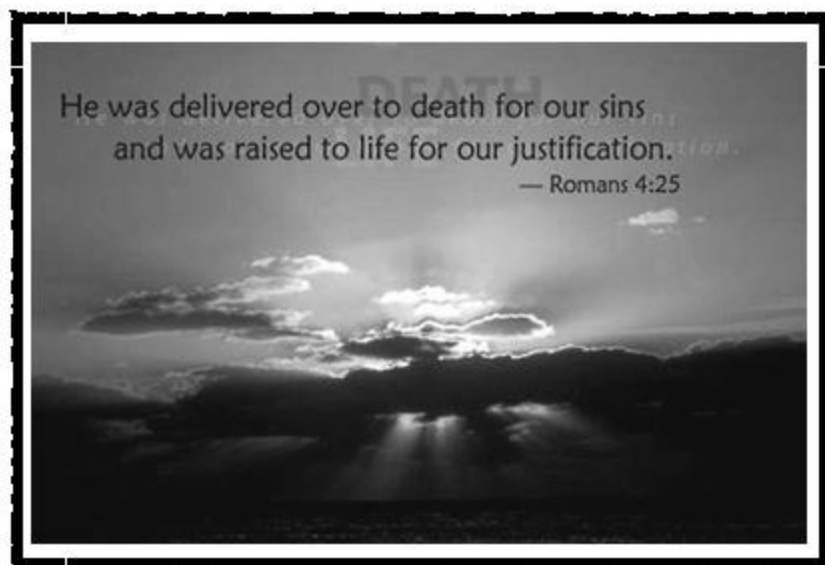


Living Word Lutheran Church LCMS

March 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...



How do they decide when Easter is going to be each year?

This question has come up more this year because Easter is so early - March 23. (It's actually the second earliest date that Easter can be.)

Here's the explanation:

The date for Resurrection Sunday ("Easter") varies considerably from one year to the next. It should come as no surprise that the date changes each year. Since the Resurrection occurred on a Sunday, the dates for a given Sunday change from year to year. (It's kind of like our Thanksgiving holiday which is always on a Thursday, but the date changes from year to year.)

The date for Easter is chosen differently than for Thanksgiving, however. Thanksgiving always occurs on the 4th Thursday in November. Whereas Easter can be anywhere from the 4th Sunday in March to the 4th Sunday in April - quite a range. Here's why: The date chosen to celebrate the Resurrection comes from a formula established by Roman Emperor Constantine the Great and the church-wide Council of Nicaea in A.D. 325. That formula is: "The first Sunday after the first full moon after the vernal equinox (first official day of spring)."

This year the Spring equinox occurs at 1:48 a.m. on March 20. The first full moon after the Spring equinox is on Friday, March 21. That means the following Sunday, March 23, is Easter.

According to this rule, the latest possible date for Resurrection Sunday is April 25, next occurring in 2038. (The second-latest date - April 24 is coming up in just three years). We won't see the earliest possible date, March 22, until 2285. (That means you'll have to live another 77 years to see an Easter earlier than this year!) Most often, Resurrection Sunday comes during the first week of April.

Just to further confuse the issue, the date for Easter is calculated differently by Eastern Orthodox Christians who use the Julian Calendar (we use what is known as the Gregorian Calendar). Only

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about every fourth year do the Gregorian and Julian Calendars line up, so three-fourths of the time Eastern Christians and Western Christians celebrate the Resurrection on different dates. Attempts have been made to come up with a common date. (It's not a real good witness to the non-Christian world when we can't even agree on when to celebrate the greatest event in history). So far those attempts at a unified Easter date have not been successful.

Since the date of Easter is moveable that means that many of the other special days and seasons of the Church Year are moveable, because almost everything keys off of Easter.

For example, Lent always begins 40 days before Easter (not counting Sundays), so Ash Wednesday always falls on a different date. Since Ash Wednesday brings the season of Epiphany to an end, when Ash Wednesday and Easter are early the Epiphany season is very short. When Ash Wednesday and Easter are late, then the Epiphany season is nearly a month longer.

Also, since Pentecost always falls 50 days after Easter, that festival also moves with Easter. And, of course, if Easter is late, then Pentecost is late and the Pentecost season is shortened. In the Church Year, everything keys off of Easter - as it should. It is the event that our faith hinges on.

For merchants, the changing date of Easter is inconvenient for their annual planning of sales and inventory. However, it is good that this special day is not determined by commerce but by the movements of the sun and moon. This agrees with the divinely ordained purpose of heavenly lights as markers for times and seasons (Gen 1:14).

This is a lengthy answer to a short question, but thanks for asking,
Pastor David

Send your questions to pastor@livingwordlutheran.net

March Discipleship Verse...



For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit,

1 Peter 3:18

Upcoming Events...

THIS Wednesday, March 5

Lenten Midweek Worship 7:30 (Soup Supper: 6:30 - 7:30)

"Learning to Pray from the Master"

Each of the Wednesdays during Lent we take time out for a closer look at the prayer Jesus gave as we seek to grow in our understanding of the things we should pray about - and the attitudes we need as we come to God in prayer.

Thusfar we've learned that prayer includes:

PENITENCE *"And forgive us our trespasses...."*

PERSONAL CONVERSATION *"Our Father who art in heaven"*

PRIORITY *"Hallowed (holy) be Thy Name"*

PURPOSE *"Thy Kingdom Come"*

Join us this Wednesday at 7:30 as we look at the lessons on praying that are wrapped up in the words: *"Thy Will Be Done..."*

Also join us on these days

Wednesday March 12: *"And lead us not into temptation"*

Maundy Thursday: *"Give us this day our daily bread"*

Good Friday: *"Deliver us from the evil one"*

Easter Sunday: *"For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen!"*

THIS Wednesday, March 5

ALL STARS 4 JESUS 6:30 - 7:15

The confirmation classes will again be hosting "All Stars 4 Jesus" 1-6th Graders

THIS Wednesday, March 5

Confirmation Parents - Meet at 6:30

PALM SUNDAY - March 16

Worship @ 10:00

MAUNDY THURSDAY—March 20

Worship @ 7:30

GOOD FRIDAY—March 21

Worship @ 7:30

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That for a day: Worry is like a treadmill - it wears you out and gets you nowhere.

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EASTER - March 23

- Sunrise Service - 7:15 (begins outside at sunrise)
- Easter Breakfast - 8:30
- Easter Worship with Drama and Choir - 10:00

Sunday, March 30

Youth For Christ's *Fast Forward* Group

Will provide music and drama for our worship

NEW Wednesday Study Beginning After Easter:

"Life Lessons from Bible Characters"

Join us to discover the lessons for life that we can learn from Bible characters like Joseph, Joshua, Mary, Hannah. I'll also take special requests to study your favorite character.

Starts Wednesday, March 26



Matthew 28:6

He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay.

E-Mail Inspiration...

DEAR GOD:

I want to thank You for what you have already done.

I am not going to wait until I see results or receive rewards; I am thanking you right now.

I am not going to wait until I feel better or things look better; I am thanking you right now.

I am not going to wait until people say they are sorry or until they stop talking about me; I am thanking you right now.

I am not going to wait until the pain in my body disappears; I am thanking you right now.

I am not going to wait until my financial situation improves; I am going to thank you right now.

I am not going to wait until the children are asleep and the house is quiet; I am going to thank you right now.

I am not going to wait until I get promoted at work or until I get the job; I am going to thank you right now.

Text Box

I am not going to wait until I understand every experience in my life that has caused me pain or grief; I am thanking you right now.

I am not going to wait until the journey gets easier or the challenges are removed; I am thanking you right now.

I am thanking You, because You have already sent your Son to die, so that I might live -forever.

I am thanking You, because I know if You love me that much, you'll do whatever is best for me.

I'm thanking YOU, God...You haven't given up on me - and You never will.

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That for a day: The pessimist may be right in the long run, but the optimist has a better time during the trip.

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E-Mail Humor...

Daddy's Angel

One day my mother was out and my dad was in charge of me and my brother who is four years older than I am. I was maybe 3 and a half years old and had just recovered from an accident in which my arm had been broken among other injuries. Someone had given me a little 'tea set' as a get-well gift and it was one of my favorite toys.

Daddy was in the living room engrossed in the evening news and my brother was playing nearby in the living room when I brought Daddy a little cup of 'tea', which was just water.

After several cups of tea and lots of praise for such yummy tea, my Mom came home. My Dad made her wait in the living room to watch me bring him a cup of tea, because it was 'just the cutest thing!!'

My Mom waited, and sure enough, here I come down the hall with a cup of tea for Daddy and she watches him drink it up, then says, "Did it ever occur to you that the only place that child can reach to get water is that big white bowl with a lid on it in the bathroom??"

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DAD, I NEED YOUR HELP TO FIND OUT WHERE IT TALKS ABOUT THE EASTER BUNNY IN THE BIBLE

04-13-2006

"Secret Paul" Program 2008...

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Greetings in the name of our Living Lord !

We are starting a new year of our "Secret Paul" program and encourage you, as a parent or grandparent, to fill out the form below to have the child(ren) and young adults in your family participate.

Program overview

The "Secret Paul" program came about as a way for our church to be involved in the lives of the young people of our congregation and to be for them what a church should be - a caring, extended family. We are now starting the second year of the program. After the end of the first year, many of those that had been praying noted what a positive - even gratifying - thing it was to be praying for a specific young person, knowing what a difference these prayers can make.

The name "Secret Paul" comes from the fact that the Apostle Paul was noted for praying for other believers every day. Praying for such things as their protection, the growth and action of their faith, even prayers of thanks for these other believers. We'll seek to follow Paul's example by each praying daily for the assigned youth, but doing so as a "secret prayer pal" or a "Secret Paul," keeping one's identity secret for the year. At year's end we'll have a special banquet to reveal the identity of each "Secret Paul."

Getting Started

To begin, each "Secret Paul" will receive a packet of information about the program and the person they are paired up to pray for. We ask that you fill out and return the attached form to me or Pastor by March 12 with information you want included in the packet. We'd also like you to **include a recent school photo or snapshot** of the young person. If desired, you can e-mail the information and a digital photo to Laurel@beadjam.com

As a church-wide program we hope we can count on your participation, not only in signing up your children, but possibly being a "Secret Paul" yourself.

Thanks for your partnership in the Gospel !

Laurel Iverson, Secret Paul program coordinator
Questions? Call 354-4932 or e-mail me at Laurel@beadjam.com

That for a day: Today is someone's memory for tomorrow. Make it a good one.

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Name of child / young adult:

Mailing Address:

Birthday:

Hobbies, Special Interests:

Special Prayer Needs:

New Schedules...

March Scripture Readers

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





March 2	Tammy Fuglie	796-6975
March 9	Lu Kiehm	979-0097
March 16	Allan Fuglie	796-6975
March 23	Janet Towner	444-0125
March 30	Tammy Wachter	796-6222

March Fellowship Servers

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

March 2	Violet Dauk	220-0344
March 9	Lu Kiehm	979-0097
March 16	Tris Mische	354-9046
March 23	Youth Serve Easter Breakfast	
March 30	Linda Dilley	235-0235

March 2008 - Living Word Church Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
March 2 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour Sunday School Adult Forum 10:00 Worship w/Lord's Supper 11:15 Fellowship 11:30 Easter Worship Practice	March 3 8:30 Circuit Pastors @ Living Word	March 4 NOON Bible Study @ Geneva Olson's "Ecclesiastes" 12	March 5 Noon Study: Ephesians 6 6:30 Confirmation All Stars 4 Jesus Confirmation Parents 6:30-7:30 Soup Supper 7:30 Lenten Worship	March 6	March 7 	March 8
9 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour Sunday School Adult Forum 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship 11:30 Easter Worship Practice	10	11 NOON Bible Study @ Geneva Olson's "Ecclesiastes" summary	12 Noon Study: Ephesians (Summary) 6:30 Confirmation: "Passion of Christ" 6:30-7:30 Soup Supper 7:30 Lenten Worship	13 7:00 LWLM 7:00 Elders' Team	15	16
16 PALM SUNDAY 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour Sunday School Adult Forum 10:00 Worship w/Lord's Supper 11:15 Fellowship 11:30 Easter Worship Practice	17	18 No Tuesday Study this Week	19 No Bible Study or Confirmation This Week	20 7:30 Maundy Thursday Worship w/Lords Supper	21 7:30 Good Friday Worship	22 
23 EASTER SUNDAY 7:15 SUNRISE Worship 8:15 Easter Breakfast 10:00 Worship w/ choir & drama and The Lord's Supper	24 	25 NOON Bible Study @ Geneva Olson's	26 Noon NEW Study: "Bible Characters" 6:00 Meal 6:30 Confirmation	27 7:00 Mission & Ministry Team	28	29
30 Youth For Christ Fast Forward provides music for worship 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour Sunday School Adult Forum 10:00 Worship w/Lord's Supper 11:15 Fellowship	31	April 1 NOON Bible Study @ Geneva Olson's	April 2 Noon NEW Study: "Bible Characters" 6:00 Meal 6:30 Confirmation All Stars 4 Jesus 6:30 Confirmation Parents	April 3 	April 4	April 5

March 15-Minutes-A-Day

TODAY'S LIGHT BIBLE READING PROGRAM: We finish the book of Joshua and get started on the next book, Judges. We interrupt our OT readings with the Gospel of Mark through the Easter Season. Then we pick up in Judges. (In parentheses are verses to focus on if you are short on time that day)

Mar 2 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

Mar 3 Joshua 20:1-21:45 (21:43-45) _____

Mar 4 Joshua 22:1-34 (22:11-34) _____

Mar 5 Joshua 23:1-16 (23:1-11) _____

Mar 6 Joshua 24:1-33 (24:1-15) _____

Mar 7 Judges 1:1-36 (1:1-20) _____

Mar 8 Judges 2:1-23 (2:11-19) _____

Mar 9 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

Mar 10 Judges 3:1-31 (3:5-11) _____

Mar 11 Judges 4:1-5:31 (4:1-34) _____

Mar 12 Mark 1:1-2:28 (1:1-15) _____ 

Mar 13 Mark 3:1-4:41 (3:20-35) _____

Mar 14 Mark 5:1-6:56 (5:25-34) _____

Mar 15 Mark 7:1-8:38 (8:27-38) _____

Mar 16 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

Mar 17 Mark 9:1-50 (9:30-50) _____

Mar 18 Mark 10:1-52 (10:32-45) _____

Today's Light Devotional Readings

Mar 19 Mark 11:1-33 (11:12-19) _____

Mar 20 Mark 12:1-13:37 (12:28-44) _____

Mar 21 Mark 14:1-72 (14:10-25) _____

Mar 22 Mark 15:1-47 (15:24-47) _____

Mar 23 COME TO WORSHIP YOUR RISEN LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS

Mar 24 Mark 16:1-20 (16:1-16) _____

Mar 25 Jude 1-25 (17-25) _____

Mar 26 Judges 6:1-8:34 (7:1-25) _____

Mar 27 Judges 9:1-10:18 (10:1-18) _____

Mar 28 Judges 11:1-12:15 (11:1-11) _____

Mar 29 Judges 13:1-16:31 (16:1-31) _____

Mar 30 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

Mar 31 Judges 17:1-18:31 (17:1-13) _____

April 1 Judges 19:1-20:48 (19:1-30) _____

April 2 Judges 21:1-25 (21:1-15) _____

April 3 Ruth 1:1-2:23 (1:1-2:12) _____

April 4 Ruth 3:1-4:22 (4:1-22) _____

April 5 1 Samuel 1:1-28 (1:1-18) _____

Real Persecution of Christians...

Some American Christians consider persecution antiquated and believe that it happened thousands or hundreds of years ago, but doesn't happen today.

However, the Voice of the Martyrs® indicates that "More Christians have been killed for their faith in the 20th century than have been martyred in the total history of Christianity."

We shouldn't be surprised. In John 15:18, Jesus said that if the world hated Him, that it would hate those who follow Him.

The persecution of Christians around the world is a tragic reality. Our brothers and sisters are beaten and tortured simply for their faith in Jesus Christ. And some pay with the ultimate price. However, in the midst of this persecution is some of the boldest stories of faith you will ever read.

A Sudanese Christian boy has his knees and feet nailed to a board and he is left to die. When rescued he says he forgives the man who did this because Jesus was also nailed and forgave him.

A Vietnamese pastor is sentenced to two years in prison. When he is offered an early release, he declines stating that he has a group of new Believers in the prison he has to disciple.

A Colombian missionary is kidnaped and told she only has two hours to live. She tells her captors that if she only has two hours to live, she wants to spend it telling them about Jesus.

In Iraq the church remains strong in the face of opposition:

Thousands of Christians are fleeing Iraq because of persecution from the conflicting factions within the war-torn country. Most are heading for the relative safety of neighboring Syria and Jordan. About half of the refugees leaving Iraq are Christians.

Many Christians there have faced torture and execution. Marshall Sana of the British-based Barnabas Fund said the persecutors are familiar to Americans.

"(It's) a number of militants – al-Qaida in Iraq – all expressing Islamist ideology and all acting on that, to either kill or loot or otherwise subjugate the historic Christian communities there," he told Family News in Focus.

There were about 1.4 million Iraqi Christians in the 1980s. Now

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there are less than 500,000. They are called the "original Christians," tracing their spiritual genealogy back to within decades of Christ.

Michael Bradley, a spokesman for The Assyrian Aid Society of America, said while the times may have changed, the persecution of Christians has not.

"We're hearing kidnaping stories, we're hearing about businesses being taken over and closed," he said. "Families are fleeing because of violence in the south."

But Todd Nettleton, director of news services for , said Christians in the midst of the persecution tell him the persecuted church remains strong.

"They said, 'You know, the government has fallen, the Americans are here. Right now we have a window of opportunity to build the church.'"

TO SUBSCRIBE TO THE FREE "VOICE OF THE MARTYRS" NEWSLETTER GO TO www.persecution.com



James 4:3

When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.

WORDFIND

Where in the Bible do you find what seems to be a description of a dinosaur? To get the name of the Bible book, find all the words, hidden vertically and horizontally, backwards and forwards, and then read the answer from the letters left over.



C	A	N	I	M	A	L	S	J	M	A	D	A
R	L	O	K	R	O	W	I	D	N	A	H	E
E	I	C	D	O	G	R	T	B	N	L	S	V
A	G	E	C	O	W	E	N	I	E	A	S	E
T	H	A	S	O	S	P	A	R	R	U	E	L
I	T	N	T	X	T	H	D	D	G	N	U	
O	S	S	N	S	E	I	P	S	L	H	I	F
N	E	S	A	R	M	L	E	C	I	T	P	R
S	I	S	B	A	O	E	L	A	H	E	P	E
D	C	A	N	T	C	S	E	T	C	R	A	W
N	E	R	O	S	S	T	H	G	I	L	H	O
I	P	G	O	E	N	I	H	S	N	U	S	P
K	S	O	M	S	R	U	A	S	O	N	I	D



CREATION	COMETS
ANIMALS	OCEANS
DINOSAURS	GRASS
POWERFUL	HAPPINESS
ADAM	LAUGHTER
EVE	CHILDREN
HANDIWORK	LIGHTS
KINDS	BIRDS
SPECIES	CAT
LIGHT	ELEPHANT
SUNSHINE	REPTILES
MOON	DOG
STARS	COW

ANTS
OX



Today's Light Bible Readings...

Last week God told us that we need to submit to His marching orders in order to win the battles of life. God has given us those "marching orders" in His Word - the Bible.

If you haven't done so yet, make a commitment discover what God's marching orders are by taking home a Today's Light Bible and starting to read the daily readings

If you've gotten away from your daily readings... Today would be a great time to get back into God's word. This week's readings are on page 12.

We need your talents for Easter

- + Singing in a choir (familiar songs) - See Linda Dilley
- + Singing a solo or duet - See Susan Johnson
- + Playing music (whatever your instrument)
- + Doing readings - see Pastor
- + Drama (short sketches) - see Laurel Iverson

We'll practice songs for ½ hour after worship

Something to Think About...

If Jesus were to do His same ministry on earth today, He would be wanted by...

- ..the FDA for turning water into wine without a license,
- ..the EPA for killing fig trees,
- ..the AMA for practicing medicine without a license,
- ..the Dept. of Health for asking people to open graves, for raising the dead and for feeding 5,000 people in the wilderness,
- ..the NEA for teaching without a certificate,
- ..OSHA for walking on water without a life-jacket and for flying without an airplane,
- ..the SPCA for driving hogs into the sea,
- ..the National Board of Psychiatrists for giving advice on how to live a guilt-free life,
- ..and by the Zoning Dept. for building mansions without a permit.

More Opportunities to Grow...

Wednesday Bible Study

Wednesdays @ NOON
At Living Word

"God's Intent for the Church - And Your Part in His Plan" A Study of the Book of Ephesians

Tuesday Noon Bible Study

at Geneva Olson's in New London
What Does Life Sometimes Seem "Meaningless"?
A Study of the Book of Ecclesiastes

Sometimes feel like life has no meaning? You're not alone.
"Meaningless" is a term used no less than 37 times in the book of Ecclesiastes.

Join us as we take a look at what caused King Solomon to feel that way. And what you can do when you feel the same.

Sunday Morning Adult Study

Creation: Foundation for All we believe
- Continues in March

We'll learn about evidence for the Biblical account of creation - thing you never hear in the media that seems bent on convincing us of evolution.

Some specific things we'll cover:

- Did dinosaurs and humans co-exist?
 - + What evidence is there for a young earth (not billions of years old)?
 - + Is it illegal for Creation to be taught in public school?
 - + What was the world like in pre-flood times?
 - + Did God put the Gospel message in the stars?
- Please join us at 9:15 for coffee, baked goods and our study.

Senior High Study

Every other Sunday evening at 6:00

Parenting Young Children

Sunday Mornings while the kids are in Sunday School
If you are a parent of a child of pre-school age through 4th grade we'd like to invite you to a special class that meets during the Sunday School hour (9:15 - 10:15).



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Thot for a day: If you can't sleep, don't count sheep: talk to the Shepherd.

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A Reminder...

Raise Funds for Living Word when you Search the web

Living Word Lutheran Church is registered on GoodSearch, (as seen in OPRAH Magazine, ABC News, The New York Times, Wall Street Journal, USA Today, and Fortune.) And receives a direct donation every time someone uses GoodSearch to search the Internet.

GoodSearch.com is a search engine that donates ad revenue, about a penny per search, to the charity its users designate. Use it just like any search engine, and it's powered by Yahoo!, so you get the same great results.

Just go to www.goodsearch.com and enter Living Word Lutheran Church, New London, MN as the organization you want to support. It costs you nothing. But last year we received 1.3 cents for each web search that designated Living Word. (You only designate once - it's automatic after that)

Download the GoodSearch toolbar -
<http://www.goodsearch.com/toolbars.aspx>

THANKS TO THE FOLKS WHO SIGNED UP LAST MONTH. WE DOUBLED OUR SEARCHES FROM THE MONTH BEFORE !

LWML News & Notes...

Our Lutheran Women's Missionary League group at Living Word has been very active. We encourage all women of our congregation to join us for service to our Lord, and good fun and fellowship. We meet the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 P.M.

Please come and join us!



Secret Pauls...

If you were not here on Friendship Sunday . . .

- + Send the person you pray for a card letting them know whose been praying for them
- + Also send a "Someone's Praying 4 U" card and pin from the basket on the ushers' table at church
- + Please take a "Thanks Text Box" card and pin from the basket