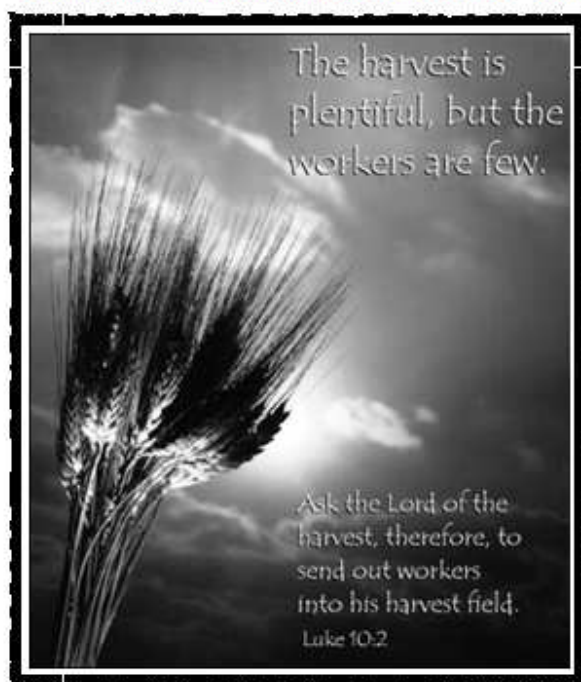


Living Word Lutheran Church LCMS

October 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...



God will forgive them, won't He?

This actually was about 25% question and 75% statement. There was an unspoken worry behind that question/statement. The normal unspoken fear after a question like that would be, "I'm afraid He won't forgive." That was not the case in this situation. The unspoken fear behind this specific question went like this, "I'm afraid that He *will* forgive them."

This question came from a relative of mine and it was asked in the context of a discussion about the recent problems in the banking industry. He had talked about the leaders of banks and lending institutions who "cooked the books" (among other illegal things) then got paid millions to quit their positions - all the while leaving tax payers on the hook to pay for their mistakes. This relative was not only unhappy about what these banking leaders did, he was also unhappy at the thought that God would forgive them for it.

Chances are you've had similar thoughts about people who have hurt you or taken advantage of you. We want justice to be served (at least when it comes to other people). Jesus anticipated those thoughts and gave us this parable: (Matthew 20:1-16)

"For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire men to work in his vineyard. [2] He agreed to pay them a denarius for the day and sent them into his vineyard.

[3] "About the third hour he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing. [4] He told them, 'You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' [5] So they went.

"He went out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour

and did the same thing. [6] About the eleventh hour he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them, 'Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?'

[7] " 'Because no one has hired us,' they answered.

"He said to them, 'You also go and work in my vineyard.'

[8] "When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the first.'

[9] "The workers who were hired about the eleventh hour came and each received a denarius. [10] So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius. [11] When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner. [12] 'These men who were hired last worked only one hour,' they said, 'and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.'

[13] "But he answered one of them, 'Friend, I am not being unfair to you. Didn't you agree to work for a denarius? [14] Take your pay and go. I want to give the man who was hired last the same as I gave you. [15] Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?'

[16] "So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

This is really a parable about God's grace and his offer of forgiveness. From the standpoint of those who worked all day (i.e. those who have believed in Jesus since baptism) it just isn't right that those who worked only an hour (i.e. those who lived a life of blatant sin and then repented and put their trust in Jesus at the "last minute") receive the exact same wage (forgiveness and eternal life). It seems that justice isn't being served. But Jesus reminds us that He really is *not* being unfair, because everyone knew the wage He was offering before they "signed on" and everyone was paid the wage they were promised and agreed to.

So, if someone (like, for example, a bank CEO who bilked people out of millions and stuck taxpayers with the bill) in all sincerity of heart asks God for forgiveness, God will

forgive them. Jesus *did* take the punishment for *all* sins on the cross. That's grace. But, that doesn't mean that all the earthly consequences will be removed. Even if people *seem* to have escaped earthly consequences for sins, God sees everything and will still see that earthly justice is served. It just may not be served in the way we want or in our timing, but it will be served.

So, the short answer is this: "Yes, God will forgive them if they truly repent. But forgiveness doesn't mean there won't be earthly consequences." And we must keep in mind the saying Jesus ended the parable with: "The last will be first and the first will be last." i.e. The moment we start to think we are "better" and more deserving of God's gifts is the moment we have placed ourselves at the end of the line - behind those who realize they aren't deserving.

Thanks for asking,
Pastor David

Send your questions to pastor@livingwordlutheran.net

E-mail Humor...

THE BEST WAY TO PRAY

A priest, a minister and a guru sat discussing the best positions for prayer, while a telephone repairman worked nearby.

"Kneeling is definitely the best way to pray," the priest said.

"No," said the minister. "I get the best results standing with my hands outstretched to Heaven."

"You're both wrong," the guru said. "The most effective prayer position is lying down on the floor."

The repairman could contain himself no longer: "Hey, fellas," he interrupted. "The best prayin' I ever did was when I was hangin' upside down from a telephone pole."

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E-Mail Wisdom...

15 Things Worth Thinking About

(This actually came from an email titled "25 things worth thinking about," but some of them really weren't worth all that much, so here's what's left.)

- 1) Give God what's RIGHT -- not what's LEFT.
- 2) Man's way leads to a hopeless end; God's way leads to an endless hope.
- 3) He who kneels before God can stand before anyone.
- 4) In the sentence of life, the devil may be a comma, but never let him be the period.
- 5) Don't put a question mark where God puts a period.
- 6) When praying, don't give God instructions -- just report for duty.
- 7) Don't wait for six strong men to take you to the church.
- 8) We don't change God's message; His message changes us.
- 9) WARNING: Exposure to the Son may prevent burning.
- 10) Most people want to serve God, but only in an advisory position.
- 11) Exercise daily! Walk with the Lord.
- 12) Nothing ruins the truth like stretching it.
- 13) Compassion is difficult to give away because it keeps coming back.
- 14) Worry is the darkroom in which negatives can develop.
- 15) Be ye fishers of men -- you catch them, and God will clean them.

That for a day: Don't take life so seriously...it's not permanent.

Sunday School News...

2008 Christmas Program

Although Fall just started a few weeks ago, planning for the 2008 LWLC Christmas Program is already underway. This year's program is called Celebrate the Gift of Jesus, and all children are invited to participate. Rehearsals will be held on Saturday mornings from 9:30 - 11:00 beginning on November 22nd and continuing on December 6th, 13th, and 20th. The program will be presented on Sunday, December 21st at 4:00pm with a dinner to follow. The Christmas Program Team is looking forward to preparing for this program with the kids and sharing the joy of the gift of Jesus with family, friends, and the congregation!

Sunday School Kids to Sing in Church

The kids have been having a good time learning songs during Sunday School, and others (especially the "big kids") have mentioned how much they enjoy hearing the kids sing each week. In order to share the kids' joy and enthusiasm with the congregation, the kids will sing during the church service the last Sunday of each month beginning in October.

Youth News...

Youth meet November 5, (first Wed. of every month) from 7:15 - 8:15

Thanks to everyone who helped with our Adopt-a-Highway cleanup and our special Make-a-Meal project!

All Stars 4 Jesus

(1st - 6th Grade)

Will meet again the first Wednesday of November (the 5th) for Craft, Games and Bible lesson. Confirmation students will assist with All Stars until 7:15.

Meal at 6:15. Activities begin at 6:30

Thrivent Members:

Turn in your ballots on October 12 at church.

Second Harvest Heartland FREE Food and Household Product Distribution

FREE distribution of food and household products to families and households in need. Distribution is on a first come first serve basis.

NO proof of income or residence is requested.

Line up begins 1 hour before distribution.

Evangelical Free Church
1305 19th Ave. SW
Willmar, MN

Saturday, September 20
9:00-11:00 a.m.

Saturday, November 15
9:00-11:00 a.m.

Faith Lutheran Church
310 Medayto Dr.
Spicer, MN

Friday, October 10
5:00-7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 9
5:00-7:00 p.m.

Bring your own boxes or
laundry baskets to carry food

Help is available to carry out items
to your vehicle

Open to any household who meets
income guidelines or is in crisis.

Call Christie at 320-235-2641 If
you have any questions

Household Gross Annual Income Guidelines:

<u>Number of People in Household</u>	<u>Income</u>
1	Up to \$19,600
2	Up to \$26,400
3	Up to \$33,200
4	Up to \$40,000
5	Up to \$46,800
6	Up to \$67,200
7	Add \$6,800 for each additional

Sponsored by: Willmar Area Food Shelf
Faith Lutheran Church, Spicer

Heartland Community Action Agency
Evangelical Free Church, Willmar

Upcoming Schedules...

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

Sept/Oct Scripture Readers

Oct 5	Wally Abraham	354-2615
Oct 12	Kevin Welsh	796-6840
Oct 19	Allan Fuglie	796-6975
Oct 26	Linda Dilley	235-0235
Nov 2	Mark Fuglie	796-6975
Nov 9	Tammy Fuglie	796-6975
Nov 16	Lu Kiehm	979-0097
Nov 23	Janet Towner	444-0125
Nov 30	Youth	

Sept/Oct Fellowship Servers

Oct 5	Janet Towner	444-0125
Oct 12	Mona Hjelle	354-4315
Oct 19	Stacy Olson	212-9647
Oct 26	Violet Dauk	220-0344
Nov 2	Lu Kiehm	979-0097
Nov 9	Tris Mische	354-9046
Nov 16	Linda Dilley	235-0234
Nov 23	Bonnie Hansen	796-5605
Nov 30	Youth	

Sept/Oct Usher & Greeter Schedule

Ushers		Greeter
Oct 5	Jason Miller/Kevin Welsh	Lu Kiehm
Oct 12	Joe Johnson/Anthony Dauk	Laurel Iverson
Oct 19	Troy Hansen/Bryson Wachter	Janet Towner
Oct 26	Janet Towner/Linda Dilley	Violet Dauk
Nov 2	Mona Hjelle/Pam Johnson	Lu
Nov 9	Jamie Iverson & Lonny Robbin	Laurel
Nov 16	Charlie & Heather Carver	Janet
Nov 23	Duane Hansen/Jack Kuppich	Violet
Nov 30	Youth	

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Thot for a day: A flashlight is a case for holding dead batteries.

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NEW Sunday Morning Study...

FAITH UNDER FIRE

Beginning NEXT SUNDAY
October 12

Using video clips from the popular PAX-TV program *Faith Under Fire*, this study features spirited discussions between well-respected Christians, people of other faiths, or people with no faith at all on important spiritual and social issues.

Host Lee Strobel, best-selling author of *The Case for Christ* and *The Case for Faith*, provides additional comments to guide small group discussion.



Lee Strobel (www.LeeStrobel.com), with a journalism degree from the University of Missouri and a Master of Studies in Law degree from Yale Law School, was the award-winning legal editor of the Chicago Tribune and a spiritual skeptic until 1981.

The First 4-session study

"Faith and Facts" will cover:
The Bible / Heaven / Hell / Science

The Second 4-session study

"Tough Faith Questions" will deal with:
The Trinity / Islam / Pain and Suffering / Forgiveness

The Third 4-session study



"Faith and Jesus" will address these topics:
Jesus / The Resurrection / Universalism / The Supernatural

October Discipleship Verse...



Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.
1 Peter 4:10

October 2008 - Living Word Church Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour Adult Forum - Sunday School 10:00 Worship w/Lord's Supper 11:15 Fellowship & Choir practice 3-5:00 HUMAN PRAYER CHAIN @ NL-S Track 6:00 New Neighbor Visits	6	7 NOON Bible Study @ Geneva Olson's Malachi 6:30 Building Committee	8 Noon Study: LifeLessons from Bible Characters 6:15 Meal 6:30 Confirmation 6:30 MEN'S STUDY "No Ordinary Men"	9 7:00 Elders' Team 7:00 LWML	10	11
12 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour Adult Forum - NEW: Faith Under Fire Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship & Choir practice Outreach Team mtg after f-ship	13	14 NOON Bible Study @ Geneva Olson's Malachi	15 No Bible Study or Confirmation Classes	16 7:00 Mission & Ministry Team (Budget mtg)	17	18
19 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour Adult Forum - NEW: Faith Under Fire Sunday School 10:00 Worship w/Lord's Supper 11:15 Fellowship & Choir practice 6:00 New Neighbor Visits	20	21 NOON Bible Study @ Geneva Olson's Malachi 6:30 Building Committee (Check for specific time)	22 NEW Noon Study: Boundaries 6:15 Meal 6:30 Confirmation 6:30 MEN'S STUDY "No Ordinary Men"	23	24 	25
26 REFORMATION SUNDAY (Operation ChristmasChild kickoff) 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour Adult Forum - Faith Under Fire Sunday School 10:00 Worship w/Lord's Supper 11:15 FALL VOTERS' AS\$Y	27	28 NOON Bible Study @ Geneva Olson's 6:30 Building Committee (Check for specific time)	29 NEW Noon Study: Boundaries 6:15 Meal 6:30 Confirmation	30	31 3:15 Trunk or Treat Outreach @ Jahnke's	Nov 1 11:00 Smoke Detector Battery Outreach
Nov 2 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour Adult Forum - Sunday School 10:00 Worship w/Lord's Supper 11:15 Fellowship	Nov 3	Nov 4 ELECTION DAY NOON Bible Study @ Geneva Olson's	Nov 5 Noon Study: Boundaries 6:15 Meal 6:30 All Stars 4 Jesus 7:15 YOUTH Mtg	Nov 6	Nov 7	Nov 8 

October - 15-Minutes-A-Day

TODAY'S LIGHT BIBLE READING PROGRAM: We finish Job then move ahead to Jonah and finish the Psalms (In parentheses are verses to focus on if you are short on time that day)

Sep 29 Job 2:1-3:26 (3:1-25) _____

 Sep 30 Job 4:1-5:27 (4:1-21) _____

 Oct 1 Job 6:1-7:21 (6:1-30) _____

 Oct 2 Job 8:1-10:22 (9:1-22) _____

 Oct 3 Job 11:1-12:25 (11:1-20) _____

 Oct 4 Job 13:1-14:22 (14:1-22) _____

 Oct 5 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

 Oct 6 Job 15:1-17:16 (16:1-22) _____

 Oct 7 Job 18:1-19:29 (19:1-29) _____

 Oct 8 Job 20:1-21:34 (21:1-34) _____

 Oct 9 Job 22:1-24:25 (23:1-17) _____

 Oct 10 Job 25:1-28:28 (28:1-28) _____

 Oct 11 Job 29:1-31:40 (31:35-40) _____

 Oct 12 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

 Oct 13 Job 32:1-34:37 (33:1-28) _____

 Oct 14 Job 35:1-37:24 (35:1-16) _____

 Oct 15 Job 38:1-41:34 (38:1-7, 40:1-5) _____

 Oct 16 Job 42:1-7 (42:7-17) _____

Today's Light Devotional Readings

Oct 17 Jonah 1:1-2:10 (1:1-17) _____

 Oct 18 Jonah 3:1-4:11 (4:1-11) _____

 Oct 19 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

 Oct 20 Psalm 83:1-89:52 (Psalm 87) _____

 Oct 21 Psalm 90:1-95:11 (Psalm 90) _____

 Oct 22 Psalm 96:1-101:8 (Psalm 100) _____

 Oct 23 Psalm 102:1-106:48 (Psalm 105) _____

 Oct 24 Psalm 107:1-113:9 (Psalm 110) _____

 Oct 25 Psalm 114:1-118:29 (Psalm 115) _____

 Oct 26 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

 Oct 27 Psalm 119:1-176 (119:89-96) _____

 Oct 28 Psalm 120:1-125:5 (Psalm 122) _____

 Oct 29 Psalm 126:1-134:3 (Psalm 133) _____

 Oct 30 Psalm 135:1-137:9 (Psalm 136) _____

 Oct 31 Psalm 138:1-143:12 (Psalm 139) _____

 Nov 1 Psalm 144:1-150:6 (Psalm 145) _____

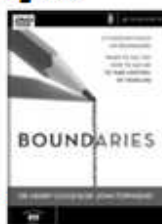
 Nov 2 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

NEW Wed. Bible Study...

Beginning October 22nd...

BOUNDARIES

- Do you have trouble saying no?
- Are you in control of your life?
- What are legitimate boundaries?
- Do certain people "overstep their boundaries" and take advantage of you?
- Can you set limits and still be a loving person?
- How do you answer someone who wants your time, love, energy, and money?



Having clear boundaries is essential to a healthy, balanced lifestyle. A boundary is "a personal property line" that marks those things for which we are responsible. In other words, boundaries define who we are and who we are not. Boundaries determine the limits of what is acceptable and what is unacceptable. Boundaries impact all areas of our lives: Physical boundaries help us determine who may touch us, mental boundaries give us the freedom to have our own thoughts, emotional boundaries help us to deal with our own emotions and spiritual boundaries help us to distinguish God's will from our own.

Drs. Henry Cloud and John Townsend offer biblically based answers to these tough questions as they show us how to set healthy boundaries (what's acceptable and what's not) with our parents, our spouses, our children, our friends, our coworkers, and even ourselves. Designed for use with the Boundaries Participant's Guide—now revised—this compelling nine-part study helps us define and maintain the clear personal boundaries that are essential to a healthy and balanced life.

Please tell Pastor if you'd like to be part of this study, so he can order a Participant Guide for you. (Participant Guides are \$9.00)

T-Shirts Available

We have three *Living Word* logo t-shirts left over from our shirt order. Check the mailbox table for colors and sizes. Checks can be made to "Living Word"

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

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How well do you know your confirmation students?

Name		
favorite color	turquoise	red
favorite food	T-Bone	chicken
favorite subject	math	science
favorite Bible story	Zacchaeus	Saul & Evil Castle
place you really like	Kentucky	Science Museum
what others don't know about you	Once owned '69 Camero	I do 3-D animations

Name		
favorite color	purple	blue & green
favorite food	tatortot hotdish	tacos
favorite subject	math	math
favorite Bible story	Noah & the Ark	Genesis 1
place you really like	ValleyFair	Hawaii
what others don't know about you	I have 2 goldfish	I like to watch drag races

Name		
favorite color	orange	pink
favorite food	spaghetti	mashed potatoes
favorite subject	social studies	social studies
favorite Bible story	David & Goliath	Daniel & the lions
place you really like	Duluth	Arizona
what others don't know about you	I eat a lot	I'm in gymnastics

Possible answers: Kasey Nieland, Mikayla Geer, Emily Fuglie, Philip Iverson, Halee Lucas, Pastor David (*this one should be easy.*)

Upcoming Events...

Food Distribution Outreach Event

Friday, October 10th 5-7 pm @ Faith Lutheran in Spicer

Any family in need is welcome to attend- bring your own boxes/ totes. This project in partnership with the Willmar Area Food Shelf and Second Harvest Heartland will provide a variety of food and household items free of charge for up to 600 households.

We are also looking for volunteers to help with the distribution. Shifts are 4pm-8pm. Please call Michelle Peterson @ Faith to sign up. 320-796-2522

(see flyer on page 7 for more information)

Participate in the Human Prayer Chain

Sunday, October 5, from 3:00 - 3:30 at the NL-S Track- Please come and be part of a community joined hand-to-hand in prayer.

Trunk Or Treat

Friday October 31st

3:00- 5:00 PM @ Green Lake Mall

Do you remember dressing up as a kid and getting lots of candy? I know that there are a lot of enjoyable times kids have on Halloween. Do want to help build those memories for the kids of today? Well you can help us do that while spreading Jesus' good news at the same time. Come help the kids of our community have a safe and fun Halloween by decorating yourself and your car while handing out an assortment of treats and items for the kids to enjoy.

Please call Bryson @ 894-6378 or via e-mail @ godsavesall2005@hotmail.com if you would like to participate or help with supplies.

Battery Giveaway

Friday November 1st

11:00 around the community

Do you remember to keep your smoke detectors checked, up to date and working? Sometimes it can slip by because other things take priority, but it is important to make sure your smoke detectors work. There is a solution that you can use; make the time change the perfect time to do that. This event is all about helping others use this day to change their batteries if they haven't.

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You can help by going with our youth to deliver batteries or help with purchasing them by calling Bryson @894-6378 or e-mail godsavesall2005@hotmail.com.

Opportunities to Share the Love of Jesus In Practical Ways...

Be part of our 'Make-a-Meal' Team

Do you have a heart for helping people in need? We're in the process of updating our list of people who can serve as either "meal makers" and "meal takers" (or both). Our "Make A Meal" program is a great way to show the love of Jesus. Please talk to Pastor David if you can serve on our Make A Meal Team. Thanks!

Make Some Cookies for New Neighbor Visits

Our "New Neighbor" Visitors welcome people who have recently moved into the area with a basket of 'goodies' that includes cookies/bars. If you like to bake it would be a big help to have more folks provide cookies or bars for our visits. Talk to Bryson if you can serve the Lord in this way. Thanks!

"Secret Paul" Prayer Partner Program

Reminders:

- 1) Please remember to pray for your partner.
- 2) Send them a card this week letting them know you are praying: (Post cards are available on the ushers' table.)

Opportunities to Use Your Talents...

We need someone to:

Plan and Organize Fellowship Activities

One of the goals we set for the coming year is to provide more opportunities for members to get to know each other outside of church. In order to accomplish that goal we need someone who enjoys organizing activities that "get people together." Things like 'fun nights' or service projects or outings. Please talk to Pastor David if you would like to help in this way. Thanks!

Sing in our Reformation Day Choir

We have put together a group to sing for Reformation Sunday (the last Sunday in October). If you'd like to help sing, we will practice after worship each Sunday prior to October 26.

Thot for a day: Blessed are those who expect nothing, for they shall not be disappointed.

Have a heart for missions - talking to people?

CTI Music Ministries has a position open in the Recruiting Department and will soon have a position open in the Booking Department. We are looking for someone who enjoys talking to people, and who is organized and self-motivated. Skills needed: Good communication skills, keyboarding & the ability to learn computer software programs, good telephone & email communication. **We will consider either a full-time or part-time position. Hours are flexible.** Contact CTI Music Ministries at 320-235-0155.

Opportunities for Growth...

Today's Light Bible Reading

(See the schedule of readings on pages 12 & 13 in this Newsletter)

Parenting Young Children

Sunday mornings during Sunday School

A special class for parents of pre-school through 4th grade children

Confirmation - Wednesday evenings

6:15 Meal 6:30 Confirmation studies

Tuesday Noon Bible Study

At Geneva Olson's. THIS week: We begin a study of **Malachi** the last Old Testament prophet

Wednesday NOON study: Lessons from Bible Characters

Starting October 22 - A New Study: Boundaries

Setting limits in relationships (see page 14)

Sunday Morning Study

Please join us at 9:00

Starting OCTOBER 12: Faith Under Fire (see page 9)

Men's Study: "No Ordinary Men"

Meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays in October @ 6:30 pm

We look at Bible characters for examples on following God.

Youth (7-12 Grades)

Meet the first Wednesday of each month from 7:15- 8:15

All Stars 4 Jesus (1-6th Grades)

Meet the first Wednesday of each month @ 6:30 (Meal @ 6:15)

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Thot for a day: You can give without loving, but you cannot love without giving.

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From the Elders...

NEW: Elder Groups

One of the results of our planning retreat in August was the decision to place all families in Elder Groups. i.e. Each Living Word Elder will be have oversight of a certain number of member families. You will soon be receiving a postcard from your elder introducing himself and explaining further what you can expect from him as your elder.

NEED PRAYER ?

Members of our Elder Team are available to pray with you after worship. Meet them up by the altar.

Thanks to everyone who helped with the 2008 Annual Mexican dinner...

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



LARS & OLE'S AUTHENTIC TEX-MEX EATERY
Home of the Pickled Herring Burrito, Lutefisk Fajita, and Lefse Taco.
The Kingdom of God is like authentic Tex-Mex food in a world of cheap imitators who are exposed at the annual Tex-Mex cookoff. Mt 13:25-30