new artists Caleb & John at https://youtu.be/wLxbruAfL34?si=FAMu-QzilguCxKde
- Counting My Blessings by Seph Schlueter at https://youtu.be/Er5XPKdpgHQ?si=tkLNuxEtKaHnL542
- . A great new song by Rhett Walker-Man On the Middle Cross at https://youtu.be/Ce5vYpRpK9U?si=6572OteMlvkl3jJg
- . Any More is new by the sibling group CAIN at https://youtu.be/gngWwE8zJBQ?si=BsyzTDXkgwEv1efc
- . I'm sure this one will be on the radio soon... Be Okay by Lauren Daigle (co-written by Ellie Holcomb) https://youtu.be/Ci_RNYbynU4?si=EbPaPMUu3pg8baVH
- Another older song, You've Already Won by Shane and Shane at https://voutu.be/sM0ovt_nbd4?si=PwZ1BmT54KYs3kH4
- Lead On Good Shepherd is a new song by Patrick Mayberry at https://youtu.be/UAJ7rwJWHZE?si=TeB-W-mbW-Yllnlo
- I love the story told in this song... Talking to Jesus by Brandon Lake and Thomas Rhett at https://youtu.be/N9Rgb27afss?si=hskyxgZ2SFqhTZ2y+
- If I Got Jesus by Ben Fuller at https://youtu.be/8p6lgcuZemY?si=pBuMyI43RYMKOGA1
- . Better Hands is a new song by Pat Barrett at https://youtu.be/l6tQhJ8w-jU?si=IBCfUfcpv6V8hjsu
- . God is With Us is a great new song by the Afters https://youtu.be/9kWk Wu-wKM?si=DSd9QRVZP2-NfPzZ
- My Heart Wants You by Mountain People Worship who are self described as "a group of Ex: Orphans, Drug Addicts, Incarcerated folks, and other notorious sinners that have been redeemed and transformed by Jesus." https://youtu.be/hQahQg8ymyQ?si=uu4rWphYUTsCcePt
- · And just released this week, Fear of God by Brooke Ligertwood at https://youtu.be/vzUBFqmDRUE?si=BMpvcZMfcZyFzHKI

I hope you find some new favorites from this list.

Page 23 Page 22

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Email Wisdom...

Advice From An Old Farmer

- Your fences need to be horse-high, pig-tight and bull-strong.
- Keep skunks and bankers at a distance.
- Life is simpler when you plow around the stump.
- A bumble bee is faster than a John Deere tractor.
- Words that soak into your ears are whispered...not yelled.
- Meanness don't jes' happen overnight.
- Forgive your enemies; it messes up their heads.
- Do not corner something that you know is meaner than you.
- It don't take a very big person to carry a grudge.
- You can't unsay a cruel word.
- Every path has a few puddles.
- When you wallow with pigs, expect to get dirty.
- The best sermons are lived, not preached.
- Most of the stuff people worry about ain't never gonna happen anyway.

Received from Mikey's Funnies.



The Free to be Faithful® newsletter highlights important and relevant details on religious liberty issues that impact the rights of Christians to live faithfully.

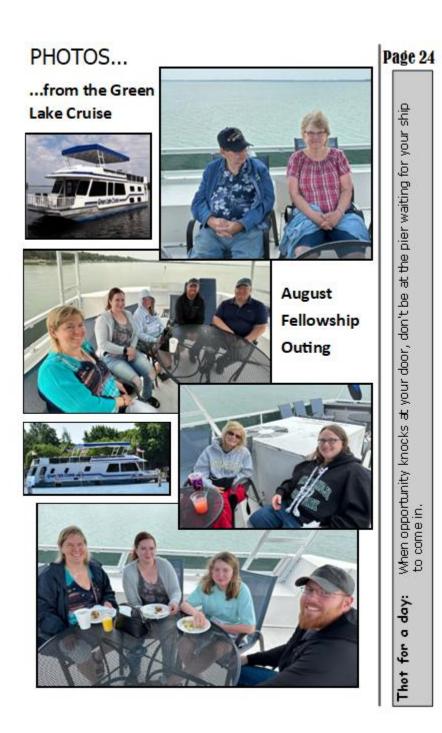
In the latest newsletter, read about:

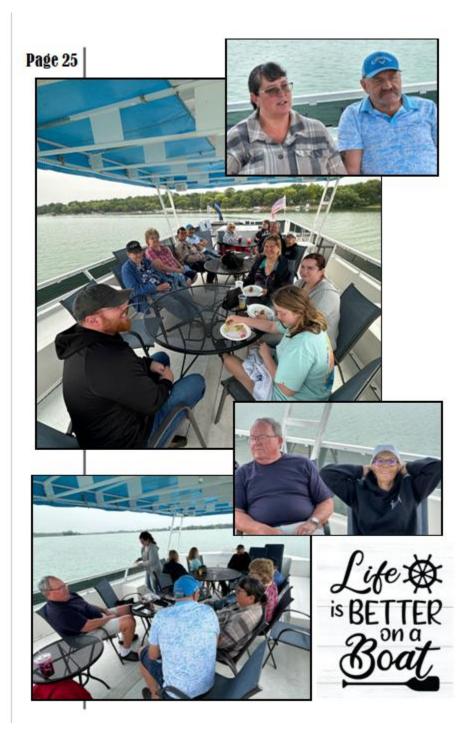
- The importance of fortifying Christians to face an increasingly secularized culture.
- . Them Before Us, a nonprofit organization that defends children's rights in the family.
- . A new law in Colorado that threatens to prevent pro-life health care providers from offering the life-saving abortion pill reversal method.

Check out the latest Free to Be Faithful Newsletter here:

https://resources.lcms.org/newsletters/free-to-be-faithfulnewsletter-summer-2023/

You as Thot





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.



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

Our next Meal-Making Day is Saturday, September 16 @10:00 a.m.

We need lots of people that day to help make meals.

Thanks!



Page 27 Page 26

PHOTOS from VBS 2023...







talking 9 I know flavor." in

TV just said, "Where there's fat, there' but I still took it as a compliment. This chef on 1 about food, b

day:

Email Humor...

A sidewalk preacher stood on a soapbox downtown and started a rousing sermon on salvation. ending with, "Brothers and Sisters, if you want to go to Heaven, come stand by me!"



THE END

IS NEAR

Half of those standing around joined the preacher, and he went on, raising his voice and fervor, again with the call, "Brothers and Sisters, if you want to go to Heaven, come stand with me!"

Half of those left came over and the preacher continued, ending again with the call to Heaven. This time, all but one man came over.

"Brother!" the preacher called, "Don't you want to go to Heaven when vou die?"

The man said, "Oh sure, when I die. I thought you were taking a load up now!"

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One day Sven & Ollie, local pastors, were seen pounding a sign into the ground, that said:

"DA END ISS NEAR!

TURN YERSELF AROUND NOW BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE"

As a car sped past them, the driver leaned out his window and yelled, "Leave us alone, you religious nuts!"

From the curve we heard screeching tires and a big splash...

Rev. Ole turns to Pastor Sven and asks, "Do ya tink maybe da sign should yust say 'Bridge Out'?"

++++++++

A second-grade teacher, explaining the concept of rules, asked the students what rules their parents might give before taking them to a nice restaurant.

The first child offered: "Don't play with your food."

The second said: "Use your inside voice."

The third piped up: "Order something cheap!"

Page 28

keys,

glasses,

"wallet,

2

and toes"

knees,

shoulders,

adult version of "head, phone."

and

Page 29 Happy Labor Day...

Rest is important for everyone, but it's a biblical command for God's people. This Labor Day, remember that even God took a day to rest from all his labors. The rhythms of work and rest are critical for the care of our souls and our relationship with the one who calls us to rest.

God loves people so much that he was willing to leave his place of perfect rest in order to enter into the unrest of this world. Christ, the Lord of the Sabbath, became incarnate, as a man who had "no place to lay his head" (Matthew 8:20), so that his followers could find real rest.

Then he called them to experience a greater and deeper rest by looking to him in a deepening faith.

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my voke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light. - Matthew 11:28-30

Believers can give Jesus their burdens and experience deeper rest. However, it takes a full surrendering of minds, hearts, and wills.

An important question about personal rest practices, whatever they are, is whether they pull an individual into a deeper experience of God's faithfulness. God gives the weekly Sabbath to remind the Israelites of his never-ending faithful provision, and Jesus heals on the Sabbath to prove his ultimate dominion over all problems. Any particular approach, whether it be attending a church service, reading a devotional, or eating with friends, is not a fool-proof solution. Rather, all practices afford people greater opportunities to commune with God, in whom humanity finds the deepest and most satisfying rest.

Story Behind The Song...

The lyrics of "I Love You Lord" penned by Laurie Klein in 1976 are some of the most widely recorded in all of contemporary Christian worship, having been covered at least 70 times by the year 2000. Beyond that, they are some of the most sung by believers the world over, appearing in more than 25 hymnals. Their elegant simplicity, theological openness, and sincerity have made them an endearing and enduring contribution to Christian hymnody.

Klein, a native of Wisconsin, was a young mother, living in a small camper while her husband attended college in 1974. Isolated in the Oregon wilderness, she had no community, no nearby friends, and no local church body to call home.

day: 0

In her own words... "It was a dark time in my life. We had no extra money, no friends nearby, no church home, and my husband was busy all of the time with his studies. I didn't drive, so I couldn't get away. We lived on a highway in a mobile home, so I couldn't even put the baby in a stroller and go for a walk. Our only neighbors were people long retired and tired of life. When I needed some encouragement there was no extra money for long distance calls to family or friends. I was lonely. The only thing I was committed to was trying to get up each morning before our baby, then a toddler, and spend some time with Jesus. I knew that was where the "life' was."

"The day the song came, I had gotten up early and was sitting with my Bible and my guitar. I realized that I didn't have anything in me to sing to Jesus. I just didn't have anything in me to offer him. I was so empty. So I prayed and said to the Lord, 'If you want to hear me sing, would you give me something that you would like to hear?"

"I started strumming on the guitar and the first words came out of my mouth with absolutely no effort. Hove you Lord, and Hift my voice to worship you. I scribbled them on a piece of paper, just in case I would want to remember them, and sing them again. Those words meant a lot to me."

"I wondered if I could play the melody again- if I would even remember. I played and sang the two lines again. They were still there, in my mind. The last two lines just followed as effortlessly as the first two had come. It was a gift from God that just wrote itself."

"Though it is a very simple song, it changed everything for me, and it still is changing life for me. When you are in a dark valley and the Lord gives you light, it makes all the difference, and you keep growing."

Later, she sang the song for her husband, who suggested she play it for a local pastor and some musicians. The song found its way to Jack Hayford's Church on the Way in Van Nuys, California, and was recorded by several musicians of the budding Christian music scene, including Buck and Annie Herring (2nd Chapter of Acts). Since then, the song has "quietly made its way around the world" being recorded by a wide variety of artists such as Petra, Bill Gaither, and Five Iron Frenzy.

The significance of "I Love You, Lord" does not lie in the celebrity of its composer, nor in its magnificence as a work of art, but in its sustained ability to interact with other songs and productions in the contemporary worship music. It expresses something profound about our relationship with God.

Page 30

the

can't tell

Page 31

For Steve

I love you, Lord And I lift my voice To worship You Oh, my soul, rejoice!

Take joy my King In what You hear Let it be a sweet, sweet sound In Your ear

REPEAT ALL

Note from the editor:
The version by Bill and Gloria Gaither:
https://youtu.be/1c0EzHFnk 8?si=o-D9zI91ISEItX9

The version by Petra: https://youtu.be/x1IDrMj9CBQ?si=HIPf_gr6Sy9me3-i

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



Some people can't tell a lie, others can't tell the truth, and others difference.

hot for a day: