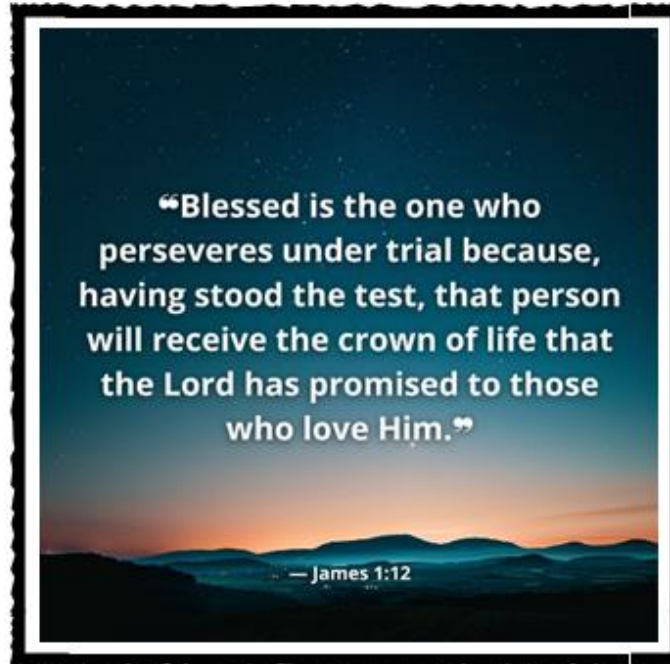




Living Word
Lutheran Church
LCMS



August 2024 Newsletter

“Communicating the Love of Jesus”

**Summer Hours:
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 insights did you get from your trip?

Violet and I just got back from a very long road trip. (I appreciate the questioner not referring to it as a "vacation." 7000 miles in 17 days is definitely a "trip," not a "vacation!")

It seemed more like a bus tour with me as the bus driver. The goal of the tour was to visit Violet's "out west" relatives: Her sister and brother-in-law, two sets of nephews, her great nephew, 3 sets of cousins, her step-father, and her aunt and uncle. All of them live various places in Washington, Oregon and California.

As you can imagine, over the course of 7000 miles (I couldn't believe it when I looked at the odometer after we got home,) I came away with lots of observations and insights. I'll share a number of them in the sermon on August 4, so go check that out if you want to hear more. But for this article, the main insight is summed up by a passage in Proverbs 16:9:

*"The heart of a man plans his way,
but the LORD establishes his steps."*

This truly was a "bus tour" that God had designed for us to take. Violet and I had planned on going east to visit the Ark Encounter and Creation Museum near Cincinnati. But God re-directed our trip in the opposite direction just a month or so ago when Jay and Sarah Miller had a couple extra train tickets to Washington. I suggested that Violet take the train to go visit her relatives. But when she asked me to come along, that changed the mode of transportation to "How about I drive." (Violet loves train travel. I'd rather have a root canal!)



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Visiting Violet's relatives was a great blessing. It not only served to help us re-connect with family we hadn't seen in years, it was a real eye-opener to see how God has been at work accomplishing His plan to bring each of them closer to Him. Plus, it gave us new ideas about how to pray for all of them, as well as ways to stay connected and help them continue to grow in their faith across the miles.

Thanks for asking
Pastor David

Send your questions to pastor@livingwordlutheran.net

Communion Notes...

The Lord's Supper will be celebrated in July on the normal **First and Third Sundays (4th & 18th)**



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.

Living Word Apparel...



Remember to wear your t-shirts and hats...



Summer Worship Time:
9:00 a.m.
Begins Memorial Weekend
Sunday, May 26
(And runs through Labor Day Weekend)

Email Humor...

One Sunday after church Mom asked her very young daughter what the lesson was about.

Her daughter answered, "Don't be scared, you'll get your quilts." Needless to say, Mom was perplexed.

Later in the day, the Pastor stopped by for tea. Mom asked him what that morning's Sunday school lesson was about.

He said, "*Be not afraid, Thy comforter is coming.*"

Pastor is Planning a Membership Class...

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



Smoke-Detector Battery Outreach...



We Have LOTS of Batteries left from Our Annual Smoke-Detector Battery Giveaway

A great time to change your smoke detector battery is when you change your clocks on March 10th.

Please take some from the "Free Stuff" Table for your family and friends!

Thank God For...

You've seen our sign board out by the road with the beginning of a sentence: "Thank God For..." Each week we'd like to change the ending of that sentence to encourage people who drive past to remember that God is the giver of all good things - especially things we take for granted.

In July we thanked God for...

- **FREEDOM!**

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



Page 4

Thot for a day: Ever feel like life is a car wash and you're on a bicycle?

Page 5

Youth Events...

CHECK OUT OUR NEW YOUTH HANGOUT AREA
(Across from the Nursery)



Meet at
Mill Pond Beach
6:00 p.m.

Becky will drive the "floaters" upriver to meet Cody. They float back to Mill Pond beach.

Quick Bible Study there



Planning has begun for attending...

As of now we have 8 youth planning to attend.

Gathering Date: July 19—23, 2025


Youth, 14-19 years of age by the Gathering Date

Next Parent Meeting:
Wed., Sept. 4 @ 7:00

Current Fundraiser:
"Grab an Envelope"



Orphan Grain Train School and Teacher Kits... (VBS project)



SCHOOL KITS

CONTENTS

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




PLEASE NOTE

- Backpacks, drawing athletic bags, or homemade tote bags are all acceptable.
- We recommend leaving contents in the original packaging, but it is not required.
- No additions, deletions, or substitutions.
- Do not add money, photos, or personal notes.
- Do not include items with religious, camouflage, patriotic or military symbols.
- Pack only new or gently used items.
- Do not include plastic bags.
- It costs an average of \$11 to ship each box of kits. Please consider a donation to your local OGT branch to help with shipping.

Although well-meaning variations are tempting, please do not do this. It may result in heavy fines and/or the entire shipment being confiscated by customs officials.

ASSEMBLY

1. Stack flat items together.
2. Place all items inside school bag.
3. Close bag if applicable.

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.



TEACHER KITS

CONTENTS

- 1 drawstring or tote bag
- 1 12-pack pencils
- 1 pencil sharpener
- 1 12-pack chalk
- 1 chalkboard eraser
- 4 highlighters
- 1 clipboard
- 1 adult scissors
- 1 ruler
- 2 red pens
- 4 pocket folders
- 4 sheets stickers (stars or smiley faces)

PLEASE NOTE

- Chalk may be white or colored.
- We recommend leaving contents in the original packaging, but it is not required.
- No additions, deletions, or substitutions.
- Do not add money, photos, or personal notes.
- Do not include items with religious, camouflage, patriotic or military symbols.
- Pack only new or gently used items.
- Do not include plastic bags.
- It costs an average of \$11 to ship each box of kits. Please consider a donation to your local OGT branch to help with shipping.

Although well-meaning variations are tempting, please do not do this. It may result in heavy fines and/or the entire shipment being confiscated by customs officials.

ASSEMBLY

1. Stack flat items together.
2. Place all items in bag.
3. Close bag if applicable.




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.

Revised 8-2-2023 Approximate cost to assemble: \$24.00

That for a day: I hate people who can't let go of the past. Debt collectors are the worst.

Vacation Bible School...



You are invited to come on
"A WALK WITH JESUS"

at
 Living Word Lutheran Church
 Vacation Bible School

August 19 - 22, 2024
 Monday - Thursday
 5:30 - 8:00pm

All Ages are welcome!!!

Contact Mona 320-212-0069

We will offer a light supper
 (or bring a sack lunch)

**JESUS said, "I AM the WAY,
 and the TRUTH
 and the LIFE."**

John 14:6



Church Directory...

We are starting to compile information and photos for the CHURCH DIRECTORY!

If everyone supplies a photo and the following information you will make this task so much simpler.

If you do not have a photo of your family/yourself, Torasia will take your photo for you after church. (She will have her camera available to do that after each service in July.)

Below is the info we would like to include:

Name (Names) Please include Dates of Birth and Anniversary date as applicable

Address _____ _____
Telephone _____
Email Address _____
(Information is voluntary, we will not sell your information but will use it strictly as a way to communicate)
If you want to email this information along with a photo, you can email to cabbage_12@hotmail.com

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Thot for a day: I feel sorry for people who don't have dogs. I hear they have to pick up food they drop on the floor.

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Opportunities for Growth...



Sunday Morning Bible Study
Is on Summer Break.
Will resume in September

Monthly Morning Women's Study:

Is on Summer Break—Next Study will be September 11th.



Men's Study

Meets Every-other Wednesday For the Summer
August 7th @ 6:30
(Come at 6:00 for food)

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

Read about Promises in the Bible

(Or listen to Pastor read them.)

He will text or email you a link to each day's recording)

You'll find the readings listed on our Daily Readings pages 18-19

LWML News...

LWML will not meet in August.

Our next meeting and Bible study, will be Wednesday, September 11th, at 10:00 a.m., at church



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.

Choir News...

Will be back in the fall!



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 :

- Kid's books
- August Newsletters
- July-September Portals of Prayer
- Smoke Detector batteries

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>

July 7 "Jesus Sets Us Free From Wrong Expectations"

June 14 "Lessons From Squishing Bugs and Pulling Weeds"

June 21 Pastor Schultz Filled In For Pastor David

June 28 "The Song 'Craig' Sets Us a Great Example"

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.

Donation Reminder

While we love donations of items for the church, we have very limited storage. If you have an item you think we need, there is a procedure: Please contact Tammy Miller 320-905-2434 before you donate!



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That for a day: I have had a horribly busy day converting oxygen to carbon dioxide.

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Mark Your Calendars...

Mission & Ministry Team

Thursday, August 8th @ 6:30 p.m.
Elders' Team @ 5:30 prior to MMT

Building Committee Meeting

Wednesday, August 7th @ 5:30 p.m. (Prior to Men's Study)

Upcoming Fellowship Outings...

Celebrate Birthdays

We will celebrate July Birthdays
at Coop's Corner in Belgrade
Tuesday, August 13th @ 11:00



August Supper / Fellowship Outing
Thursday, August 15th
5:30—8:00
At The Big Kahuna

Trap-Shooting Fellowship 2024...

Every other Wednesday @ 6:00 p.m.

We'll have brats, hot dogs and a devotion @ 6:00 and start shooting @ 6:30

- August 14
- August 28



Save The Date for...



August 19-22

5:30 - 8:00 p.m.

"A Walk With Jesus"

Community Outreach...



Lutheran Island Camp...

NEW FALL PROGRAM:
September 13-15

Parent/Child horse Camp \$225

This is offered to campers in 3rd-6th grade and their parents. Campers and parents will learn the basics of ground safety as well as how to steer and ride their horses at a walk. Friday evening, campers and parents will enjoy s'mores after campfire. Saturday, campers and parents will spend the day at the ranch, which includes a fun horse related craft and riding out on the trails. No prior horse experience is required. Weight limit of 180lbs.

More info at www.islandcamp.org



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That for a day: I have many hidden talents. I just wish I could remember where I hid them.

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Email Inspiration...

Scars for Life

Some years ago on a hot summer day in south Florida, a little boy decided to go for a swim in the old swimming hole behind his house. In a hurry to dive into the cool water, he ran out the back door, leaving behind shoes, socks, and shirt as he went. He flew into the water, not realizing that as he swam toward the middle of the lake, an alligator was swimming toward the shore.

His mother in the house was looking out the window saw the two as they got closer and closer together. In utter fear, she ran toward the water, yelling to her son as loudly as she could. Hearing her voice, the little boy became alarmed and made a U-turn to swim to his mother. It was too late. Just as he reached her, the alligator reached him.

From the dock, the mother grabbed her little boy by the arms just as the alligator snatched his legs. That began an incredible tug-of-war between the two. The alligator was much stronger than the mother, but the mother was much too passionate to let go.

A farmer happened to drive by, heard her screams, raced from his truck, took aim and shot the alligator. Remarkably, after weeks and weeks in the hospital, the little boy survived. His legs were extremely scarred by the vicious attack of the animal. And, on his arms, were deep scratches where his mother's fingernails dug into his flesh in her effort to hang on to the son she loved.

The newspaper reporter who interviewed the boy after the trauma, asked if he would show him his scars. The boy lifted his pant legs. And then, with obvious pride, he said to the reporter, "But look at my arms. I have great scars on my arms, too. I have them because my Mom wouldn't let go." You and I can identify with that little boy. We have scars, too. No, not from an alligator, or anything quite so dramatic. But the scars of a painful past. Some of those scars are unsightly and have caused us deep regret. But, some wounds, my friend, are because God has refused to let go.

In the midst of your struggle, He's been there holding on to you. The Scripture teaches that God loves you. You are a child of God. He wants to protect you and provide for you in every way.

But sometimes we foolishly wade into dangerous situations. The swimming hole of life is filled with peril - and we forget that the enemy is waiting to attack. That's when the tug-of-war begins - and if you have the scars of His love on your arms be very, very grateful. He did not and will not - let you go.

A Minute for Couples...

5 Keys to Breaking the Defensiveness Cycle

Defensiveness in your relationship can be a vicious cycle. One of you makes a comment. The other person gets defensive and responds critically, causing the other person to get defensive in return. The longer this cycle continues, the harder it is to talk through issues and be open, authentic, and vulnerable with each other. So, how do you break out of this pattern? These are the key things to keep in mind:



1. Work on your self-awareness.

Time to do some self-reflection. It can be uncomfortable, but when you learn more about yourself, your triggers, insecurities, and blind spots, you gain a better understanding of the things that cause you to react defensively. You become more mindful of your emotions rising and your heart rate increasing. You can take steps to calm yourself and respond more rationally. Even if you let a defensive comment bubble out, you can recognize what's happening, take responsibility, and try a different approach. Self-awareness is the foundation when it comes to decreasing your own defensiveness.

2. Understand it's a two-way street.

Doing your own work is half of the equation, but for best results, decreasing defensiveness is something you and your spouse work on together. It takes both of you to create a sense of emotional safety in your relationship that is conducive to being vulnerable and taking ownership of your respective feelings. In the same way that defensiveness can be a catalyst for negative communication patterns, making each other feel safe, respected, and free of judgment creates a positive reciprocal effect.

3. Get curious.

A big part of why we get defensive is because of how we interpret what our spouse is saying. We might feel our defensiveness is justified because we make negative assumptions about the meaning or intent of their words. Getting curious about what your spouse actually means will help you see things more objectively. When you see things as they truly are, you can react more reasonably to the situation.

4. Embrace the do-over.

Decreasing defensiveness doesn't mean eliminating it. In fact, it would be unrealistic to even strive for that – it's human nature to protect yourself emotionally. So adjust your expectations to allow for the fact that you're both going to get defensive from time to time. Maybe you're stressed out, tired, or just having a bad day. Whatever the case, all is not lost –

you can correct your course. Don't be afraid to ask for a do-over.



5. Choose empathy.

When your spouse gets defensive, you have a choice. You can get snippy yourself – or you can choose empathy instead. The best way to stop the defensiveness cycle in its tracks is to help your spouse feel emotionally safe and understood. If they ask for a do-over, grant it. Help them understand you're on their team.

In passing, defensiveness might seem like just a minor bad habit or an occasional tendency. Left unchecked, however, it can prevent you from being able to work through issues, have vulnerable conversations, and resolve conflict in a healthy way. All of these things are vital to growing together, and that's why learning to break the cycle is so important. Working on these key things will help you get there.



August 2024 - Living Word Lutheran - Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4 9:00 - WORSHIP w/Communion 10:15 - FELLOWSHIP - DIRECTORY PHOTOS	5	6	7 5:30 - BUILDING TEAM 6:30 - MEN'S STUDY	8 Mission Ministry 5:30 - ELDERS' TEAM 6:30 - MISSION & MINISTRY TEAM	9	10 10:00 MEAL MAKING
11 9:00 - WORSHIP 10:15 - FELLOWSHIP - DIRECTORY PHOTOS	12 6:00 - 8:00 2 nd ANNUAL YOUTH CANOE FLOAT	13 11:00 - CELEBRATE AUGUST BIRTHDAYS @ COOPS CORNER	14 1:00 - VBS PLANNING 6:30 - TRAP SHOOTING 	15 5:30 - 8:00 FELLOWSHIP OUTING @ BIG KAHUNA	<div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #ff0000; color: white; padding: 5px;"> Lord's Supper Dates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sunday, August 4th Sunday, August 18th </div>	
18 9:00 - WORSHIP w/Communion 10:15 - FELLOWSHIP & - DIRECTORY PHOTOS	19 V A C A T I O N 5:30 - 8:00	20 V A C A T I O N 5:30 - 8:00	21 B I B L E 5:30 - 8:00	22 S C H O O L 5:30 - 8:00	23	24
25 9:00 - WORSHIP 10:15 - FELLOWSHIP & - DIRECTORY PHOTOS	26	27	28  6:30 - TRAP SHOOTING	29	30	31
Sept 1 9:00 - WORSHIP w/Communion 10:15 - FELLOWSHIP & - DIRECTORY PHOTOS	Sept 2 LABOR DAY	Sept 3 5:30 BUILDING TEAM 6:30 MEN'S STUDY	Sept 4 6:00 - CONFIRMATION PARENTS MEET	Sept 5	Sept 6	Sept 7 RALLY SUNDAY (Grandparents' Day) TOMORROW !!! Sunday School @ 9:00 Service @ 10:00

August 2024 - Daily Readings

This Month we focus in PROMISES found in the Bible.

Pastor records the readings (along with devotions based on the readings).

To receive these audio recordings daily, just email him: pastor@livingwordlutheran.net.

NOTE: Email or text Pastor with questions you have on something you read.

Aug 4 Use today to Worship & catch up on readings you missed

Aug 5 Genesis 3:15, 16-17 _____

Aug 6 Genesis 6:6-22, 9:13-22 _____

Aug 7 Genesis 12:1-8 _____

Aug 8 Genesis 15:1-6 _____

Aug 9 Genesis 18:9-15 _____

Aug 11 Use today to Worship and catch up on readings you missed

Aug 12 Exodus 3:1-12 _____

Aug 13 Exodus 12:12-13, 21-28 _____

Aug 14 Exodus 16:1-5, 9-30 _____

Aug 15 Exodus 34:4-8 _____

Aug 16 Numbers 14:26-35, Joshua 5:4-12 _____

Aug 18 Use today to Worship - and catch up on readings you missed!

Aug 19 Isaiah 7:14, Matthew 1:20-23 _____

Aug 20 Micah 5:2, Matthew 2:1-12 _____

Aug 21 Luke 1:11-20, 57-66 _____

Aug 22 Luke 1:26-38, 2:1-7 _____

Aug 23 Luke 9:22, Matthew 28:1-10 _____

Aug 25 Use today to Worship and catch up on readings you missed

Aug 26 John 15:1-5 _____

Aug 27 John 16:33 _____

Aug 28 John 6:40 _____

Aug 29 John 15:7, 1 John 5:14-15 _____

Aug 30 1 John 1:8-9 _____

Sept 1 Use today to Worship - and catch up on readings you missed

Sept 2 James 1:5-6 _____

Sept 3 Philippians 4:6-7 _____

Sept 4 Romans 8:28, 37-39 _____

Sept 5 John 14:2-3, 2 Peter 3:3-9 _____

Sept 6 Romans 21:1-8 _____

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

<https://www.livingwordlutheran.net/devotions.htm>

Upcoming Schedules...

After-Worship Fellowship

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



Usher Schedule

Aug 4	Wendy & Lonny Robbin
Aug 11	Jason & Levi Miller
Aug 18	Pam Johnson & Linda Van Meter
Aug 25	Larry Levin & Jim Stinson

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. Thanks!

Elders

Aug 4, 11	Scott & Steve
Aug 18, 25	Duane & Kevin

Custodian

August -	Available (Please talk to Lonny Robbin)
Sept -	Duane and Bonnie Hansen

Nursery

(Volunteers needed - please talk to Mona H.)

Altar Guild

August	Mona Hjelle
--------	-------------

Power Point Clicker

August 4	Carter
August 11	Parker
August 18	Ella
August 25	Troy

Accompanying Musicians

August 4	Sharon Willen
August 11	Scott Wachter
August 18	Open
August 25	Scott Wachter

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That for a day: The lottery is the best kind of tax ever conceived: It taxes only the willing.

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Confirmation News

Remember to check the "PowerPoint Clicker" schedule, and catch up on your Sermon Notes.

We normally have a couple family service projects that we are not able to do this year: **Adopt-a-Highway** (due to construction on MN 23) and **Tuesday's Table** (all the available dates were spoken for). So... we have some other options for service projects you and your student can participate in together:

- Help with **Vacation Bible School** (August 19-22)
- Volunteer as **Church cleaner** once a week for a month. (August, November and December are available. It usually takes roughly an hour a week)

Please let Pastor David know which of these you and your student would like to help with. Thanks!



Big Kahuna Outing.

Thursday, August 15 from 5:30-8:00

NOTE: This will be free for the students who are up-to-date - on their Sermon Notes. (Pastor will send out a reminder of where everyone is at with Sermon Notes)

Confirmation Parents' Meeting: Wed, Sept. 4 @ 6:00

Seen on Church Signboards...

JESUS NAILED IT !!!

August Discipleship Verse...



"Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial, because, having stood the test that person will receive the crown of life the Lord has promised to those who love Him." James 1:12



The Link...

June 2024 IMPACT FROM THE LINK

Although things have slowed down a bit since Ribfest, The Link has continued to see record numbers in the Food Pantry. Despite the increased budget, the pantry tends to

be quite empty the week before we receive another food truck. If you are interested in organizing a food drive to help supplement during those weeks, please reach out!

The Food Pantry. In June, The Link served 183 households – including 306 adults, 186 children and 51 seniors -- distributing a total of 11,279 pounds of food.

Wildcat Backpack and Snack Pantry. The Wildcat Backpack bags are available through the summer to those in need if families would like to pick them up at The Link each week.

Client Outreach. Each month, The Link is able to provide support to a number of families facing hardships, such as (but not limited to): job loss, chronic illness, unexpected change in family dynamics and increase in the cost of living. In June, your donations were able to support 41 families by helping with medical bills, gas, utility bills and rental payments along with providing budgeting support, networking and referrals for additional basic needs. Household Exchange. The Household Exchange Program was able to provide 37 families with much needed furniture and other household necessities in June.

WE LOVE OUR VOLUNTEERS!!!! In June, The Link's volunteers donated 992 hours of their time to ensure The Link's programs and Ribfest run smoothly! We are so grateful for their selfless service of helping those in need in our community!!! If you are interested in volunteering, please call Ashley at 320-354-5465! It is a great way to meet others in the community and create relationships—and the laughter is never short.

Tuesday's Table. A free community meal the 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: Crossroads Community Church (call 320-354-5555 for more information).

HOW CAN YOU HELP? Pray for the Link and the community--Help us spread awareness by talking about The Link to your friends and family and sharing on social media-- Donate unexpired food items to the food pantry or organize a food drive-- Volunteer at the thrift store or

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That for a day: The reason some people want cremation is it's their last chance to have a smoking hot body.

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in the food pantry-- Donate your gently used clothing and household goods - (all proceeds kick back into The Link's programs -- or Donate financially.

CURRENT NEEDS: Gently used clothing and household necessities, any unexpired/packaged and labeled food. Remember for every \$1 donated, The Link can purchase \$10 in food through Second Harvest.



Donations made easy Monthly giving at The Link is convenient. You can set up online giving directly through your bank or by visiting The Link's website at www.youarethelink.org by scanning the QR code. You can also mail your donation to P.O. Box 823, New London, MN 56273, drop off your donation in person or leave your check in the drop box outside of The Link's door at 20 Central Ave E, New London. Questions? Contact Ashley at 320-354-5555. Thank you for your support! **YOU ARE THE LINK!**



"We're looking for a church with a vibrant, active congregation... that we can quietly observe from the back pew."

More Email Humor...

My Sunday school class of kindergartners was studying the creation story. After several weeks, we were ready to review.

"What did God make the first day?" I quizzed.

"The second day?" They answered both questions correctly. "And what happened on the third day?" I asked.

One little child, face shining with enthusiasm, exclaimed, "He rose from the dead!"

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. 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 taking a meal for someone who is going through a tough time.



We'll make meals to refill our supply in the freezer on . . .

**Saturday,
August 10
@ 10:00**



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That for a day: The secret to a clean kitchen is simple. Don't cook. Ever.

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Building Committee

The committee is looking into the feasibility of attaching the new sanctuary to the front (west side) of the existing building in order to be able to provide overflow seating for large services. Please continue to pray for God's guidance for them!



OUR NEXT BUILDING COMMITTEE MEETING:
WEDNESDAY, August 7 @ 5:30

THERE! THAT OUGHT TO
DISPEL THE MYTH THAT WE'RE
AN ELDERLY CONGREGATION
THAT DOESN'T KNOW HOW TO
REACH OUT TO YOUNG PEOPLE.



More Email Humor...

Everyone in the wedding ceremony was watching the radiant bride as her father escorted her down the aisle to give her away to the groom. They reached the altar and the waiting groom; the bride kissed her father and placed something in his hand.

Everyone in the room was wondering what it was that she handed to her father. He felt the suspense in the air and all eyes were on him to divulge the secret and say something. Therefore, he announced, "Ladies and Gentlemen today is the luckiest day of my life."

Then he raised his hand with what his daughter had given him and continued, "My daughter finally, finally returned my credit card to me"

The whole audience, including the minister, started laughing.

For some strange reason, the poor groom did not...

Email Wisdom...

THE MOUSE FROM THE HOUSE

A mouse looked through the crack in the wall to see the farmer and his wife open a package. What food might this contain? The mouse wondered - he was devastated to discover it was a mousetrap. Retreating to the farmyard, the mouse proclaimed the warning: There is a mousetrap in the house! There is a mousetrap in the house!

The chicken clucked and scratched, raised her head and said, "Mr. Mouse, I can tell this is a grave concern to you, but it is of no consequence to me." "I cannot be bothered by it."

The mouse turned to the pig and told him, "There is a mousetrap in the house! There is a mousetrap in the house!" The pig sympathized, but said, I am so very sorry, Mr. Mouse, but there is nothing I can do about it but pray. "Be assured you are in my prayers."

The mouse turned to the cow and said "There is a mousetrap in the house! There is a mousetrap in the house!" The cow said, "Wow, Mr. Mouse. I'm sorry for you, but it's no skin off my nose."

So, the mouse returned to the house, head down and dejected, to face the farmer's mousetrap alone.

That very night a sound was heard throughout the house -- like the sound of a mousetrap catching its prey. The farmer's wife rushed to see what was caught. In the darkness, she did not see it was a venomous snake whose tail the trap had caught. The snake bit the farmer's wife. The farmer rushed her to the hospital, and she returned home with a fever. Everyone knows you treat a fever with fresh chicken soup, so the farmer took his hatchet to the farmyard for the soup's main ingredient.

But his wife's sickness continued, so friends and neighbors came to sit with her around the clock. To feed them, the farmer butchered the pig.

The farmer's wife did not get well; she died. So many people came for her funeral, the farmer had the cow slaughtered to provide enough meat for all of them.

The mouse looked upon it all from his crack in the wall with great sadness.

So, the next time you hear someone is facing a problem and think it doesn't concern you, remember the mouse in the house.

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That for a day: I used to run a dating agency for chickens. But I was struggling to make hens meet.

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Prayer...

Remember to use "The Prayer Force"

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

And an Invitation to Join our "Prayer Force"

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

Please Remember to Pray At 11:09 Every day

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

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

- 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 know that Jesus loves them
- That the kids would make a commitment at VBS to follow Jesus
- That new families would join Living Word as a result of VBS
- Asking God to provide safe travel for everyone vacationing
- Asking God for His continued healing for Harry & Will's family
- Asking God's blessing on our Youth Gathering fundraising efforts
- Asking God for good weather for the growing season.
- Asking God's continued guidance for our Building Committee
- Thanking God that His Word is Truth amidst the lies of the world.
- Asking God for faith to stand for His Truth like Daniel's 3 friends !
- 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, wisdom & courage for government leaders
- The ministry of the Jastrams in Japan and the Int'l Lutheran Council

"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>

Monthly Music Videos...

July was full for great new music releases from a mix of established artists and some that are less known...

- Sidewalk Prophets released a new song called "Come To Jesus" ... <https://youtu.be/Me0Fqi9Sx1E>
- Another great Brandon Lake release "That's Who I Praise" ... <https://youtu.be/Hv9nQ2rOu6g>
- One of my favorites, Rhett Walker released "Days That We Dreamed Of" ... <https://youtu.be/3YY7uxwiB-E>
- The latest song from Andrew Ripp is "Light of Heaven:..." <https://youtu.be/ffixixFUPHs>
- John Wesley is a new artist who just released "Oh What A Friend" ... <https://youtu.be/djRX65hXwGI>
- Not a new artist, Steven Curtis Chapman released "Do It Again" ... <https://youtu.be/5dzTNKrXf5U>
- You may not have heard of Shane Davis, but "Run To Me" is a great new release... <https://youtu.be/eeM37PeHA4s>
- "I Need You More" is the latest release from Josiah Queen... <https://youtu.be/LasO6eAGOHw>
- Patrick Mayberry just released "Watch What God Can Do" ... <https://youtu.be/-soTNI3XZbM>
- "Hey God" is a new song from Brooke Robertson... https://youtu.be/K13ZhO2n_k4
- A great new song from 29:11 Worship is "All Broken Things" ... <https://youtu.be/PMigh6xyRrc>
- "I Love Jesus" is a fun new song from Mac Powell... <https://youtu.be/jpWJhEbdgUA>
- "Chosen" is a great new song from Matthew West's new album... <https://youtu.be/FrpRNqiHr8E>
- "Don't let Me Forget" is a new release from Ben Fuller... <https://youtu.be/lm8E7Xw83T4>
- Jeremy Camp, with Lecrae, has released "Ready Now" ... https://youtu.be/rAO46V_IDa4
- "God Of This Place" is the newest from David Leonard... <https://youtu.be/uJLfQebwhw>
- Austin French's newest song is "The Lord's Work" ...

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That for a day: When people say, "It's always in the last place you look," Of course it is. Why would you keep looking after you've found it? Do people do this? Who and where are they?

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https://youtu.be/h_DGOzEIU4k

- The Voice alum, bodie, released "God Did" ... <https://youtu.be/vLXQ8okCrnl>
- "Everything Good" is new from Jordan Feliz... <https://youtu.be/Dp76ovmIo84>
- Finally, the latest from We The Kingdom is "Let It Be Jesus" ... <https://youtu.be/PQH8gGGSpRI> (This one will be a hit.)

Story Behind The Song...

"Take My Life and Let It Be"

Frances Ridley Havergal (1836-1879) was an unusually gifted and passionate saint. The daughter of a church rector, she was raised in Worcester, England and attended schools in England and Germany. In her love of learning, she grew to become an able scholar (even becoming proficient in both Hebrew and Greek) and a talented singer and pianist.

Frances had begun reading and memorizing the Bible at the age of four (eventually memorizing The Psalms, Isaiah and most of the New Testament). At seven she wrote her first poems. Several of her mature verses became hymns. In addition to "Take My Life," she wrote such favorites as "I Gave My Life for Thee," "Like a River Glorious," and "Who Is on the Lord's Side?"

Because her voice was lovely, Frances was in demand as a concert soloist. She also was a brilliant pianist and learned several modern languages as well as Greek and Hebrew. With all her education, however, Frances Havergal maintained a simple faith and confidence in her Lord. She never wrote a line of poetry without praying over it.

The deepest desire of her heart, however, was in "personal spiritual influence upon others" (Benson). This led her to value most of all her ability to write; for that reason she expended the majority of her life's labors in writing prose and poetry that would be spiritually beneficial to the saints.

Havergal suffered poor health and was taken by the Lord at just 42 years of age. But the Lord prospered her ministry; her writings had a large impact in her own day, and several continue to be read and sung today.

Frances R. Havergal wrote this hymn on February 4, 1874. The story of

"Take My Life" gives a good picture of the kind of passion and joy she had in ministering to others. She once recounted the story behind it:

Perhaps you will be interested to know the origin of the consecration hymn, "Take my life." I went for a little visit of five days. There were ten persons in the house, some unconverted and long prayed for, some converted but not rejoicing Christians. He gave me the prayer, "Lord, give me all in this house!" And He just did! Before I left the house every one had got a blessing. The last night of my visit I was too happy to sleep, and passed most of the night in praise and renewal of my own consecration, and these little couplets formed themselves and chimed in my heart one after another, till they finished with, "Ever, ONLY, ALL for Thee!"

In her own words, the hymn is a "consecration hymn" in which the singer commits all of her possessions and being to the Lord for his purposes. It expresses what each of us ought to feel and long for, even if at times we see so much disparity between the words and our actual state that we have to sing most of it in hope and faith.

In 1878, four years after writing the hymn, Miss Havergal wrote a friend, *The Lord has shown me another little step, and, of course, I have taken it with extreme delight. 'Take my silver and my gold' now means shipping off all my ornaments to the Church Missionary House, including a jewel cabinet that is really fit for a countess, where all will be accepted and disposed of for me...Nearly fifty articles are being packed up. I don't think I ever packed a box with such pleasure."*

Take my life, and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move
At the impulse of Thy love;
Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my voice, and let me sing
Always, only, for my King;
Take my lips, and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee.

Take my silver and my gold;
Not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect, and use
Every power as Thou shalt choose.

That for a day: No one should live by the early bird policy until learning whether they classify as a bird or a worm.

Take my will, and make it Thine;
It shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart; it is Thine own;
It shall be Thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure-store.
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee.

My favorite version of this hymn is from Caleb & Kelsey...

<https://youtu.be/sRUPJmjo2eE>

Another great version by Chris Tomlin...

<https://youtu.be/mSKEkdNp9Ec>

And an updated version from Reawaken Hymns at...

<https://youtu.be/y3gWwGDGgVA>

In honor of the Olympics....

The Back Pew – Jeff Larson

