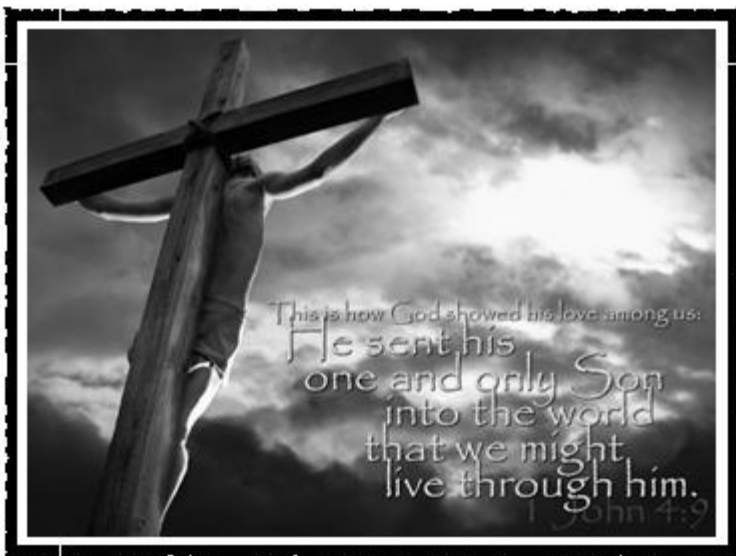


Living Word Lutheran Church LCMS

April 2009 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

What we aim to do:

Make disciples for Jesus - as we go, wherever we go.

What we aim to be:

A joyful, caring, Christ-centered family of God.

Question from Pastor...

What is the event that separates Christianity from all other beliefs ?

This is a question that I ask of the confirmation students. Here's the answer I usually get the first time I ask it: Jesus dying on the cross (the crucifixion).

That's not a bad answer. There is a part of that answer that is unique. Jesus was not just a man, He is God in the flesh. And the purpose of this God-man's death certainly sets Christianity apart. He was taking the punishment for the sins of mankind (including yours and mine), so that we might be reconciled with our sinless heavenly Father.

But "the crucifixion" is not quite the answer I am looking for, because a religious leader dying for his (or her) cause is not unique. Everyone who ever came along and claimed to be sent by God to lead people to some sort of afterlife has died. In that respect, Jesus is no different.

A better answer would be the event we will celebrate on Sunday, April 12: The Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the Dead (i.e. Easter). As the Apostle Paul said, "If Christ has not been raised, then our faith is futile (worthless), we are still in our sins and we are to be pitied above all men." (1 Corinthians 15:17,19). Our faith truly rests on the Resurrection. All religious leaders have died (or will die), but only One rose from the grave as proof that He was the One who was telling the truth.

But maybe **the best answer** would be this one:

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The crucifixion and resurrection. (That's not a 'typo'. The spaces are missing on purpose). Think of Jesus' death and resurrection as one event. And really it is. The crucifixion and resurrection are inseparable. One without the other would be like Snoopy without Charlie, the Lone Ranger without Tonto, Batman without Robin. Like salt and vinegar chips without the salt or a peanut butter and jelly sandwich without the jelly. You get the idea.

The crucifixion without the resurrection would simply be a meaningless death. The resurrection without the crucifixion is simply a pointless miracle. But put them together and you have the sacrifice of Jesus Christ for the sins of the world - and the proof that God accepted that sacrifice. Without Good Friday we would have no forgiveness. Without Easter Sunday we would have no reason to believe Jesus' death brought forgiveness. Put them together and you have the uniqueness of Christianity.

So, as you plan your Holy Week, **please set a priority** on celebrating both the crucifixion and the resurrection. We will celebrate the crucifixion on Good Friday at 7:00 p.m. We will celebrate the Resurrection at sunrise (6:35) and again at 10:00 a.m. (In between we will have breakfast and a very special Easter Egg Hunt that will involve all ages - even those who can't participate in the hunt).

God bless your celebration of
The crucifixion and resurrection,

Pastor David

Send your questions to pastor@livingwordlutheran.net

Easter Schedule

- Sunrise Worship: 6:35 a.m.
(Begins outdoors at actual sunrise)
- Easter Breakfast: 7:45 a.m.
- Easter Egg Hunt: 8:45 a.m.
- Worship: 10:00 a.m.



The Story Behind the Hymn...

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. [11] Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. [12] For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. [13] Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. [14] Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, [15] and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. [16] In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. [17] Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. [18] And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints. Ephesians. 6:10-18

Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus

Dudley Tyng was a young minister who helped lead a revival meeting in Philadelphia in the spring of 1858. Not long after that his arm got caught and mangled in a piece of machinery. Doctors amputated his arm, but not long after he died of complications from his injuries. As he was dying he sent a message to the other ministers who participated in the revival. The message began with this exhortation: "Tell them, 'Let us all stand up for Jesus.'"

These words became an inspiration to one of Mr. Tyng's friends, Rev. George Duffield. Several weeks after Tyng's death, Rev. Duffield preached a sermon on Ephesians 6:14. He closed the sermon with a song he had written. The third verse particularly summarizing the above text from Ephesians.

The song became popular and was quickly published in several hymnals and became a favorite of soldiers dur-

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That for a day: A fine is a tax for doing wrong. A tax is a fine for doing well.

Page 5

ing the Civil War. (As is usually the case, both sides felt they had God on their side).

*Stand up, stand up for Jesus Ye soldiers of the cross
Lift high his royal banner, it must not suffer loss.
From vict'ry unto vict'ry His army He shall lead,
'Til ev'ry foe is vanquished and Christ is Lord indeed*

*Stand up, stand up for Jesus, the trumpet call obey
Forth to the mighty conflict In this His glorious day.
Ye that are men now serve Him Against unnumbered foes
Let courage rise with danger and strength to strength oppose.*

*Stand up, stand up for Jesus, Stand in His strength alone.
The arm of flesh will fail you, Ye dare not trust your own;
Put on the gospel armour, Each piece put on with prayer.
Where duty calls or danger Be never wanting there.*

*Stand up, stand up for Jesus, The strife will not be long,
This day the noise of battle, The next the victor's song.
To him that overcometh A crown of life shall be;
He with the King of Glory Shall reign eternally.*

The original song included this verse that never finds its way into our hymnals. It calls to mind the disciples inability to stay awake as Jesus prayed..

*Stand up, stand up for Jesus, The solemn watchword hear;
If while ye sleep He suffers, Away with shame and fear
Where'er ye meet with evil Within you or without
Charge for the God of battles And put the foe to rout*

A Lenten Challenge

How much could we raise for our Building Fund if each of us set aside just a dollar a day during Lent? Let's find out....

E-Mail Humor...

Three Guys and A Ticket

One morning, three Cajuns and three Yankees were in a ticket line at a train station. The three Northerners each bought a ticket and watched as the three Cajuns bought just one ticket.

"How are the three of you going to travel on only one ticket?" asked one of the Yankees.

"Watch and learn," answered one of the boys from Louisiana.

All six boarded the train where the three Yankees sat down, but the three Cajuns crammed into a restroom together and closed the door.

Shortly after the train departed, the conductor came around to collect tickets.

He knocked on the restroom door and said, "Ticket, please." The door opened just a crack and a single arm emerged with a ticket in hand. The conductor took it and moved on.

The Yankees saw this happen and agreed it was quite a clever idea. Indeed, it was so clever that they decided to do the same thing on the return trip and save some money.

That afternoon when they got back to the station, they bought a single ticket for the return trip and watched while to their astonishment, the three Cajuns didn't buy even one ticket.

"How are you going to travel without a ticket?" asked one of the perplexed Yankees. "Watch and learn," answered the three Cajun boys in unison.

When they boarded the train, the three Northerners crammed themselves into one restroom and the three Cajuns crammed into another one just down the way. Shortly after the train began to move, one of the Cajuns left their restroom and walked over to the one in which the Yankees were hiding. The Cajun knocked on the door and said, "Ticket, please."

There's just no way on God's green earth to explain how the Yankees won that war.

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Thot for a day: Even the woodpecker owes his success to the fact that he uses his head.

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E-Mail Wisdom...

Once upon a time there was a bunch of tiny frogs who arranged a running competition. The goal was to reach the top of a very high tower.

A big crowd gathered around the tower to see the race and cheer on the contestants. The race began but no one in the crowd really believed that the tiny frogs would reach the top of the tower. You heard statements such as:



"Oh, WAY too difficult!!"

"They will NEVER make it to the top."

"Not a chance that they will succeed. The tower is too high!"

The tiny frogs began collapsing. One by one, except for those who, in a fresh tempo, were climbing higher and higher.

The crowd continued to yell, "It is too difficult!!! No one will make it!"

More tiny frogs got tired and gave up. But one continued. More tiny frogs got tired and gave up. But one continued higher and higher and higher. He just wouldn't give up!

At the end everyone else had given up climbing the tower. Except for the one tiny frog who, after a big effort, was the only one who reached the top!

All of the other tiny frogs naturally wanted to know how this one frog managed to do it. A contestant asked the tiny frog how he had found the strength to succeed and reach the goal. He just shrugged and said not a word.

It turned out that the winner was deaf.

If God is calling you to do something, in order to succeed you'll need to turn a deaf ear to those voices (like the one in your own head) that tell you that you can't (or shouldn't) do it.

Upcoming Events...

Maundy Thursday

We conclude our Lenten Midweek Devotions on Maundy Thursday with the usual Lenten Midweek Schedule

5:00-5:45	Supper
6:00	Devotional Service (with Lord's Supper)
6:45	Confirmation

Good Friday

We will celebrate and contemplate the death of Jesus Christ in a special worship service at 7:00 p.m. The service will be a modified Tenebrae service including the Seven Last Words of Jesus

Easter Egg Hunt

For kids of all ages. After the Easter Breakfast (around the normal Sunday School time - 8:45). We will hunt for eggs, candy and the meaning of the holiday. This will be fun for the adults (grown-up kids) as well as the kids. Make it a part of your Easter Sunday celebration.

Confirmation Sunday

Sunday, April 26

Kasey Nieland makes her faith commitments

Old Fashioned Sunday School Picnic

Sunday, May 17

Crazy Games and Lotsa Food

Vacation Bible School

June 8 - 12

"Journey with Jesus"

5:30 - 8:00 p.m. Monday - Friday

Be thinking about who you can invite or how you can volunteer.

Sunday, May 31

CTI Music Ministries (Carpenter's Tools, Int'l) Will provide music and drama for our worship.

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Thot for a day: Missionaries do Emmanuel labor.

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A note from Matt Carlquist. He is the son of Ruth Carlquist, who went to be with Jesus a few years ago. He writes from the mission field...



*I lift my eyes up to the hills-
where does my help come from?*

**MY HELP COMES FROM THE LORD,
the Maker of heaven and earth.**

Psalm 121:1-2

GOD IS SO AMAZING! Thank you so much for your prayers as the peace and favour that I'm experiencing here could only be coming from Him. The transition from the States to Liberia to DRC (Democratic Republic of Congo) has gone so much better than I expected. It's overwhelming sometimes how good our Father is.

THANKS B 2 OUR GOD 4:

MY SUPPORT TEAM! I left the States feeling totally supported by my team back in the Cities. A BIG THANK YOU to my family (including Bethel Christian Fellowship) and friends for welcoming me with open arms after a year and a half away and sending me back out with your blessings. God used you to help make this a healthy transition and knowing that I have your support really makes a big difference out here in the bush.

ANSWERED PRAYER! - COMMUNICATION: Language was a big concern, but almost everyone speaks Kiswahili, so I do not have to learn a new language from scratch. My Kiswahili is pretty basic, but it's much better than my non-existent French. An interpreter helps when I get in over my head...

MORE ANSWERED PRAYER! - RELATIONSHIPS WITH TEAM MATES: In-your-face, divine favour and grace--there's no other way to explain how and why staff are responding so well after the many changes in leadership that they've experienced during the last year. Hallelujah! No wonder the town we're in is called *Baraka* (it means Blessing in Kiswahili and Arabic).

GOOD HEALTH: Definitely not taken for granted after a virus led to a 6-week tour of hospital rooms in 2007. Cholera and malaria are the biggies here and our field office has an endearing reputation on the management team for being the base where people go to get sick. After two years in the field, recent blood tests in Nairobi came up negative & they gave me the A-OK to return to DRC.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

DR CONGO + SAFETY: Congolese troops & militias are running around with AK47s & the largest UN peacekeeping force in the world is struggling to keep up. One of the humanitarian organizations near our office was ambushed last month on the road to our project communities and there is unrest in many communities. M-F mornings we have a security update after team worship, devotions & prayer. Please pray for reconciliation, peace, safety and for wisdom to know when it's necessary to change plans to maintain security.

CONGOLESE: Please pray that Jesus is glorified as we continue reaching out to the vulnerable (especially returnees and ex-combatants) with new schools, safe drinking water/sanitation, and public health promotion. Please also pray for the unity of the Holy Spirit as we work together with our brothers and sisters in the local churches and ZOA, another Christian humanitarian organization.

DISCIPLESHIP + ENCOURAGEMENT: I am here filling a leadership gap until the longer term area coordinator arrives. Please pray for God's agenda to be accomplished through me during the short time I'm here as I encourage our team to put their trust in Jesus and follow Him wholeheartedly.

FINANCES: The economy and foreign exchange rates have had a big impact on Tearfund this year. Please pray that we will be able to reduce our projected budget deficit & that we are good stewards of the resources we've been given.

LOOKING AHEAD: I am so thankful for two incredible years serving with Tearfund & have agreed to extend until 05 May. After that, only God knows where I'll be--apparently I don't need to know yet. He's very clearly saying "Trust me" & "Don't be afraid." Please pray for HIS will to be done & not mine.

Thanks again for your encouragement and prayers.
Amani kwako (Peace be with you)!

mattcarlquist@yahoo.com



One of our school construction sites here in South Kivu

tearfund

We are Christians passionate about the local church bringing justice and transforming lives -- overcoming global poverty

Upcoming Schedules...

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

Scripture Readers

Apr 5	Duane Hansen	796-5605
Apr 12	Scott Wachter	796-6222
Apr 19	Bryson Wachter	894-6378
Apr 26	confirmand	

May 3	Jack Kuppich	254-8355
May 10	Tris Mische	354-9046
May 17	Wendy Robbin	354-9049
May 24	Mona Hjelle	354-4315
May 31	Youth	

June 7	Wally Abraham	354-2615
June 14	Kevin Welsh	796-6840
June 21	Allan Fuglie	796-6975
June 28	Linda Dilley	235-0235

Fellowship Servers

Apr 5	Donna Peterson	354-5247
Apr 12	Easter Breakfast	
Apr 19	Pam Johnson	354-3545
Apr 26	Laurel Iverson	354-4932

May 3	Elaine Abraham	354-2615
May 10	Tammy Fuglie	796-6975
May 17	Janet Towner	444-0125
May 24	Mona Hjelle	354-4315
May 31	Youth	

June 7	Stacy Olson	212-9647
June 14	Violet Dauk	220-0344
June 21	Lu Kiehm	979-0097
June 28	Tris Mische	354-9046

Usher & Greeter Schedule

	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Greeter</u>
Apr 5	Charlie & Heather Carver	Lu
Apr 12 (Easter)	Duane Hansen/Chuck Weffen	Laurel
Apr 19	Jason Miller/Mark Fuglie	Janet
Apr 26 (confirmation)	Kevin Welsh/Jack Kuppich	Violet

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Thot for a day: Nobody talks so consistently about God as those who insist that there is no God.

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May 3	Wally Abraham/Brady Sharp	Lu
May 10	Joe Johnson / Anthony Dauk	Laurel
May 17	Troy Hansen/Bryson Wachter	Janet
May 24	Janet Towner/Linda Dilley	Violet
May 31	Youth	Youth

June 7	Mona Hjelle & Pam Johnson	Lu
June 14	Jamie Iverson & Lonny Robbin	Laurel
June 21	Duane Hansen & Chuck Weffen	Janet
June 28	Jason Miller & Jack Kuppich	Violet

Acolyte

Apr 5	Noah Welsh
Apr 12	Michelle Johnson
Apr 19	Phil Iverson
Apr 26	Mikayla Geer

May 3	Noah Welsh
May 10	Michelle Johnson
May 17	Phil Iverson
May 22	Mikayla Geer
May 29	Youth

June 7	Noah Welsh
June 14	Michelle Johnson
June 21	Phil Iverson
June 28	Mikayla Geer

NEW: Children's Church Schedule

Apr 5	Emily Fuglie
Apr 12	Mariah Welsh
Apr 19	Anthony Dauk
Apr 26	Mona Hjelle

May 3	Kasey Nieland
May 10	Becca Dauk




April Discipleship Verse...



Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."

John 20:21

April 2009 - Living Word Church Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
March 29 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour Adult Forum - Key Chapters Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship Easter Choir Practice	March 30 Circuit Pastors' Conference	March 31 NOON Bible Study @ Geneva Olson's Favorite Hymn study	April 1 Noon Study: Angels 5:00-8:00 Youth Fundraiser @ Pizza Ranch in Willmar 6:00 Lenten Worship 6:45 Men's Study	2 6:30 Bldg Committee	3	3
5 Palm / Passion Sunday 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour Adult Forum - Key Chapters Sunday School 10:00 Worship w/ Lord's Supper 11:15 Fellowship Outreach Team mtg after f-ship	6	7 NOON Bible Study @ Geneva Olson's Favorite Hymn study	8 7:00 LWML	9 Maundy Thursday 5:00 - 5:45 Supper 6:00 Worship w/ communion 6:45 Confirmation	10 Good Friday 7:00 Worship	11
12 THE RESURRECTION 6:35 Sunrise Worship 7:45 Easter Breakfast 8:45 Easter Egg Hunt 10:00 Easter Worship	13 	14 NOON Bible Study @ Geneva Olson's	15 NEW Noon Study: Full Life 3:00 X-treme Tour (confirmation class) 6:30 Men's Study	16 6:00 9 th Gr. Confirmation 7:00 Mission & Ministry Team	17	18
19 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour Adult Forum - key chapters Sunday School 10:00 Worship w/Autumn Faushaug (Dille) Baptism 11:15 Fellowship	20	21 NOON Bible Study @ Geneva Olson's	22 Noon: Full Life Study 6:00 Meal 6:30 Confirmation	23	24	25
26 CONFIRMATION Sunday 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour Adult Forum - key chapters Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship 6:00 New Neighbor Visits	27 District	28 Convention	29 at Brainerd	30	May 1	May 2

April - 15-Minutes-A-Day

TODAY'S LIGHT BIBLE READING PROGRAM: We read John's account of the life, ministry, death and resurrection of Jesus then move to James for a definition of faith and back to the OT for Jeremiah.

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

Mar 30 John 1:1-2:25 (1:29-51) _____

Mar 31 John 3:1-36 (3:1-21) _____

Apr 1 John 4:1-54 (4:1-42) _____

Apr 2 John 5:1-6:71 (6:25-58) _____

Apr 3 John 7:1-8:59 (7:37-53) _____

Apr 4 John 9:1-10:42 (10:1-30) _____

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

Apr 6 John 11:1-12:50 (11:1-53) _____

Apr 7 John 13:1-14:38 (14:1-31) _____

Apr 8 John 15:1-16:33 (15:1-17) _____

Apr 9 John 17:1-26 (17:20-26) _____

Apr 10 John 18:1-19:42 (18:1-11) _____

Apr 11 John 20:1-21:25 (20:1-18) _____

Apr 12 Use the time today to celebrate the Resurrection

Apr 13 James 1:1-27 (1:13-18) _____

Apr 14 James 2:1-26 (2:14-26) _____

Today's Light Devotional Readings

Apr 15 James 3:1-18 (3:13-18) _____

Apr 16 James 4:1-17 (4:1-12) _____

Apr 17 James 5:1-20 (5:7-18) _____

Apr 18 Jeremiah 1:1-2:37 (1:1-19) _____

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

Apr 20 Jeremiah 3:1-4:31 (4:1-31) _____

Apr 21 Jeremiah 5:1-6:30 (5:1-31) _____

Apr 22 Jeremiah 7:1-8:22 (7:1-28) _____

Apr 23 Jeremiah 9:1-10:25 (10:1-16) _____

Apr 24 Jeremiah 11:1-12:17 (11:1-17) _____

Apr 25 Jeremiah 13:1-14:22 (13:1-11) _____

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

Apr 27 Jeremiah 15:1-17:27 (17:1-18) _____

Apr 28 Jeremiah 18:1-19:15 (18:1-17) _____

Apr 29 Jeremiah 20:1-22:30 (20:7-18) _____

Apr 30 Jeremiah 23:1-40 (23:1-8) _____

May 1 Jeremiah 24:1-25:38 (25:15-19) _____

May 2 Jeremiah 26:1-28:17 (28:1-17) _____

Just For Thought...

YOU TOOK MY PLACE AT CHURCH!

One day, a man went to visit a church. He got there early, parked his car and got out. Another car pulled up near him. The driver got out and said, 'I always park there! You took my place!'

The visitor went inside for Sunday School, found an empty seat and sat down. A young lady from the church approached him and stated, 'That's my seat! You took my place!' The visitor was somewhat distressed by this rude welcome, but said nothing.

After Sunday school, the visitor went into the sanctuary and sat down. Another member walked up to him and said, 'That's where I always sit! You took my place!'

The visitor was even more troubled by this treatment, but still said nothing.

Later, as the congregation was praying for Christ to dwell among them, the visitor stood up. His appearance started to change. Horrible scars became visible on his hands and his sandaled feet. Someone in His pew noticed and couldn't help blurting out, "What happened to you?"

As the visitor's cap turned to a crown of thorns, He simply said, "I took your place."

Experience Works...

This is the Senior Community Service Employment Program- formerly known as the Green Thumb program.

Are you 55 or older with limited income? Experience Works can help! Through the program, you can work up to 20 hours in a non-profit agency in order to learn new skills, build new relationships and you receive supplemental income at the same time. There are host agencies in this community that need your help! Find out if you qualify by calling 1-800-450-5627.

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Thot for a day: Trouble is inevitable, misery is optional.

X-TREME TOUR 2009

Wednesday April 15th @ 3PM in NLS HS Gym

Featuring Unicyclist DUSTIN KELM

Highlights

- Inflatable Games (Races & Contests)
- Pizza
- Matt Cordes Message
- DJ music (whole time)
- LOTS of FUN

Youth Fundraiser Results...

We earned **over \$400** at our Pizza Ranch fundraiser. (**Matching funds** have also been applied for through Thrivent Financial for Lutherans - Kandiyohi Chapter.) Thanks to all the people who came (and invited friends). We had 10 youth plus some parents that helped make it a success!

Thank you!

THE LINK -Local Advocacy and Resource Network

You may have known it as The LEARN Center or The Jonah Project.... but finally the name has been decided on as **The Link**. It is a perfect description for what we are doing, and are excited to be moving forward with services and projects!

So who are we and what will we do? This project has been developed out of an idea through the local ministerial association to help respond to people's needs in our community. We have taken that idea, and built a vision for The Link.

Our mission: Creating a community where neighbors share the love of God through service to each other.

We are currently located at Faith Lutheran Church, and are also exploring options for additional space in New London. We provide assessment and referral services to people who have immediate needs and look for ways to informally address those needs that other agencies cannot. We also look to inform the community about the reality of poverty and offer ways for people to become engaged in solutions to address these issues. We will connect people in order to build community in God's image- one that includes sufficient, sustainable livelihood for all.

Some of our initial work includes partnering with agencies, churches and businesses, and recruiting volunteers to develop services such as community suppers, a satellite food shelf location, haircut clinics, a clothing exchange and a household item distribution event. We are also developing a website to inform people about events and to link groups and people together through community exchange projects.

The success of this project hinges on the commitment and participation of community members. Please prayerfully consider how you can share your gifts with those in need. Complete an interest survey located elsewhere in this newsletter (and also available at church) and share the love of God through service to your neighbor. For more information, contact Michelle Peterson at 796-2522 or by email flc_michelle@tds.net

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That for a day: Why is it called "rush hour" when nothing moves?

The Link Local Advocacy & Resource Network

"Creating a community where neighbors share the love of God through service to each other"

Volunteer Interest Survey

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

YES! I am interested in being a part of this response to the needs of people in my community. Please keep me informed about projects and opportunities to help.

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

I would be interested in participating/ supporting/ volunteering in the following projects:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Local food pantry | <input type="checkbox"/> Clothing drive/ distribution |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Household product distribution | <input type="checkbox"/> Low-cost haircut clinic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community meal events | <input type="checkbox"/> Free family friendly events |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Car care/repair clinic | <input type="checkbox"/> Community resource exchange |
| <i>*classifieds for people to exchange items</i> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Signature fundraising event | <input type="checkbox"/> Baby supply distribution |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Link office- assisting walk-ins, other office/computer | |

I have a specific gift/talent that I would be willing to share with others who need it. (For example, musical instrument, sports, computer repair, etc.)

Describe gift/talent: _____

I am interested in participating with the following outreach teams:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Household repair | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape/gardening/yardwork |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior services | <input type="checkbox"/> Financial mentoring |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Moving/transport services | <input type="checkbox"/> Mission organization
(household, paperwork, etc.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parent support | <input type="checkbox"/> Special family events
(birthdays, holidays, graduations) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Employment support | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation |

I am willing to be on a networking team to be emailed/called for specific needs that arise to help people in need. (Financial, specific items like sports equipment, furniture, school supplies, etc.)

Opportunities for Growth...

Today's Light Bible Reading

(See the schedule of readings on pages 14 & 15 in this Newsletter)

Parenting Young Children

Sunday mornings @ 8:45

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

Confirmation - Wednesday evenings

6:45 Confirmation studies

Tuesday Noon Bible Study

Stories behind favorite hymns:

Anything is more meaningful when you know the story behind it. We take a look at the Bible passages and life-situations that prompted the writing of some of the favorite hymns. We gather at noon and share a light lunch and study. Please join us.

Wednesday NOON study:

Beginning April 15: **Life to the Fullest**

Jesus is obviously concerned about your eternal life, He died so you could have one. But one thing we often overlook is that Jesus is also concerned with our lives here on earth. As He said in John 10:10, "I have come that they may have life and have it to the fullest."

We'll meet for six sessions to study specifics of a full life physically and emotionally, as well as spiritually.

Topics will include:

- Don't just survive - Thrive!
- You Are What You Eat.
- Your Mind: What Goes In Is What Comes Out in Your Life
- What is a Friend - Developing Friendships
- Where You End - That's Where God Begins
- Focus for Your Future

Please join us at noon starting April 15 - and bring a friend.

Sunday Morning Forum

We will continue to look at key chapters in our Today's

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That for a day: Taxation WITH representation isn't so hot, either!

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Light Bible readings. You don't have to have read them in order to participate. Recent "Key Chapters" we've looked at:

Daniel chapter 3. In the famous story of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, we saw a them set a great example of how to react when faced with a moral dilemma: Do what God wants you to do regardless of what might happen.

Haggai - (the whole two-chapter book) We saw that the Israelites kept "spinning their wheels" never getting ahead, because they had the wrong priorities. They placed fixing nice homes for themselves above building a home (Temple) for God.

Please join us this month as we look at some key chapters from the Gospel of John and the prophet Jeremiah. *You can even suggest chapters that you'd like us to look at.

Join us at 8:45 Sunday Mornings

NEW—Women's Study

4-Session study - Coming the last part of April

Watch for details on start day.

Childcare will be provided.

Perfect for stay-at-home moms:

Men's Study: "No Ordinary Men"

Meets on the first and third Wednesdays of the month.

We will finish up our study of the **Sermon on the Mount** and then launch into a study of the book of **Revelation**.

We will also try to work a **service project** into our schedule, so keep your eyes and ears open for needs we could help with (check the LINK article and survey elsewhere in the newsletter for ideas.)

All Stars 4 Jesus (1-6th Grades)

(And confirmation helpers)

Lutheran Women's Missionary League

Meets the 2nd Wednesday in April, @ 7:00 pm

Lenten Projects...

"Care Package" Items for Deployed Military Personnel

Blue Star Mothers - Willmar Chapter 1 mails "care packages" to troops deployed in war zones. During the Lenten Season we will help them collect items like

Snacks:

- Beef Jerky
- Nuts
- Raisins
- Granola Bars
- Microwave Popcorn
- Hard Candy
- Licorice
- Powdered Drink Mix

Hygiene Items

- Nasal Spray
- Eye Drops
- Lip Balm
- Foot Powder

Other Items

- Paperback Novels
- Magazines (less than six months old)

Remember to pick up one (or more) of these items each time you go shopping. Bring the items with you each time you come to worship during Lent (Sunday or Wednesday). We'll take care of getting them to the Blue Star Mothers. We will also have an opportunity to write short notes to send along with the care packages. THANKS!

Building Update...

We have finalized our floor-plan and are awaiting the official **blueprints** from the architect. Once we have those we will submit them to various contractors for bids to get an idea what 'ballpark' we are really in cost-wise. At that point we will have to determine if we have the **finances** to go ahead with construction or if we will have to wait until we have more funds.

Pastor David, Laurel Iverson and Bryson Wachter

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presented our building program to the pastors of our circuit at their meeting last week. The goal is to enlist the assistance of each of the circuit congregations, so Living Word becomes **a circuit-wide mission project**. Some pastors indicated that they felt there would be members in their congregations who would love to help with the construction phase. There may be individual members in these congregations that would also be willing to provide financial support. We won't know until we ask.

Plans are to communicate with each of these congregations via monthly building plans/updates in their newsletters (and, of course, ours).

Please continue to keep our building committee in your prayers. Thanks!

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



FOR SALE - Single owner tomb. Only used three days, and still has that new tomb smell. Reason for sale.. resident was resurrected.

Thot for a day: How to cope with stress: Fill out your tax form using Roman numerals.

