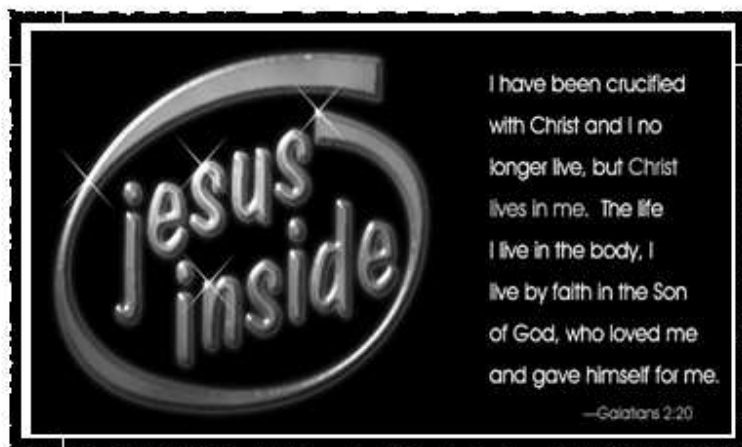


Living Word Lutheran Church LCMS

June 2008 Newsletter
"Communicating the Love of Jesus"



Worship Hours:
Christian Growth Hour: 8:45 a.m.
Worship Service: 10:00 a.m.

Living Word Lutheran Church

Located on the West of Spicer on Cty Rd 10
in old Prairie Meadows building
PO Box 242, New London, MN 56273
Phone: 320-796-0742
Website: www.livingwordlutheran.net



Question for Pastor...

"People always say, 'Oh, you're the strict ones,' when I tell them I go to a Missouri Synod church. How do I respond to that?"

That's a very common response. It's so common that I've wondered if it's in the official definition of the Missouri Synod in Webster's Dictionary or on Wikipedia. It's also a response that makes me cringe. I mean, what does the word "strict" conjure up in your mind? In my mind I get this picture of some old school marm (whose face would crack if she smiled) rapping kids across their knuckles with a ruler for just grinning out of turn. Not the kind of image you want to project.

For starters, "strict" is an unfair label. There are a lot of churches out there that are much "stricter." In Missouri Synod congregations, it's ok, for example, to dance, to play cards, to attend movies, even to have a drink now and then (as long as you don't get drunk). We're ok singing contemporary songs side-by-side with old hymns (which, of course, were contemporary music at some point in time). We don't make it mandatory for people to tithe (although tithing is a good thing and something God requires, it's also something that must come from a thankful heart not a grudging one).

My response to the "strict ones" comment would probably go something like this: "I don't know about the word 'strict,' but we do try to stick to what God has said in the Bible. If He says 'This is the way it should be,' then we don't have the right to do things some other way. In fact we have an obligation to do it the way God has said."

Quite honestly, I think that deep down that's really what people are looking for in a church. They want the church "be church" - to accurately represent God. They don't want the church to represent the ever-changing culture. We have newspapers, TV

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and internet for that. It's kind of like the fact that kids, deep down, want their parents to be parents - not just "buddies." Kind of like people want the doctor to be just that - a doctor. Someone who tells them the truth - what they need to hear to get better.

We do have one major challenge as we seek to stick to God's word: We do not want to become like the Pharisees of Jesus' day and add a bunch of extra restrictions that God hasn't given.

The person who asked this question told me they responded to the "strict ones" comment by saying, "We simply proclaim the Gospel of Jesus." That's a good reply. I would simply add to that the comment the apostle Philip made when his friend Nathaniel was skeptical: "Come and see."

Thanks for asking,
Pastor David

Send your questions to pastor@livingwordlutheran.net

Congratulations...



2008 NLS Graduates:

- Jenna Medalen
- Kristina Scholl
- Skylar Wachter

Graduation Open Houses...

Skylar Wachter

Saturday, June 7, from 1—4 pm here at Prairie Meadows

Kristina Scholl

Sunday, June 8 from 4-7pm at her home,
114 NW Oakview Dr in New London

Upcoming Events...

Sunday, June 1

Reception for Grads and Confirmands
After Worship

Wednesday, June 4th

NLS Baccalaureate @ 7:30 (High School Gym)

Sunday, June 8th

NLS Graduation @ 2:00 (High School Gym)

June 9-13

Vacation Bible School, Mon-Fri 5:30-8:00

Sunday June, 29

Installation of Mission & Ministry Team Officers



Summer Fun with YFC...

Tired of listening to "I'm bored" during the summer? Get involved the West Central Youth for Christ every Thursday on a summer Road Trip!

- June 19 - St Cloud for Disc Golf
- June 26 - the Big Kahuna in Spicer
- July 3 - Long Lake Party, Hawick
- July 10 - Duluth trip
- July 17 - Sonshine Festival in Willmar
- July 24 - Casey's Amusement Park in Alexandria
- July 31 - Science Museum in St. Paul
- Aug 7 - Kandiyohi County Fair
- Aug 14 - Saints Baseball Game in St. Paul
- Aug 21 - ValleyFair, Shakopee
- Aug 28 - End of Summer Concert in Spicer

For more information,

call Patrick or Becca at 235-0019

Don't Take A Summer Vacation

...From Worship

Summer plans may take you many places, but your summer will go better when you make time for worship - no matter where your plans take you.

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E-Mail Humor...

An Email Funny (or is it email "wisdom"?)

A pig and a chicken were walking by a church where a gala charity event was taking place. Getting caught up in the spirit, the pig suggested to the chicken that they each make a contribution.



"Great idea!" the chicken cried. "Let's offer them ham and eggs?"



"Not so fast," said the pig. "For you, that's a contribution. For me, it's a total commitment."

It's both - funny and wise.

Jesus said, "*Whoever would come after me must deny himself daily, take up his cross and follow me.*"

That's total commitment. Yet, how often don't we find that we are content to simply give merely a contribution of time or talent or treasure that doesn't cost us a lot. God calls us to total commitment. Ask yourself what you need to do to change "contribution" into "commitment."

Another Email Funny (with more wisdom built in)

A teacher gave her class of second graders a lesson on the magnet and what it does.

The next day in a written test, she included this question:

"My full name has six letters. The first one is M. I am strong and attractive. I pick up things. What am I?"

When the test papers were turned in, the teacher was astonished to find that almost 50 percent of the students answered the question with the word "Mother."

That for a day: Lord, keep your arm around my shoulder and your hand over my mouth

Memorial Day is Past, But Please Don't Forget . . .

(In response to several requests, here's the story I used in the sermon on Memorial Weekend)

EAGLE BASE, Bosnia and Herzegovina (Army News Service, May 22, 2002) -- It was raining "cats and dogs," and I was late for physical training. Traffic was backed up at Fort Campbell, Ky., and was moving way too slowly. I was probably going to be late and I was growing more and more impatient.

The pace slowed almost to a standstill as I passed Memorial Grove, the site built to honor the soldiers who died in the Gander airplane crash, the worst redeployment accident in the history of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault). Because it was close to Memorial Day, a small American flag had been placed in the ground next to each soldier's memorial plaque.

My concern at the time, however, was getting past the bottleneck, getting out of the rain and getting to PT on time. All of a sudden, infuriatingly, just as the traffic was getting started again, the car in front of me stopped. A soldier, a private of course, jumped out in the pouring rain and ran over toward the grove.

I couldn't believe it! This knucklehead was holding up everyone for who knows what kind of prank. Horns were honking. I waited to see the butt-chewing that I wanted him to get for making me late.

He was getting soaked to the skin. His BDUs were plastered to his frame. I watched as he ran up to one of the memorial plaques, picked up the small American flag that had fallen to the ground in the wind and the rain, and set it upright again. Then, slowly, he came to attention, saluted, ran back to his car, and drove off.

I'll never forget that incident. That soldier, whose name I will never know, taught me more about duty, honor, and respect than a hundred books or a thousand lectures.

That simple salute -- that single act of honoring his fallen brother and his flag -- encapsulated all the Army values in one gesture for me. It said, "I will never forget. I will keep the faith. I will finish the mission. I am an American soldier."

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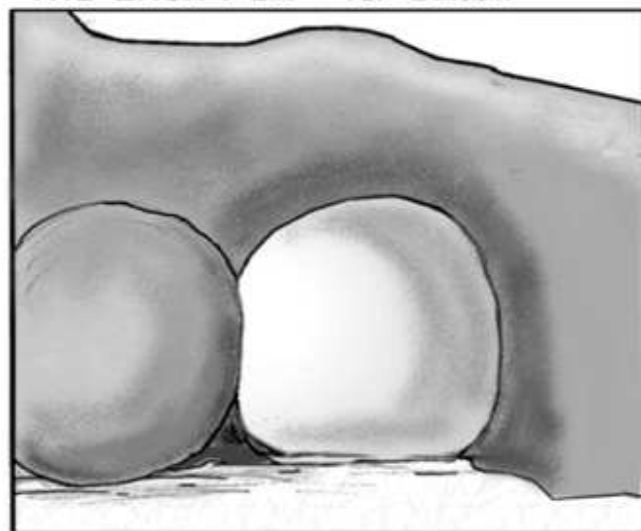
That for a day: Can't sleep? Try counting your blessings.

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I thank God for examples like that. And on this Memorial Day, I will remember all those who paid the ultimate price for my freedom, and one private, soaked to the skin, who honored them.

(Note: The author, Capt. John Rasmussen, is now a chaplain with Multinational Division North in Bosnia. Story courtesy of Army News Service.)

THE BACK PEW - Jeff LARSON



THE STONE ROLLED AWAY
Independence day for the **USA** was over
200 years ago.. for the **WORLD** it began
about 2000 years ago.

Need Something Good To Read This Summer?

Grab a Today's Light Bible (if you don't already have one). Start reading the daily readings. You'll be amazed at the difference it makes to have God's Word in your life every day. If you have a Today's Light Bible and have gotten away from the readings - pick it up and start your summer reading today. God will bless you for it.

New Schedules...

June/July/Aug Scripture Readers

If you aren't able to serve on your Sunday, please call someone and switch with them. Thanks!

June 1	Jamie Iverson	354-4932
June 8	Linda Dilley	235-0235
June 15	Mark Fuglie	796-6975
June 22	Wally Abraham	354-2615
June 29	Tammy Fuglie	796-6975

July 6	Lu Kiehm	979-0097
July 13	Allan Fuglie	796-6975
July 20	Janet Towner	444-0125
July 27	Wally Abraham	354-2615

Aug 3	Tammy Wachter	796-6222
Aug 10	Duane Hansen	796-5605
Aug 17	Scott Wachter	796-6222
Aug 24	Wally Abraham	354-2615

June/July/Aug Fellowship Servers

If you aren't able to serve on your Sunday, please call someone and switch with them. Thanks!

June 1	Tammy Fuglie	796-6975
June 8	Mona Hjelle	354-4315
June 15	Stacy Olson	212-9647
June 22	Violet Dauk	220-0344
June 29	Youth Serve	

July 6	Lu Kiehm	979-0097
July 13	Elaine Abraham	354-2615
July 20	Tris Mische	354-9046
July 27	Linda Dilley	235-0235

Aug 3	Bonnie Hansen	796-5605
Aug 10	Wendy Robbin	354-9049
Aug 17	Nancy Jo Wendt	354-2398
Aug 24	Donna Peterson	354-5247
Aug 31	Janet Towner	444-0125

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Thot for a day: Why does your nose run and your feet smell?

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New-Usher Schedule

(Ushers, please be at church at least 15 minutes prior to worship. Thanks)

June 1	Chuck Weffen & Kevin Welsh
June 8	Joe Johnson & Anthony Dauk
June 15	Duane Hansen & Bryson Wachter
June 22	Lu Kiehm & Janet Towner
June 29	Pam Johnson & Mona Hjelle
July 6	Jamie Iverson & Mark Fuglie

We are still looking for more people/families to usher on a rotating basis. Please talk to Pastor if you can help - it's not real difficult. Thanks!

Hmmmm...

A Mormon acquaintance once pushed Mark Twain into an argument on the issue of polygamy. After long and tedious expositions justifying the practice, the Mormon demanded that Twain cite any passage of Scripture expressly forbidding polygamy.

"Nothing easier," Twain replied. "No man can serve two masters."







New Sunday Morning Study

"New Age - Old Lies"

New Age teachings have become popular in our country. They are being promoted by some very popular and influential celebrities. They are finding their way into plans and policies promoted at all levels of government. And they are not compatible with what the Bible teaches. In fact New Age teachings are rooted in the oldest lies of Satan - ones he used on Adam and Eve (and you know how that turned out).

Join us at 8:45 Sunday mornings in June to take a closer look at New Age principles and how to respond them.

June 2008 - Living Word Church Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour Adult Forum - "New Age-Old Lies" 10:00 Worship w/Lord's Supper 11:15 Reception for Confirmants & Graduates	2	3 NOON Bible Study "Habakkuk" @ Geneva Olson's 7:00 Building Committee meets to choose architect	4 Noon Study: LifeLessons from Bible Characters: Philip #2 7:30 Baccalaureate @ NL-S	5	6	7  Cookie Outreach
8 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour Adult Forum - "New Age-Old Lies" 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship 11:30 Outreach Team Meeting  NLS Graduation	9 5:30-8:00 VBS "Jesus - Our Forever Friend"	10 Noon Study @ Geneva Olson's 5:30-8:00 VBS "Jesus - Our Forever Friend"	11 Noon Study: Life Lessons 5:30-8:00 VBS "Jesus - Our Forever Friend" 7:00 MEN'S STUDY "No Ordinary Men"	12 5:30-8:00 VBS "Jesus - Our Forever Friend" 7:00 Elders' Team 7:00 LWML	13 5:30-8:00 VBS "Jesus - Our Forever Friend"	14 8:00 MEN'S STUDY "No Ordinary Men" Cookie Outreach
15 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour Adult Forum - "New Age-Old Lies" 10:00 Worship w/Lord's Supper 11:15 Fellowship	16  Valley Fair Day ??	17 NOON Bible Study @ Geneva Olson's	18 Noon Study: LifeLessons from Bible Characters VBS Day @ Lutheran Island Camp	19 7:00 Mission & Ministry Team	20	21 Cookie Outreach
22 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour Adult Forum - "New Age-Old Lies" 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship	23	24 NOON Bible Study @ Geneva Olson's	25 Noon Study: LifeLessons from Bible Characters 7:00 MEN'S STUDY "No Ordinary Men"	26	27	28 8:00 MEN'S STUDY "No Ordinary Men" Cookie Outreach
29 INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour Adult Forum 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship	30	July 1 NOON Bible Study @ Geneva Olson's	July 2 Noon Study: LifeLessons from Bible Characters	July 3 	July 4 INDEPENDENCE DAY	July 5 Cookie Outreach

June 1 5-Minutes-A-Day

TODAY'S LIGHT BIBLE READING PROGRAM: We finish up the Kings and pick up a couple of the smaller books of the prophets after that.

(In parentheses are verses to focus on if you are short on time that day)

June 1 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

June 2 1 Kings 9:1-10:29 (10:1-29)

June 3 1 Kings 11:1-43 (11:1-13)

June 4 1 Kings 12:1-33 (12:1-24)

June 5 1 Kings 13:1-14:31 (14:21-31)

June 6 1 Kings 15:1-16:34 (16:29-34)

June 7 1 Kings 17:1-18:46 (18:20-40)

June 8 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

June 9 1 Kings 19:1-21 (19:1-18)

June 10 1 Kings 20:1-43 (20:1-21)

June 11 1 Kings 21:1-22:53 (21:17-29)

June 12 2 Kings 1:1-2:25 (2:1-18)

June 13 2 Kings 3:1-4:44 (4:8-37)

June 14 2 Kings 5:1-27 (5:1-15)

June 15 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

June 16 2 Kings 6:1-7:20 (6:24-7:20)

Today's Light Devotional Readings

June 17 2 Kings 8:1-29 (8:1-6)

June 18 2 Kings 9:1-10:36 (10:1-31)

June 19 2 Kings 11:1-12:21 (11:1-12:3)

June 20 2 Kings 13:1-14:29 (13:14-25)

June 21 2 Kings 15:1-16:20 (16:10-20)

June 22 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

June 23 2 Kings 17:1-41 (17:7-23)

June 24 2 Kings 18:1-19:37 (18:5-16)

June 25 2 Kings 20:1-21 (20:1-11)

June 26 2 Kings 21:1-26 (21:1-16)

June 27 2 Kings 22:1-23:37 (22:1-20)

June 28 2 Kings 24:1-25:30 (25:1-30)

June 29 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

June 30 Micah 1:1-2:13 (2:1-13)

July 1 Micah 3:1-4:13 (4:1-13)

July 2 Micah 5:1-15 (5:1-4)

July 3 Micah 6:1-16 (6:1-8)

July 4 Micah 7:1-20 (7:18-20)

July 5 Nahum 1:1-3:19 (1:1-15)

So That The World May Know...

Building Committee Update

This past month our Building Committee has interviewed two architects, Rand Shaper from St. Cloud and Lon Negen from Cold Spring. Both have experience designing and managing the construction of church facilities. Both architects we interview were from word-of-mouth referrals.

Our Building Committee meets this **Tuesday, June 3 at 7:00 p.m.** to discuss the interviews and choose an architect to lead our project. Please pray that God would guide them to see which architect He has chosen for us.

Installation of Mission and Ministry Team Officers Sunday, June 29 during worship

<u>Chairman</u> -	Mark Fuglie
<u>Secretary</u> -	Tammy Fuglie
<u>Elders</u> -	Jason Miller, Kevin Welsh
<u>Community Outreach Director</u> -	Laurel Iverson
<u>Christian Growth: Youth</u> -	Pam Johnson
<u>Stewardship</u> -	Duane Hansen
<u>Director of Trustees</u> -	Lonnie Robbin

Please keep these leaders in your prayers and thank them for their service to God and our congregation.

June Discipleship Verse...



"For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline."

2 Timothy 1:7

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WHICH BÔÖK?

I will bless the Lord at all times,
His praise shall continually
be in my mouth

Now there was a new king
over Egypt who did not
know Joseph

My son, if you receive my
words, and treasure my
commands within you

John, to the seven churches
which are in Asia

How lonely sits the city that
was full of people

For the wrath of God is
revealed from heaven . . .

Belshazzar the king made a
great feast for a thousand of
his lords . . .

And they were all filled with the
Holy Spirit and began to speak with
other languages . . .

Yet forty days and Nineveh
shall be overthrown

And it was told the king of
Jericho, saying " Behold, men
have come . . .

Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they shall see God

I have come that they might
have life, and that they might
have it more abundantly

But Moses said to God "Who
am I that I should go to Pharaoh?"

Books used : Exodus, Joshua, Psalms, Proverbs, I Corinthians, Daniel, Jonah, Matthew, John, Acts, Romans, Revelation
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Share the Love of Jesus In Practical Ways...

Make Some Cookies for Campers

We would like to provide cookies for the RV Campers at the RV park each Saturday through the summer as a way of welcoming them to our area and welcoming them to worship with us on Sundays. Talk to Pastor or Tammy Fuglie if you can bake cookies for this outreach. Thanks!

Share the Love of Christ with a Card or letter:

- **Jessica Jones** (granddaughter of Elaine Abraham's friend Billie Nadeau) mother of three who has leukemia. 11978 191 1/2 Av NW # 207, Elk River, MN 55330
- **Orville Gulden**, 7601 Lyndale Av So, Richfield, MN 55423

Make-a-Meal Program

You will notice special "PRAYER and CARE" cards in the worship attendance folders. Please use these cards to give us the names of people you know who could use a meal. (You can also use the cards to give prayer requests for Pastor and/or the Prayer Force prayer chain). The cards can be filled out and placed in the offering plate.

"Secret Paul" Prayer Partner Program

Reminders:

- Secret Pauls: Don't forget to send your person a note if they have a birthday in June.
- Parents: If you have specific things your kids need prayer for during the year, please place those requests in the Secret Paul request box. Thanks.

Provide a Scholarship For a Young Person to Attend Lutheran Island Camp

Camp offers great programs and we have folks who would like to attend. If you can help out by providing a

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scholarship, please talk to Pastor David. Thanks!

Help Chaperone (or drive) for a Youth Day at Valley Fair

Please talk to Pastor David or Pam Johnson if you can help in either of these ways. Tentative plans are to go to Valley Fair either Monday, June 16 or Monday, June 30. Thanks!

PUZZLER...

In the days of Samson riddles or 'puzzlers' were popular. Here's one for you. A cowboy rode into a town on his horse Friday at 12:00 noon. Three days later he rode out of the town on Friday at 12:00 noon. How did he do it? (Answer bottom of this page.)

THE BACK PEW - JEFF LARSON



Another one of those great moments in the life of Christ that would have played out much differently in Minnesota. Lk 5:1-6

PUZZLER ANSWER: The horse's name was Friday

Thot for a day: You cannot achieve the impossible without attempting the absurd.

More Opportunities to Grow...

Wednesday Bible Study

Wednesdays @ NOON

"Life Lessons from Bible Characters" At Living Word
Join us at noon each Wednesday to discover the lessons for life that we can learn from Bible characters like Joseph, Joshua, Mary, Hannah, Elisha, Gabriel, Rahab

Here are some examples of lessons we've already learned:

Abigail: Our first loyalty must always be to God.
When we do what is right we will be blessed.

Philip: You don't have to know all there is to know about Jesus in order to witness. A simple invitation with a "Come and see for yourself," is great for skeptics.

Don't limit God to what you think is humanly possible
If you don't understand something, don't be afraid to ask.

We take requests for this study. Let us know if there's a Bible character that intrigues you.

NEW Bible Study for Guys

Every Other Wed. Evening and Sat. Morning

Life can be like the journey to see the Wizard of Oz: To be all that God has designed us to be men need to replace "straw" brains with wisdom and common sense. We need hearts of compassion and courage to do what's right.

In our first study we saw some of the "straw" that society fills our brains with from the time we're born: 1) Your success as a man is determined by having the biggest, best and most toys; 2) Reliance on God is a sign of weakness - and displays of weakness are the ultimate sin for "men." 3) What matters most is what other people think of you.

Join us Wednesday, June 11 or Saturday, June 14 as we seek to replace the "straw" with truths of substance - truths from God.

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That for a day: Why don't tomb, comb, and bomb sound alike?

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"Oh God, Try Me Again"

By Bob Tasler

Robert Merrill, opera singer and actor, played the role of Teyve in "Fiddler on the Roof." One night, according to the script, he was imploring God to give him a replacement for his horse which was old and had lost its shoe. At that very moment a stray dog wandered onto the stage. The audience held its breath, wondering how the actor would handle the interruption. Merrill didn't miss a beat. He looked up to heaven and said fervently, "Oh God, please try again!"

The situation was hilarious, but it's not too funny when we do that in real life. We ask God for something we want: a new job, a change of attitude in our spouse, a better relationship with someone, or an end to money problems. The list is as long as our imagination.

Then God sends His answer and it looks like the wrong one. He doesn't give us exactly what we want, or even close to it. It doesn't match up to our expectations. So we look up to heaven and say, "Oh God, please try again!" And we are serious, because this time it's not funny.

It takes time and experience to learn that God always has a perfect plan for our lives. What seems like a mistake becomes a perfect choice as we look back later. We must, however, look at life with eyes focused on more than just the exact things we want. We fit into a much larger picture of this world than we think.

A familiar hymn says, "God moves in a mysterious way, His wonders to perform." What mysterious ways has God worked for good in your life recently? Are you looking for His eternal good in it, or merely your idea of what is good? Have you wanted to ask Him to try again?

It's A Sign! Literally....

If you haven't done so recently, drive past our land on County Road 9 and check out the marquee sign we are now using to inform the community of events at Living Word. We'll also use the sign to "plant seeds" of the Gospel as well as remind of important community events.