

Living Word Lutheran Church LCMS

October 2010 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 for Pastor...

"What's with all these 'Only comes once in a century' signs?"

I've gotten quite a few questions about these "Don't miss it" signs that have been up at church for the past month.

Every so often a special day comes around on our calendars which presents us with the opportunity to do something out of the ordinary. One such day occurs this year on Sunday, October 10th. Only once a century do we have a 10-10-10 day. (Tenth day of the tenth month in the tenth year).

But this particular day in history is even more unique since it occurs on Sunday. Because of that we can add a fourth "10" to give us 10-10-10-10.

And the fourth "10"?

The fourth "10" stands for the Biblical concept and teaching of the tithe—the action of people of faith in Christ setting aside and then giving back to the Lord 10% of the blessings He's given.

Thus, we have "Ten-Ten-Ten-Ten", a special stewardship program intended to encourage God's people in LC-MS churches of the Minnesota North District to try tithing on that Sunday. "Bring a 10th to the Lord on the 10th day of the 10th month of the 10th year!"

Some of you might remember that our District sponsored a similar "10-10-10" in 2004 (the last time October 10 fell on a Sunday). People throughout our District were encouraged to try tithing the week of October 10, 2004. Many congregations made use of this program and God blessed their efforts. It was not out of the ordinary for participating congregations to have received an offering that morning of 2, 3, 4, or even 5 times their normal weekly offering! And

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many congregations continued to experience the blessing of members growing in the grace of giving beyond that one Sunday.

Such results are not surprising. After all, our gracious God has promised to enable us to grow spiritually, and He always keeps His promise. Will He do it again? Pray that our heavenly Father would once again bless us with the desire to grow in the grace of giving!

Why 10%? Ten percent was typically the "king's share" in ancient times. When God commanded His people to tithe in the Old Testament He was teaching them to acknowledge that He is King of their lives. The One to whom they owe their ultimate allegiance. The One they trust 100% to provide and protect them.

But did Jesus ever talk about tithing in the New Testament? Actually He did. In Luke 11:42

Woe to you Pharisees, because you give God a tenth of your mint, rue and all other kinds of garden herbs, but you neglect justice and the love of God. You should have practiced the latter without leaving the former undone.

God's people in Jesus' day followed the Old Testament and gave a tithe to the Lord. The Pharisees took that to the extreme of even tithing their small garden herbs. Jesus is not chewing them out here for tithing - even their small things. He actually tells them it's good that they do this. What He does chew them out for is not treating people with justice and not showing true love to God. In effect He says, "It's not an either-or thing. You should tithe AND show justice to others and love to God." I had a pastor friend tell me once, "If 10% was the standard for showing gratitude to God before Jesus died for us, why on earth do we look for ways to give Him less after Jesus came?"

So, how does 10-10-10-10 work?

Start with prayer. Ask God to help you answer these two questions

- Is the Lord asking me to increase what I give back to Him?
- Is the Lord encouraging me to take a step in that direction by setting aside one-tenth of my (our) income and bring it as an offering to Him on October 10th?

Then simply fill out the commitment card below (cards will also be available at worship October 3 and 10th) and bring your tithe to worship on the 10th (or mail if you can't be in worship that day).

Do you have to give a tithe that day? No. But I'd encourage everyone to consider this promise God makes in Malachi 3:10

Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if

I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it."

The following comment is an example of the kind I hear from folks who didn't think they could afford to tithe - but who tried it anyway: "It strengthened my faith like nothing else to see how God kept his promise to provide for my needs and to pour out countless blessings on top of it." I have no doubts that God will do that for you as well.

Thanks for asking,
Pastor David

Send your questions to pastor@livingwordlutheran.net

TEN-TEN-TEN-TEN RESPONSE CARD

Trusting in the faithfulness of God and moved by His love in sending Jesus Christ to be my Savior, I (we) bring an offering today of _____ % of our weekly earnings.

(check any of the below which apply to you)

_____ This is an increase in our offering.

_____ We commit to giving this same percent-age as our offering for the rest of October.

_____ We commit to giving this same percent-age as our offering for the remainder of 2010.

MEXICAN FIESTA DINNER / FALL FESTIVAL

THANK YOU...

To Everyone Who Participated in Any Way...

Planning, publicizing, making food, setting up, serving, inviting, eating!

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That for a day: Tomorrow is just a future yesterday.

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Upcoming Events...

10-10-10-10

An opportunity that only comes once every 100 years. Read "Questions Fro Paster" for more information.

DAVE & BARB ANDERSON CONCERT

At Living Word, 6 p.m., Sunday, October 31 **see page 20**

TRUNK OR TREAT

A Halloween alternative outreach. Decorate your trunk - or just fill it with goodies to hand out. Watch for details on the time and location (which will coincide with the Halloween candy giveaway sponsored by the Spicer businesses).

SMOKE-DETECTOR BATTERY GIVEAWAY

Saturday, November 6 at 11:00

This is our annual outreach on the day before we turn our clocks back and change our smoke detector batteries. We simply go to homes in the area and give people a new battery for their smoke detector. It makes a great family outreach, because it's something adults and kids can do together. It's fun to see the looks on people's faces when you get to tell them you are giving them something and don't want any money for it.

SENIOR HIGH BIBLE STUDY

1st Wednesday of the Month at 6:30

Pastor David will lead the study on Wednesday, October 6.

ALL STARS 4 JESUS

(3rd - 6th Grade)

Will meet again the first Wednesday of October (the 6th) for Games, snack, Bible lesson and craft/service project. Confirmation students will assist with All Stars. Activities begin at 6:30 and end at 7:45 This week we "Go Banana's" First we play a game using bananas to teach us about sharing, then we'll make banana splits. .

AN INVITATION FROM SHAWN URBAN

(Shawn was a youth worker here in the early days of Living Word)

You are cordially invited to an evening of music, dancing and friends in honor of the marriage of Shawn Urban and Bethany Schmidt on Friday, October 15, 2010 at 8:30 pm The Water Street Inn, Stillwater, MN

Best wishes only.

Mom's Study...

9:30 Wednesday Mornings
Childcare is provided

The Nooma ® series - The Nooma ® series studies center around short films like parables, that use the experiences of our lives to teach about the fullness of life through Jesus, tackling issues like forgiveness, discipleship, and unconditional love. In our studies this month we will look at..

What is my purpose in life? We want to know why we are here. If our lives really matter. How our religion is relevant to this life. Today. We want to understand what significance this minute, hour, week, month, and year has to our lives. To our world. We need a God who cares about this life, in this world, right now. We want to understand why everything we think, everything we say, and everything we do matters. We don't want to just sit back and wait for something to happen or someday to come. We want to know if all the choices we make now will shape our world and lives for eternity. Because we want our lives to have meaning today, and our lives today to have meaning forever.

What does God really want from me? Why do we do the things we do? Why do we go to church or give money away? Because we're supposed to or because we think that God needs it? Do we honestly put on our best clothes for an hour once a week, stand and sit at all the right times, and sing all the appropriate songs for God's sake, or because it'll make us look better to the world around us. We're tired of all the empty rituals and routines. And so is God. God hates it when we call ourselves Christians but ignore all the things he really cares about. He hates it when we go through hollow religious routines out of some feelings of duty or obligation. God doesn't want the meaningless rituals. God wants our hearts.

Men's Study ~ Bible & Burgers...

2nd and 4th Tuesdays of Each Month @ 6:00 p.m.

"Who Am I... And What Am I Doing Here ?"

We start each get-together with a meal (we take turns providing "Man food" like steaks, burgers, chili, pancakes).

Then we have a serving of "Baloney," short video segments from Lutheran Hour Speaker Ken Klaus featuring some of the

"Baloney" we are fed by the media (e.g. the idea that evolution is how we came to be).

Finally, the Main Course: Our study. This month we finish up taking a look at God's answers to these really BIG questions that eventually confront all guys (who, being guys, usually try to avoid really BIG questions like these)

"Who am I and What Am I Doing Here?"

Thankfully, God doesn't leave us to wonder who we are. We aren't doomed to a life of groping in the dark in an attempt to seek meaning in life. We are not left to determine our own truth or stumble through our days without direction (not that we'd ever ask directions if we were stumbling). Using what God has revealed to us in His Word (the Bible), this study provides honest and straight-shooting answers to those twin questions.

Guys: Come and join us. It's good food for your body and your soul.

Women's Study...

"That the World May Know"

Faith Lessons on the Promised Land

"Exploring the land Jesus walked 2000 years ago - finding relevance for your life today."

Wednesdays at noon.

That the World May Know is a unique video series that brings God's Word to life with astounding relevance. By weaving together the Bible's fascinating historical, cultural, religious and geographical contexts, Bible teacher and historian Ray Vander Laan reveals key insights into the Scripture's significance to modern believers like you. The result? Illuminating "Faith Lessons" that will solidify your convictions, strengthen your walk with God and inspire you to impact your world..

In recent lessons we've learned about...

- The Essene group of Jews and the Dead Sea Scrolls they left for us.
- The Wilderness areas of Judah and how God uses "wilderness" experiences to do the same for us as what the wilderness did for the Israelites - bring us closer to God and to rely on Him instead of ourselves.

Upcoming Lessons will take us to:

Galilee

The place Jesus taught and gave the Sermon on the Mount

The City of Gamla

Home to the Zealot movement of Jesus' time

Sepphoris

"crucifixion city" near where Jesus grew up in Nazareth

We'll also learn about the other Jewish religious groups of Jesus' time - the Sadducees and Pharisees - and what we learn from Jesus' dealings with each group.

That The World May Know...

By now you have received a letter with details about our drive to match a generous \$25,000 donation to our building fund. We ask that you please commit to prayer your participation in this special opportunity.

We continue to wait on some estimates for various building layouts in an effort to get us the most functional building at a cost that will fit our budget. Much of the paperwork has been completed in the filing process for non-profit status. God-willing we are looking forward to having all the details completed and sufficient funds raised to allow us to put up a building this coming spring.

Please keep our building plans in your prayers. Thanks

Thank God For...

Maybe you've seen the sign board on our land, the beginning of a sentence: "Thank God For..."

Each week we'd like to change the ending of that sentence to encourage people who drive past to remember that God is the giver of all good things - especially things we take for granted.

Some things we've thanked God for this past month...

- Sunday School
- Sunshine
- Our Mexican Fiesta Dinner

Let Pastor know how you'd complete that sentence next week.

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Thot for a day: The first rule of holes: If you're in one, stop digging.

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Packages for College...

Our youth will be collecting "college survival" items to include in packages they will send to Living Word members who are attending college. Members are encouraged to help out with this collection by bringing things like:

- packaged cookies
- gum
- stamps
- hot chocolate
- beef jerky
- stationary
- newspapers
- ramen noodles
- graham crackers
- candy
- jokes
- snacks
- travel-size toiletries

You could even toss in gift cards for places like Target or Wal-Mart, etc.... Place your items in the collection boxes in back of church. Thanks so much for your help!



The LINK Update...

Hello Friends!

Happy Fall – what beautiful weather! I hope you are all doing well. I'm putting a call out for some volunteers - I need some strong backs to help move some couches. The Good News - these couches are already in The Link building they just need to be moved to a new room down the hall. If you or anyone you know can help please reply with your general availability and I will arrange date and time. This shouldn't take long with the right help! God helps us leap over walls a few couches should be manageable!

Also – I had a request last week for an electric stove or microwave. If you know of a stove or micro in working order that someone is willing to donate please help them get in touch with The Link!

Thanks for all of your support of The Link!

Naomi Mahler, Director The Link
310 Medayto Dr, Spicer, MN 56288 320-796-2522 320-894-1681

NEW TIME FOR LWML MEETINGS

The women of our Lutheran Women's Missionary League will be meeting the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

October - Daily Devotionals

We finish up our readings on MIRACLES, then we finish out the month reading what God has to say about TITHING and GIVING. God bless your reading.

Oct 3 **What God Says About MIRACLES** - in Matthew, Mark and Acts

Oct 4 Matthew 14:22-33 _____

Oct 5 Matthew 28:1-10 _____

Oct 6 Mark 16:1-7 _____

Oct 7 Acts 3:1-10 _____

Oct 8 Acts 9:1-19 _____

Oct 9 Acts 12:1-11 _____

Oct 10 **What God Says About TITHING**

Oct 11 Genesis 14:12-20 _____

Oct 12 Malachi 3:6-12 _____

Oct 13 Leviticus 27:30-32 _____

Oct 14 Numbers 18:21-29 _____

Oct 15 Deuteronomy 14:22-29 _____

Oct 16 Luke 11:37-42 _____

Oct 17 **What God Says About GIVING BACK TO GOD** in the Old Testament

Oct 18 Proverbs 3:9-10 _____

Oct 19 Ecclesiastes 5:10-15 _____

"What Does God Say About...?"

Oct 20 Deuteronomy 16:16-17 _____

Oct 21 Deuteronomy 26:1-11 _____

Oct 22 1 Kings 17:12-16 _____

Oct 23 1 Chronicles 29:6-16 _____

Oct 24 **What God Says About GIVING** in the Gospels

Oct 25 Matthew 6:1-4 _____

Oct 26 Matthew 6:19-21,24 _____

Oct 27 Matthew 6:25-34 _____

Oct 28 Mark 12:41-44 _____

Oct 29 Luke 12:27-34 _____

Oct 30 Luke 6:38 _____

Oct 31 **What God Says About GIVING** in the New Testament

Nov 1 Acts 2:42-47 _____

Nov 2 Acts 4:32-37 _____




Nov 3 2 Corinthians 8:1-7 _____

Nov 4 2 Corinthians 9:6-15 _____

Nov 5 Romans 12:6-8 _____

Nov 6 James 1:16-18 _____

October 2010 - Living Word Church Calendar of Events

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|--|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| 3 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour Adult Forum - Miracles Sunday School 10:00 Worship w/Lord's Supper 11:15 Fellowship Outreach Meeting | 4 9:00 Circuit Pastors @ Willmar | 5 NOON Bible Study @ Geneva Olson's Book of Ruth 7:00 Elders' Team | 6 9:30 Mom's Study Noon Women's Study 6:30 Bldg. Committee 6:30 Senior High Study 6:30 All Stars 4 Jesus (led by confirmands) | 7 Noon NL-S Ministerial | 8 | 9 |
| 10 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour Adult Forum - Miracles Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship | 11 | 12 NOON Bible Study @ Geneva Olson's Book of Ruth 6:00 Men's 'Bible & Burgers' Group "Who Am I.....?" | 13 9:30 Mom's Study Noon Women's Study 6:30 LWML 6:30 Confirmation | 14 | 15 8:30 p.m. Stillwater Shawn Urban & Bethany Schmidt Wedding Reception | 16 |
| 17 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour Adult Forum - Miracles Sunday School 10:00 Worship w/Lord's Supper 11:15 Fellowship | 18 | 19 NOON Bible Study @ Geneva Olson's Book of Ruth 7:00 Mission & Ministry Team | 20 9:30 Mom's Study Noon Women's Study NO CONFIRM'N - MEA 6:30 Building Committee | 21 | 22 | 23  |
| 24 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour Adult Forum - Miracles Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship | 25 | 26 NOON Bible Study @ Geneva Olson's Book of Ruth 6:00 Men's 'Bible & Burgers' Group "Who Am I" | 27 9:30 Mom's Study Noon Women's Study 6:30 Confirmation | 28 | 29 | 30  Trunk or Treat (Time to be determined) |
| 31 REFORMATION SUNDAY 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour Adult Forum - Miracles Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship / Outreach Mtg 6:00 D. & B. Anderson Concert | Nov 1 9:00 Circuit Pastors' Conference | Nov 2 NOON Bible Study @ Geneva Olson's 7:00 Elders' Team | Nov 3 9:30 Mom's Study Noon Women's Study 6:30 Bldg. Committee 6:30 Senior High Study 6:30 All Stars 4 Jesus (led by confirmands) | Nov 4 Noon NL-S Ministerial | Nov 5  | Nov 6 11:00 Smoke-Detector Battery Outreach |

Upcoming Schedules...

Elders

| | |
|--------|------------------------------|
| Oct 3 | Bryson Wachter & Brady Sharp |
| Oct 17 | Troy Hansen & Wally Abraham |
| Nov 7 | Bryson Wachter & Brady Sharp |
| Nov 14 | Troy Hansen & Bryson Wachter |
| Dec 5 | Brady Sharp & Troy Hansen |
| Dec 19 | Bryson Wachter & Brady Sharp |

Scripture Readers

| | | |
|--------|----------------|----------|
| Oct 3 | Linda Dilley | 235-0235 |
| Oct 10 | Mark Fuglie | 796-6975 |
| Oct 17 | Tammy Fuglie | 796-6975 |
| Oct 24 | Lu Kiehm | 979-0097 |
| Oct 31 | Tammy Wachter | 796-6222 |
| Nov 7 | Duane Hansen | 796-5605 |
| Nov 14 | Allan Fuglie | 796-6975 |
| Nov 21 | Scott Wachter | 796-6222 |
| Nov 28 | Bryson Wachter | 894-6378 |
| Dec 5 | Jack Kuppich | 254-8355 |
| Dec 12 | Wendy Robbin | 354-9049 |
| Dec 19 | Mona Hjelle | 354-4315 |
| Dec 26 | Phil Iverson | 354-4932 |

Fellowship Servers

| | |
|--------|-------------------------------|
| Oct 3 | Nancy Jo Wendt / Tammy Fuglie |
| Oct 10 | Tammy Wachter / Sarah Miller |
| Oct 17 | Lu Kiehm / Mona Hjelle |
| Oct 24 | Laurel Iverson / Violet Dauk |
| Oct 31 | Youth |
| Nov 7 | Linda Dilley / Bonnie Hansen |
| Nov 14 | Marcia Welsh / Pam Johnson |
| Nov 21 | Wendy Robbin / Stacy Olson |
| Nov 28 | Nancy Jo Wendt / Tammy Fuglie |
| Dec 5 | Tammy Wachter / Sarah Miller |
| Dec 12 | Lu Kiehm / Mona Hjelle |
| Dec 19 | Laurel Iverson / Violet Dauk |
| Dec 26 | Linda Dilley / Bonnie Hansen |

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Thot for a day: Live so the preacher won't have to tell lies at your funeral.

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Usher & Greeter Schedule

| | <u>Ushers</u> | <u>Greeter</u> |
|--------|---------------------------------|------------------|
| Oct 3 | Linda Dilley & Lu Kiehm | Jack & Bryson |
| Oct 10 | Tim Geer & Allan Fuglie | Laurel Iverson |
| Oct 17 | Mona Hjelle & Paulette Spletter | Lu Kiehm |
| Oct 24 | Brady Sharp & Wally Abraham | Gerri & Paulette |
| Oct 31 | Youth | Youth |
| Nov 7 | Jamie & Phil Iverson | Jack & Bryson |
| Nov 14 | Jason Miller & Bryson Wachter | Laurel Iverson |
| Nov 21 | Brian Tri & Troy Hansen | Lu Kiehm |
| Nov 28 | Duane Hansen & Chuck Weffen | Gerri & Paulette |
| Dec 5 | Lonny Robbin & Jack Kuppich | Jack & Bryson |
| Dec 12 | Mark Fuglie & Vern Samuelson | Laurel Iverson |
| Dec 19 | Kevin & Noah Welsh | Lu Kiehm |
| Dec 26 | Linda Dilley & Lu Kiehm | Gerri & Paulette |

Fill-in Greeter Bonnie Hansen 796-5605

Please call Bonnie if you aren't able to greet on your scheduled Sunday

Acolyte

| | |
|--------|-------------------|
| Oct 3 | Grace Geer |
| Oct 10 | Michelle Johnson |
| Oct 17 | Matthew Tri |
| Oct 24 | ** Acolyte needed |
| Oct 31 | ** Acolyte needed |
| Nov 7 | Grace Geer |
| Nov 14 | Michelle Johnson |
| Nov 21 | Matthew Tri |
| Nov 28 | Caleb Beeler |
| Dec 5 | Grace Geer |
| Dec 12 | Michelle Johnson |
| Dec 19 | Matthew Tri |
| Dec 26 | Jacob Beeler |

Children's Church Schedule

| | | |
|--------|----------------------------|--------------|
| Oct 3 | Kasey Nieland | 354-2036 |
| Oct 10 | Mona Hjelle | 354-4315 |
| Oct 17 | Emily Fuglie | 796-6975 |
| Oct 24 | Mikayla Geer & Halee Lucas | |
| Oct 31 | Carolyn Rossow | 952-738-1036 |
| Nov 7 | Mariah Welsh | 796-6840 |

| | | |
|--------|---------------|----------|
| Nov 14 | Joe Johnson | 354-3545 |
| Nov 21 | Kasey Nieland | 354-2036 |
| Nov 28 | Mona Hjelle | 354-4315 |

| | | |
|--------|----------------------------|--------------|
| Dec 5 | Emily Fuglie | 796-6975 |
| Dec 12 | Mikayla Geer & Halee Lucas | |
| Dec 19 | Carolyn Rossow | 952-738-1036 |
| Dec 26 | Mariah Welsh | 796-6840 |

Sunday School News...

Check us out on facebook "Livingword Lutheran Sundayschool" or email sundayschool.lw@gmail.com to request weekly email updates.

Here's a sampling of upcoming Sunday School activities:

Lessons this month:

Oct. 3: "The Fall of Jericho" Joshua 6
 Oct. 10: "Deborah" Judges 4-5
 Oct. 17: "Gideon" Judges 6:11-7:25
 Oct. 24: "Samson" Judges 16
 Oct. 31: Luther video

October Memory Work:

"Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God....will come and save you" Isaiah 35:4

October Prayers: Luther's Morning Prayer

My Heavenly Father, I thank you, through Jesus Christ, Your beloved Son, that you kept me safe from all evil and danger last night. Save me, I pray, today as well from every evil and sin, so that all that I do and the way that I live will please you. I put myself in your care, body and soul and all that I have. Let Your holy Angels be with me, so that the devil may have no power over me. Amen.

October Discipleship Verse...



"Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God....will come and save you" Isaiah 35:4

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Thot for a day If all else fails, stop using all else.

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Beginning in October...



50 Days Ablaze

A Congregation-wide, small-group program (similar to 40 Days of Purpose that we held several years ago)

Due to the time constraints of the program we have re-scheduled "50 Days Ablaze" for January/February.

We are in the process of putting together a Planning Team for the 50 Days Ablaze. People needed:

- A Communication Coordinator - to keep everyone informed
- A Prayer Coordinator - to organize prayer for the 50 Days Ablaze
- Worship Coordinator - to organize music and drama for worship
- Small Group Coordinator - to recruit people who can host the small-group studies (We already have 4 small group leaders lined up! Thanks)

Please talk to Pastor David or elder Bryson Wachter if you can help in any of these ways. Thanks!

11:09... (set the alarm on your cell phone)

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY AT 11:09 EVERYDAY

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

Remember to take a time-out to be "impudent" and PRAY for things like...

- The Holy Spirit to grow your faith
- For God to do what you *can't*.
- Pray for God to give you faith and courage to do what you *can*.
- For wisdom to know the difference between what only God can do and what He calls you to do.
- Pray for God to take us into the land He's given us.
- Pray for God's help to tthe on 10-10-10-10 Sunday.

E-Mail Humor...

Mr. Smith climbs to the top of Mt. Sinai to get close enough to talk to God.

Looking up, he asks the Lord, "God, what does a million years mean to you?"

The Lord replies, "Same as a minute."

Mr. Smith asks, "And what does a million dollars mean to you?"

The Lord replies, "Same as a penny."

Smith asks, "Lord, can I have a penny?"

The Lord replies, "Just a minute..."

In the examination paper, the professor wanted us to sign a form stating that we had not received any outside assistance. Unsure of whether he should sign the form, a student stated that he had prayed for the assistance of God.

The professor carefully studied the answer page and then said, "You can sign it with a clear conscience. God did not assist you."



E-Mail Wisdom... (received via e-mail)

NEED WASHING?

A little girl had been shopping with her Mom in Wal-Mart. She must have been 6 years old, this beautiful red-haired, freckle-faced image of innocence.

It was pouring outside. The kind of rain that gushes over the top of rain gutters, so much in a hurry to hit the earth it has no time to flow down the spout... We all stood there, under the awning, just inside the door of the Wal-Mart.. We waited, some patiently, others irritated because nature messed up their hurried day.

I am always mesmerized by rainfall. I got lost in the sound and sight of the heavens washing away the dirt and dust of the world. Memories of running, splashing so carefree as a child came pouring in as a welcome reprieve from the worries of my day.

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Her little voice was so sweet as it broke the hypnotic trance I was caught in, 'Mom let's run through the rain,' she said. 'What?' Mom asked.

'Let's run through the rain!' She repeated.

'No, honey. We'll wait until it slows down a bit,' Mom replied.

This young child waited a minute and repeated: 'Mom, let's run through the rain..'

'We'll get soaked if we do,' Mom said.

'No, we won't, Mom. That's not what you said this morning,' the young girl said as she tugged at her Mom's arm.

'This morning? When did I say we could run through the rain and not get wet?'

'Don't you remember? When you were talking to Daddy about his cancer, you said, ' If God can get us through this, He can get us through anything! ' '

The entire crowd that had been eavesdropping on this pretty public conversation stopped dead silent.. I swear you couldn't hear anything but the rain.. We all stood silently. No one left. Mom paused and thought for a moment about what she would say.

Now some would laugh it off and scold her for being silly. Some might even ignore what was said. But this was one of those "teachable moments" when that mom took the opportunity to teach her daughter that faith is lived out in actions, not just words.

'Honey, you are absolutely right. Let's run through the rain. If GOD let's us get wet, well maybe we just need washing,' Mom said.

Then off they ran. We all stood watching, smiling and laughing as they darted past the cars and yes, through the puddles. They got soaked.

They were followed by a few who screamed and laughed like children all the way to their cars. And yes, I did.. I ran. I got wet. I needed washing.

Circumstances or people can take away your material possessions, they can take away your money, and they can take away your health. But no one can ever take away your precious memories...So, don't forget to make time and take the opportunities to make memories everyday.

Thot for a day: I know where I am. I've been lost here before.

Concert...

On Sunday, October 31, **Dave and Barb Anderson** will present a worship concert at Living Word at 6:00 p.m. Dave and Barb have presented over 5,000 concerts in America and in 17 other countries since they were married in June, 1975. Come prepared to sing a long! (Dave says, "so long as it's the same song as we are singing"). Invite friends. Gospel music, hymns, children's songs, contemporary praise and worship music, and what Dave calls, message songs. This is an evening you will enjoy!

In 1993 Dave and Barb Anderson, and five others, went down in a plane crash in the Bering Sea. They lost one engine at 7,000 feet; the other at 3,500 feet and then their plane fell 3,500 feet in 3 1/2 minutes and then they plowed into the ocean at 90 MPH. They were 22 1/2 miles from Nome and about 100 miles south of the Arctic Circle. Dave and Barb will tell The Rescue Story when they come to Living Word. For a heads-up on the story, go to . If you have Google Earth on your computer, look for Sledge Island. This island plays a life-or-death role in their survival. Invite your friends to hear their concert and this amazing story.

This miraculous story has been heard by millions around the world on radio, TV, and through personal appearances. The Rescue Story points to the God which rescues men and women from overwhelming circumstances in our lives. Learn more at www.therescuestory.com.

Under Dave and Barb's leadership, Fellowship Ministries has provided the church with worship resources including 5,200 concerts, nearly one million songbooks (*The Other Songbook* and *The Best of the Best*), and a few hundred worship and music conferences and seminars.

The Andersons are traveling less, in their 34th year of full-time music ministry, in order to put more time into Shepherd's Canyon Retreat, a counseling ministry designed to bring renewal for pastors and other professional church workers and their spouses. These 8-day retreats, currently being held in beautiful settings in Wisconsin and Arizona, are staffed by two Christian counselors (male/female) and a chaplain. You will be inspired by the news Dave will share news from this new ministry. Please visit to learn more.

The free-will offering received at the concert will benefit the Shepherd's Canyon Retreat project.



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Thot for a day: No matter how much you push the envelope, it'll still be stationary.

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Remembrances...

WE MOURN THE PASSING OF LONG-TIME SUMMER VISITOR AND FRIEND - JIM ABEL



James Daniel Abel, 81, of Kasson passed away peacefully on the morning of August 17, 2010 of health complication while at St. Mary's Hospital in Rochester, MN

James was born on Sept. 3, 1928 in Dodge Center, MN, to Lester Ross Abel and Bertha (Bennett) Abel. Jim was baptized in the Methodist Church. He later be-

came a member of Grace Lutheran Church in Dodge Center, MN, where he was very active in serving many years as the secretary and on various other committees. Jim graduated from Kasson High School in 1947. After graduation, he started Abel Signs in Kasson and operated it for 50 years. He married Elsie Hinz on April 18, 1954 at Zion Lutheran Church in LaVerne, IA.

Jim was active in the community throughout his life, and a member of American Legion Post 333. Jim enjoyed traveling with his family, fishing, raising show pigeons as a hobby, and especially loved spending time with his family.

James is survived by his loving wife Elsie, and his children, Ross (Vickie) of Rochester, Kim (Edward) Balady of Phoenix, AZ, Jon (Ann) of Rochester, and Christ (Carla) of Kasson; eight grandchildren; four step-grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held on Friday, August 20, 2010, at Grace Lutheran Church with the Rev. Robert Lentz officiating. Burial was at Maple Grove Cemetery in Kasson.

Our condolences to Elsie and the rest of Jim's family.

'THANK YOU' FROM THE FAMILY OF BETTY TJADEN

Many thanks to the women of the congregation who prepared a meal for us after the funeral. Thanks also to Pastor David for officiating at the funeral. We greatly appreciate what each of you did for our family.

Story Behind The Song...

"A Mighty Fortress is Our God"

The last day of this month is Reformation Day. It was on October 31, 1517 that a monk and professor of theology named Martin Luther posted his 95 Theses - ninety five points he wanted to debate with the leaders of the Roman Church. Thus was born what we know as "The Reformation" - the movement to reform some erroneous teachings of the church. In addition to bringing back the biblical teaching that we are saved by God's grace through faith in Jesus (not in our works), Martin Luther sought to bring back congregational singing. Luther contributed some thirty-six hymns himself, the greatest of which is "A Mighty Fortress" - also known as "The Battle Hymn of the Reformation."

Unlike many hymns that didn't become popular until years after being published, "A Mighty Fortress" was adopted immediately by the people of Germany and had an influence right away. It became the rallying cry of people who wanted reform in the church. The song was sung at the Diet of Augsburg, in the streets and in churches of Germany. It was sung by poor Protestant emigrants on their way to exile from their homeland and by martyrs at their deaths.

Gustavus Adolphus ordered it sung by his army before the battle of Leipzig in 1631 and later in the battle of Lutzen in 1632 in which the king was slain but his army was victorious. Luther found comfort in his hymn when feeling that his cause seemed lost. He turned to his friend Melancthon and said, "Philip, let's sing the Forty-sixth Psalm."

The hymn was written in 1528, but attempts to find a specific event or situation that prompted its writing have proved unsuccessful. We do know that Martin Luther based the hymn on Psalm 46. He doesn't follow the entire Psalm but expands on the thoughts expressed in the first two verses:

God is our refuge and strength, an ever present help in trouble, therefore we will not fear though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea. Psalm 46:1,2

The hymn has been translated into English more than eighty times (translation from one language into another is not an exact science - especially when attempting to find words that rhyme).

Below is one of those translations that has found favor in America.

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Thot for a day: I don't bother getting even. I just get odd.

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A mighty fortress is our God A sword and shield victorious
He breaks the cruel oppressor's rod And wins salvation for us
The old satanic foe Has sworn to work us woe
His craft and pow'r are great And armed with cruel hate
On earth is not his equal

Did we in our own strength confide
Our striving would be losing
Were not the right Man on our side The Man of God's own
choosing You ask who this may be The Lord of Hosts is He
Christ Jesus mighty Lord God's only Son adored
He holds the field victorious

And though this world with devils filled
Should threaten to undo us
We will not fear, For God has willed
His truth to triumph through us
The prince of darkness grim We tremble not for him
His rage we can endure For lo! his doom is sure
One little Word shall fell him!

God's Word forever shall abide, No thanks to foes who fear it
For God himself fights by our side With weapons of the Spirit
Were they to take our house Goods, honor, child or spouse
Though life be wrenched away They cannot win the day.
The kingdom's ours forever!

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson

Why must we watch that
spooky Billy Graham again?
Why can't we just watch a
'nice' movie like the Exorcist?



You believe in one God, good! But the
demons believe too, and tremble with
fear. James 2:19