

  
**Living Word**  
**Lutheran Church**  
LCMS

**May 2011 Newsletter**

The people living in darkness have seen a  
great light; on those living in the land of  
the shadow of death a light has dawned.



**"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 County Rd 10  
in old Prairie Meadows building  
PO Box 242, New London, MN 56273  
Phone: 320-796-0742  
Website: [www.livingwordlutheran.net](http://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...

Can you go to hell for telling a lie?

This is a sincere and honest question that displays a couple things we don't see much of any more: The Fear of the Lord and a belief that there is a hell. I'm going to answer this question in two parts. This month I'll tackle the "fear of the Lord" aspect. Next month we'll deal with hell.

For starters, maybe I need to clarify what "fear of the Lord" really is (and isn't), after all it is a pretty important thing. Many of you will remember that Martin Luther's explanation of the commandments in The Small Catechism all began with the words *We should fear and love God that...* And in His word (in the Psalms and Proverbs) God tells us *"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom."* i.e. You can't have wisdom apart from a foundational fear of God.

So what does it mean to "fear God"? It doesn't mean you should be terrified of him like you would be of an escaped criminal who is on the loose in your neighborhood. Someone who will bring harm randomly and without provocation. No. That's not what God is like. He never randomly brings consequences unprovoked.

The fear of God is this: A healthy respect for who He is (God) and what He has the right, power and authority to do.

It's quite comparable to how we "fear" the person in the Highway Patrol car. We have nothing to fear from that person when we are obeying the law. But when we drive by that car doing 70 in a 55 zone, well, the instant sweaty palms and rapid heart rate indicate

## Page 3

a fear of what the person in that car has the right, power and authority to do. We also find a comparison between the motivation the Highway Patrol person has for pulling us over and God's motivation for bringing consequences when we disobey His rules: Both looking out for our best interests (even though we may not think so at the time).

I was in a store this week talking with the shopkeeper when another customer came in. The topic the three of us ended up discussing was the declining state of morals in our world - and the increasing acceptance of ideas and actions God specifically denounces in the Bible. We didn't agree on the root cause of this situation (I still contend that the root cause is the same as the root cause of the original moral failure in the Garden of Eden: Satan has been successful in getting us to believe his lies). But we did all agree on this one thing: There is very little fear of God in our world these days. And without the fear of the consequences that God has the right, power and authority to bring (for our own good) we end up using "whatever feels right at the time" as a guide for our actions instead of using God's word. And our feelings serve as an ever-changing and unreliable guide as to what is the right thing to do.

I'll go into the second part of the answer in greater detail next month when I tackle the "hell" issue, (hint: contrary to popular belief there is a place of eternal suffering and separation from God) but I don't want to leave anyone in the dark on this point: On Good Friday, Jesus did *everything* that ever needed to be done to keep anyone from having to be separated from Him for eternity. He died to forgive *all* sin - including lying. And God promises that everyone who repents of their sin and trusts in Jesus and what He did on Good Friday and Easter Sunday will spend eternity in with Him in heaven. That's the Good News we celebrate every Sunday.

Thanks for asking,  
Pastor David

Send your questions to [pastor@livingwordlutheran.net](mailto:pastor@livingwordlutheran.net)

## May Discipleship Verse...



*Jesus answered, "I am the Way and the Truth and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through me."*

**John 14:6**

## New Mentoring Program...

In light of the recent suicides in our community, people in churches have been meeting to plan for ways to help our young people through the tough times they face. The Living Word Elders' Team put together initial plans for starting a Mentoring program in our congregation. **We will share information about the program during the lunch at the Sunday School Picnic on Sunday, May 22** but here are some preliminary details about the program:

- The basic goal will be to match each young person in our congregation (middle school through high school) with an adult from the congregation who will serve as a mentor.
- Mentors will simply serve as an adult the student can develop a trusting relationship with - someone in addition to their parents that they can feel comfortable talking with. (No formal teaching)
- We will attempt to match mentors with students based on mutual interests and experiences.
- Mentors will be making the following commitments:
  - \*A face-to-face meeting with your student at least once a month
  - \*'Touch base' with the student at least once per week (call or text)
  - \*Attend a monthly meeting of mentors
  - \*Attend events your student is involved in (plays, concerts, games)
- The mentoring relationship will continue throughout the years the student is in school - we will not be assigning new mentors each year (unless the specific situation - such as a move - warrants)
- Good Mentor candidates will ...
  - \*Above all display a willingness to be part of a young person's life
  - \*Be "real"
  - \*Not be perfect
  - \*Help the student connect with God
  - \*Do this because they "want to" not because they feel they "have to"
- If there is sufficient interest we would also like to have mentors for students who are in college or are recently out of high school. These mentoring relationships would not have as much face-to-face time.

**Please join us after worship on May 22 to find out more.** If you aren't able to be here that day, you can talk to Pastor David or one of our Elders Thanks!

## Page 4

That for a day: You don't stop playing because you grow old; you grow old because you stop playing.

## Page 5

## On Television...

### Lutheran Hour Ministries'

### 'The Bible on Trial' to Air on Television in May

Type the phrase "most scrutinized book in history" into your favorite Internet search engine and your results will point to just one title: the Bible.

A collection of 66 individual books written down by more than 40 authors over a span of a thousand years, the Bible makes a single claim according to Christianity: its central character, Jesus of Nazareth, is the Son of God, promised by God, sent by God...and raised from the dead by God to redeem all humankind from sin and everlasting condemnation.

For centuries, the veracity of that claim and its source has been challenged. Skeptics assert that the biblical narratives are mere stories; that biblical texts must have been corrupted in the process of copying and re-copying; that the names of many key biblical characters are not found in non-biblical historical records; that the biblical canon was determined by a biased Christian council in the fourth century A.D., and so on.

### The Bible on Trial rises to the challenge.

Lutheran Hour Ministries, in partnership with Envoy Productions, is proud to present The Bible on Trial: Beyond a Reasonable Doubt, a full-length broadcast program for television.

The Bible on Trial lays the overarching question before some of the world's foremost authorities in biblical scholarship and ancient history: "Are the Bible and its claims trustworthy?"

A panel of experts (including Dr. Paul L. Maier of Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Mich.; Dr. Randall Price of Liberty University, Lynchburg, Va.; Dr. Jeff Kloha of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo. and Joel Lampe of The Bible Museum, Goodyear, Ariz.) weighs the evidence from contemporary non-Christian writers and archaeological, bibliographic and eyewitness sources. The balanced testimony from these scholars affirms the reliability of the biblical record. The program concludes with a call to the viewer: "What is your verdict?"

The Bible on Trial airs May 15 on AMG TV network stations in Los Angeles, Phoenix, Houston, Nashville, Detroit, Cincinnati, New York, Orlando, Dallas, Seattle and many other cities.

For airing dates and times, visit the Broadcast Guide page at [TheBibleTrial.com](http://TheBibleTrial.com).

# The LINK Update...

News from The Link

May 2011

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

## Drop 'N Shop Spring Clothing Exchange

**Friday and Saturday, May 13-14**

**at Evangelical Covenant Church, New London**

Drop off your *clean* donated clothes on **Friday noon-6pm.**

Come back and shop on **Saturday 9am-noon.**

Everything is FREE, including breakfast!!

AND

## Spring Cleaning Household Item Collection

**Saturday May 14th 9am-12 noon**

**at the New London Link Building**

Wondering what to do with that old set of dishes, that extra table, the lamp from Grandma's house, the out grown baby stuff?

Drop it off at The Link so someone else can use it! We'll be open special hours on May 14th just to take those spring cleaning items!

**\*\*Volunteers are still needed to help at this event - contact The Link to sign up!\*\***

## Check out what folks are saying about Tuesday's Table...(From a meal in March)

*Just a note of thanks for the wonderful meal last night at Peace. It's so fun to see the faces of our Crossroads friends at Tuesday's Table! We had so much fun with our table pals and lots of laughs and reminiscing! Please tell the kids thanks for their service to us and to God!*

*We have gone to almost every meal. Contrary to what people think, this was not designed to provide meals for the financially needy. It's proven to be for us what the program was designed for and that is a meal that brings community members together for fellowship, to gather as different faiths serving one God. We have made so many great connections...we have learned so much about the history of New London at times and we also LOVE the time it saves us in meal prep at home so that we can return to some quality family time. We are so grateful and hope that more will join us in the future.*

*Thanks again and again!*

*In Christ, April Dorr*

## Join us Every Tuesday night at 6pm!

1<sup>st</sup> Tues @ Our Lady of the Lakes, Spicer

2<sup>nd</sup> Tues @ Evangelical Covenant, NL

3<sup>rd</sup> Tues @ Faith Lutheran, Spicer

4<sup>th</sup> Tues @ Peace Lutheran, NL

5<sup>th</sup> Tues @ Hope Presbyterian, Spicer

Page 6

That for a day: All I want is a warm bed, a kind word, and unlimited power.

Page 7

## LINK Volunteer Opportunities

- SHOP-N-DROP MAY 13-14
- Friday 12noon- 6pm
- Saturday 8:30- 12noon
- Tuesday Afternoons @ The NL LINK
- Receive and Distribute household items
- Plumber or Electrician
- Home repair work for a client
- Computer Help
- Internet Set-Up, Web Page
- Yard work
- Cut downed trees for firewood

To Volunteer or for information about the Link and its programs please contact its director, Naomi Mahler at 796-2522 or [flic\\_naomi@tds.net](mailto:flic_naomi@tds.net)



## SPRING DROP 'N SHOP CLOTHING EXCHANGE

ALL FREE OF CHARGE  
NO PROOF OF INCOME REQUIRED  
First Come - First Serve!

**WHEN: Friday, May 13th noon-6pm**

Drop your spring clothing items off

**Saturday, May 14th 9am-noon**

Shop for your family's spring clothing items

**WHERE:  
Covenant  
London**

**Evangelical  
Church in New**



## A free continental breakfast will be served from 9-11am!

- This is an opportunity for you to donate your clean and gently used items to other people in the community who can benefit. Clothing that has been outgrown or is "so last year" in style!
- Items will be sorted by size and gender for Saturday's shopping event.
- Bring in your items on Friday and come back on Saturday to shop for your family! Leftover items will be donated to other area organizations.

**\*\*We are also accepting clean winter outerwear for our distribution in the fall!\*\***

## Spring Cleaning and Household Item Collection

At the same drop off gently used household items next door at the New London Link Site!



Volunteers are also needed for the set up and shopping event  
Contact Naomi Mahler for more information (320) 796-2522



This is a project of The Link

## Upcoming Events...

### "Old - Fashioned Church Picnic"

Sunday, May 22

After worship - behind the church

Picnic, Softball, volleyball, cake walk, gunny sack races, etc..  
Bring a friend and a dish to pass.

### Sunday School Planning Meeting

What better time to plan for next year than when this year is fresh in our memories?

Are you interested in helping us have an exciting Sunday School program that excites the students and helps them learn about God in fun ways they will remember?

Please join us Sunday, May 15 after worship for a planning meeting.

This meeting is for parents, teachers, past teacher and everyone who has a heart for our kids learning about Jesus.  
THANKS!

### Church-League Softball

Another Season starts on Thursday, May 19  
Come and cheer on your team

### Spring Voters' Assembly

Wednesday, May 25 @ 7:00

The main purpose of the Spring Voters' Assembly each year is the election of officers to a two-year term that will begin July 1. The offices up for election this year are as follows:

- Vice Chairman
- Treasurer
- Director of Congregational Outreach
- Director of Christian Growth - Education (Sunday School)
- Elders' Team (3 positions)

### Mother-Daughter Salad Luncheon

Saturday, June 11 from 11am to 1 pm

Bring your mom, bring your daughter, bring a friend, bring an aunt or niece, bring a grandma or granddaughter. It doesn't matter who you bring, just bring someone and have a fun morning. Tickets are FREE and available at church or from Pam and Violet. Each mother-daughter pair is asked to bring a salad to share. Thanks!

## Page 8

Thot for a day: Don't insult the alligator until after you cross the river.

## Page 9

### Saturday Worship Opportunity

June 4 Through the End of Summer

A Chance to Worship if You Aren't Able to on Sunday:

In addition to Sunday worship we will offer a more informal worship opportunity late Saturday afternoons at 5:30. It's not an alternative to Sunday worship, but simply an additional chance to worship if you can't on Sunday. We may even worship outdoors behind the school when the weather permits.

### Lutheran Day at Valleyfair

Monday, June 27 - More details next month

### **LORD'S SUPPER NOTE:**

We'll celebrate communion on the 2ND and 4TH Sundays in May.

## Opportunities for Growth...

### What Does God Say About...? Bible readings

This month's readings (on pages 10 & 11) focus on themes on getting to know the Enemy Jesus defeated on the cross. The Enemy who still battles us daily in an effort to take us down with him.

### Men's "Bible and Burgers" Study

Tuesdays @ 6:00 p.m.

Guys: Join us for our study:

"The Struggles and Faith of Real People Just Like Us"

Starting with: Joseph (staying faithful in adversity)

### Wednesday Morning Mom's Study

Wednesdays at 9:30 -

Moms: Join us this week for:

"The Struggles and Faith of Real People Just Like Us"

Joseph (staying faithful in adversity)

### Wednesday Women's Study

Wednesdays at Noon

Ladies: Join us this week for:

"The Struggles and Faith of Real People Just Like Us"

Joseph (Staying faithful in adversity)

### Sunday Morning Study

Sunday mornings at 8:45

"Differences (and similarities) between the LC-MS and ELCA"

## May - Daily Devotionals

In order to win a victory, you need to defeat an enemy. Jesus won the victory on Easter and the enemy was Satan. This month we learn a lot about the enemy and his tactics and his defeat

May 1 **What God Says About...** JESUS' RESURRECTION - Its result for us

May 2 John 11:20-27 \_\_\_\_\_

May 3 1 Corinthians 15:12-23 \_\_\_\_\_

May 4 1 Corinthians 15:51-58 \_\_\_\_\_

May 5 Acts 4:32-35 \_\_\_\_\_

May 6 Colossians 3:1-10 \_\_\_\_\_

May 7 1 Peter 1:3-9 \_\_\_\_\_

May 8 **What God Says About** THE ENEMY (Satan - Basic facts about)

May 9 Genesis 3:1-7, 14-15 \_\_\_\_\_

May 10 John 8:42-44 \_\_\_\_\_

May 11 Revelation 12:7-12 \_\_\_\_\_

May 12 Matthew 13:18-23 \_\_\_\_\_

May 13 John 13:1-2 \_\_\_\_\_

May 14 Revelation 20:7-10 \_\_\_\_\_

May 15 **What God Says About ...** THE ENEMY (Satan - How he works)

May 16 2 Corinthians 11:3-4, 13-15 \_\_\_\_\_

May 17 **Matthew 13:36-43** \_\_\_\_\_

## "What Does God Say About...?"

May 18 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12 \_\_\_\_\_

May 19 2 Corinthians 2:9-11 \_\_\_\_\_

May 20 Acts 5:1-6 \_\_\_\_\_

May 21 2 Corinthians 12:7-10 \_\_\_\_\_

May 22 **What God Says About ...** THE ENEMY (Satan - How to fight him)

May 23 Matthew 4:1-11 \_\_\_\_\_

May 24 Hebrews 2:14-18 \_\_\_\_\_

May 25 1 Peter 5:6-11 \_\_\_\_\_

May 26 Ephesians 4:25-32 \_\_\_\_\_

May 27 Ephesians 6:10-18 \_\_\_\_\_

May 28 James 4:6-10 \_\_\_\_\_

May 29 **What God Says About ...** THE ENEMY (Demons)

May 30 Matthew 12:43-45 \_\_\_\_\_

May 31 Mark 1:21-28 \_\_\_\_\_

June 1 Mark 1:29-34 \_\_\_\_\_

June 2 Luke 10:17-20 \_\_\_\_\_

June 3 Acts 19:11-20 \_\_\_\_\_

June 4 James 2:11-19 \_\_\_\_\_

# May 2011 - Living Word Church Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour - Adult Forum - Sunday School 10:00 Worship w/ Fast Forward 11:15 Fellowship	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 6:00 Men's Group	<b>4</b> 9:30 Moms' Study Noon Women's Study 5:00 / 6:00 Confirmation Interviews	<b>5</b> Noon NL-S Ministerial	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Softball Practice
<b>8 CONFIRMATION SUNDAY</b> 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour - Adult Forum: ELCA & LCMS - Sunday School 10:00 Worship w/ Lord's Supper 11:15 Fellowship Outreach Meeting	<b>9</b> PASTORS' @ 7:00 Elders' Team	<b>10</b> CONFERENCE MADDENS' 6:00 Men's Group	<b>11</b> 9:30 Moms' Study Noon Women's Study 6:30 LWML	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour - Adult Forum: ELCA & LCMS - Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:15 SUNDAY SCHOOL MTG.	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 6:00 Men's Group 7:00 Mission & Ministry Team	<b>18</b> 9:30 Moms' Study Noon Women's Study	<b>19</b> TBA Church League Softball	<b>20</b> 4:00 Savatzky Wedding Vow Renewal 6:00 Miller / Halliday Wedding Rehearsal	<b>21</b> 4:00 Miller / Halliday Wedding
<b>22</b> 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour - Adult Forum: ELCA & LCMS - Sunday School 10:00 Worship w/ Lord's Supper 11:15 SUNDAY SCHOOL PICNIC & MENTORING INFO	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 6:00 Men's Group	<b>25</b> 9:30 Moms' Study Noon Women's Study 7:00 Spring Voters' Assembly	<b>26</b> TBA Church League Softball	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour - Adult Forum 10:00 Worship	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 6:00 Men's Group	<b>June 1</b> 9:30 Moms' Study Noon Women's Study	<b>June 2</b> TBA Church League Softball	<b>June 3</b>	<b>June 4</b> 5:30 Summer Saturday Worship

## Upcoming Schedules...

### Elders

May 1	Wally Abraham & Jason Miller
May 15	Brady Sharp and Bryson Wachter
June 5	Troy Hansen & Wally Abraham
June 19	Jason Miller & Brady Sharp

### Scripture Readers

May 1	Gerri Wadsworth	796-2294
May 8	Confirmation Students	
May 15	Paulette Spletter	354-7143
May 22	Linda Dilley	235-0235
May 29	Mark Fuglie	796-6975

June 5	Tammy Fuglie
June 12	Lu Kiehm
June 19	Tammy Wachter
June 26	Duane Hansen

### Fellowship Servers

May 1	Potluck
May 8	Wendy Robbin / Stacy Olson
May 15	Nancy Jo Wendy / Tammy Fuglie
May 22	Tammy Wachter / Sarah Miller
May 29	Lu Kiehm / Mona Hjelle

June 5	Laurel Iverson / Violet Dauk
June 12	Linda Dilley / Bonnie Hansen
June 19	Marcia Welsh / Pam Johnson
June 26	Wendy Robbin / Stacy Olson

### Children's Church Schedule

May 1	Emily Fuglie	796-6975
May 8	** Leader Needed**	
May 15	Mikayla & Halee	
May 22	Carolyn Rossow	952-738-1036
May 29	Mariah Welsh	796-6840

June 5	Kasey Nieland
June 12	Joe Johnson
June 19	Mona Hjelle
June 26	Emily Fuglie

### Acolyte

May 1	Grace Geer
May 8	Michelle Johnson

May 15	** Acolyte Needed**
May 22	Caleb Beeler
May 29	** Acolyte Needed**

June 5	Grace Geer
June 12	Michelle Johnson
June 19	** Acolyte Needed **
June 26	Jacob Beeler

### Usher & Greeter Schedule

	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Greeter</u>
May 1	Duane Hansen & Chuck Weflen	Bryson Wachter
May 8	Jason Miller & Bryson Wachter	Laurel Iverson
May 15	Troy Hansen & Brandon Sharp	Lu Kiehm
May 22	Lonny Robbin & Jason Olson	Gerri & Paulette
May 29	Mark Fuglie & Tim Geer	

June 5	Linda Dilley & Mona Hjelle
June 12	Kevin & Noah Welsh
June 19	Jamie & Phil Iverson
June 26	Brady Sharp & Wally Abraham

\*Fill-in Greeter Bonnie Hansen 796-5605

## Monthly Fellowship Night...

### **It Started Good Friday... And Continues Sunday, May 22**

At a recent Elders' Team meeting we talked about having a special night once a month where people of all ages can get together for a time of Christian fellowship. We discussed having a movie night each month, but settled on having different families plan the activity for each different month. For example, "Family A" might host a Whist Tournament in January, while "Family B" sponsors a sledding day after worship in February, while "Family C" plans a movie night in March.

We kicked off a new Monthly Fellowship Night/Day on Good Friday by hosting a showing of The Passion of the Christ following the "Seven Last Words" Devotional Service. Our

Fellowship Day in May will be the "Old Fashioned Sunday School Picnic" after worship on May 22. Bring a dish to pass and enjoy the food, games, fun and fellowship

Please talk to Pastor or a member of the Elders' Team if you or your family would like to plan and host the Fellowship Night/Day in June

## Sharing the Love of God In Practical Ways...

### Pray

We are conducting the annual update of our Prayer Force prayer chain:

As we've been reminded by the 50 Days Ablaze, prayer for others is one of our responses to the love God has shown us. People on the Prayer Force receive requests via email (we are adding a phone list this year for those who don't use email).

### Help with Children's Church

The only pre-requisite is a love for Jesus and for His kids. You read a Bible story or Object Lesson, take prayer requests from the kids and lead them in prayer; and do an activity with the kids that reinforces the lesson. Lessons are provided. You simply show up and lead. Please talk to Mona Hjelle if you can help in this way. Thanks!

### Help With Support of Heidy

Heidy is the girl from Ecuador that we support through Compassion International. We have committed to \$32/month to help pay for basic needs and Christian education opportunities for Heidy. Donations may be placed in the "Heidy" box on the usher table at church. Thank you!

### **CONFIRMATION OPEN HOUSES**

The congregation is invited to these open houses:

#### **For Mikayla Geer :**

1 - 4 pm on Sunday, May 8  
at her home (10201 Co. Rd. 40 NE, Spicer)

#### **For Phillip Iverson:**

Noon-3pm on Sunday, May 8  
at his home (105 Birch St. SE, New London).

### **GRADUATION OPEN HOUSES**

The congregation is invited to these open houses:

#### **For Joe Johnson:**

Saturday, June 4 from 1-4pm  
at his home in New London (223 3rd Av S)

#### **For Mariah Welsh:**

Sunday, May 22 from noon to 6pm  
at her home (4153 132nd Av NE, Spicer)

Page 16

That for a day: when I'm finally holding all the cards, why does everyone decide to play chess?

Page 17

## Confirmands' Statements of Faith...

### Mikayla Geer

#### What I believe about God the Father:

I believe God the Father is the creator of all things - heaven and earth.

#### What I believe about God the Son:

I believe that God the Son was born of the virgin Mary and conceived by the Holy Spirit. He was the Messiah sent to save us from our sins.

#### What I believe about God the Holy Spirit:

I believe that the Holy Spirit guides us to all truth about God

#### What I believe about eternal life - how I will get to heaven:

I know that God's gift to me is eternal life and if I am a firm believer I will make it to heaven and have eternal life.

#### What I believe about the difference God makes in my life on earth:

I know He helps me get through anything and answers my prayers. I know He always listens too.

#### Why I want to "enlist" as a committed follower of Jesus Christ:

Because I know He loves me even though I am a sinner and if I believe I will go to heaven.

#### What I would like to do with my life as a way of saying "Thanks" to God:

Committing to coming to church, praying, being a better person in general, helping others and spreading the word about God.

#### The confirmation verse I chose: Romans 5:6-8

*You see at just the right time when we were still powerless Christ died for the ungodly, very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love for us in this that while we were still sinners Christ died for us.*

#### Some of my favorite songs:

The Happy Song  
On Eagles Wings  
Go Tell It On The Mountain

### Phillip Iverson

#### I believe God the Father...

sent his son for me and for everyone. He shows me love and kindness and is always watching and caring for me even through my sins. He's there to help me overcome my struggles and to

help me find the light of God. He created me and everything else I can see and everything that I can't see. I believe that God is our only father and has everlasting power.

#### I believe God the Son...

was sent here for me. He gave up his life to pay for our sins and to allow us to enter the kingdom of heaven. We didn't deserve his forgiveness, but he gave it anyway. He showed us the path of God while on this planet and he knows everything that we have experienced in this life. He is more powerful than death and shows never ending power in miracles. He continues to watch us and will return to judge us once more.

#### I believe God the Holy Spirit...

Lives in all of us who believe in Jesus and brings us together as a people. He flows through our hearts and holds the power of God. Without him I would not be able to receive the gift of forgiveness from our father. He has power to help me make good decisions. If I open up my heart to God Spirit then I able to feel his love.

#### What I believe about eternal life - how I will get to heaven:

Eternal life is the ultimate gift of God that he wants to share with all of us. It's not because we were the good children that deserve to go to heaven. We are simply the children that ask for love and forgiveness for our sins. I believe that in order to the in order to get to the kingdom of heaven I must put my heart and faith in Jesus. I don't deserve to go to heaven, because I am sinful by nature and sinful by the things I do. God decides if I can be granted eternal life and that's why I must put God as the first thing in my heart. If I allow God to come into my life and embrace His love that he has for me, then and only then will I receive the gift of eternal life.

#### What I believe about the difference God makes in my life on earth:

I believe that God is always watching out for me and the things that I do. He helps me through tough times by giving me the strength that I need. God helps me with all the things, even if I don't ask. It might be the focus to do well on a test, or the energy to get to school.. He works in my life and everyone else's lives. He helps me resist temptations too like not doing my schoolwork, or staying up late.

#### Why I want to "enlist" as a committed follower of Jesus Christ:

As a Christian I want to become a follower to Jesus Christ because he is the one true God. He rose from the dead, which proves that he is the only God. In order for me to get eternal life I must follow in the faith of the lord so I can become a member of his family and receive forgiveness.

#### What I would like to do with my life as a way of saying "Thanks"

## Page 18

Thot for a day: If a cluttered desk means a cluttered mind, what does an empty desk mean ?

## Page 19

#### to God:

As a thank you to God for blessing me with his faith I would spread to word of God to those around me and help them receive his love. I would help my fellow Christians and church so they too can grow in the faith.

#### The confirmation verse I chose: 1 Timothy 6:12

*Fight the good fight of faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses.*

#### Some of my favorite songs:

The Battle Belongs to the Lord  
Awesome God  
Shout to the North

## E-Mail Humor...

A former Marine sergeant took a new job as a school teacher; but just before the school year started he injured his back. He was required to wear a plaster cast around the upper part of his body. Fortunately, the cast fit under his shirt and wasn't noticeable.

On the first day of class, he found himself assigned to the toughest students in the school. The smart-alecky punks, having already heard the new teacher was a former Marine, were leery of him. They decided to see how tough he really was, before trying any pranks.

Walking confidently into the rowdy classroom, the new teacher opened the window wide and sat down at his desk. When a strong breeze made the teacher's tie flap, he picked up a stapler and promptly stapled the tie to his chest.

He had no trouble with discipline that year.

One lazy Saturday morning the wife and I were quiet and thoughtful, sitting around the breakfast table when I said to her unexpectedly, "When I die, I want you to sell all my stuff, immediately."

"Now why would you want me to do something like that?" she asked.

"I figure a woman as fine as yourself would eventually remarry and I don't want some other jerk using my stuff."

She looked at me intently and said: "What makes you think I'd marry another jerk?"

## In Honor of Mother's Day...

### 21 THINGS ONLY A MOTHER CAN DO

- Fold fitted sheets.
- Cry when she's happy.
- Retrieve unflushable objects from the toilet – sometimes with her bare hands. (Or maybe the only one who can talk dad into doing it)
- Silently speak volumes with "The Look."
- Keep a straight face when her little girl stuffs her shirt with two balloons and says, "Look, Mommy! I got bulldozers!"
- Kiss her baby's feet.
- Make something simple, like cinnamon toast or apple slices, so perfectly that her children won't eat anyone else's.
- Spontaneously and without previous training say, "You'll put your eye out," "Don't make me come in there," and "You broke it! Are you happy now?"
- Surprise her kids with presents they really, really wanted but never thought they'd get. (Or at least clue in a cash-flow happy grandparent.)
- Feel a twinge of sadness when maternity clothes aren't needed anymore.
- Refuse to pick up stray animals and not feel guilty about it.
- Sense when her kids are quietly up to no good.
- Fit more dirty dishes in the dishwasher than anyone else.
- Find something from around the house for show-and-tell before the school bus pulls to a complete stop. (Hint: A pile of junk mail illustrates the wasteful use of natural resources.)
- Make each child feel like the favorite.
- Empty the pockets of little boys and not be shocked by whatever she may find, dead or alive.
- Slice the last cupcake into equal pieces for everyone.
- Get by with little sleep, no vacation and no pay, and still think parenting is the best job in the world. (Although she may come to this conclusion only after she's a grandmother!)\*

\* It's OK if you're a maxed-out mommy who thinks that parenting is the WORST job in the world. There are wonderful networks waiting to embrace and support you: [www.mops.org](http://www.mops.org), [www.hearts-at-home.org](http://www.hearts-at-home.org) and [www.homebodies.org](http://www.homebodies.org).

Page 20

Thot for a day Ginger Rodgers did everything Fred Astaire did, but she did it backwards and in heels.

Page 21

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

### "What if God Had Voice Mail?"

We have all learned to live with "voice mail" as a necessary part of modern life. But have you wondered what would happen if God decided to install voice mail? Imagine praying and hearing this:

Thank you for calling My Father's House. Please select one of the following options:

Press 1 for Requests

Press 2 for Thanksgiving

Press 3 for Complaints

Press 4 for All Other Inquiries.

I'm sorry, all of our angels are busy helping other sinners right now. However, your prayer is important to us and will be answered in the order it was received, so please stay on the line.

If you would like to speak to:

God the Father, Press 1

Jesus, Press 2

The Holy Spirit, Press 3.

If you would like to hear King David sing a psalm while you are holding, please press 4.

To find out if a loved one has been assigned to Heaven, Press 5, enter his or her social security number, and then press the pound key. (If you get a negative response, try area code 666.)

For reservations at "My Father's House," please enter J-O-H-N followed by 3-1-6. For answers to nagging questions about dinosaurs, the age of the earth, and where Noah's ark is, please wait until you arrive here.



Our computers show that you have already prayed once today. Please hang up and try again tomorrow. This office is closed for the weekend to observe a religious holiday. Please pray again Monday after 9:30 AM. If you need emergency assistance when this office is closed, contact your local pastor.

Thank God He's not like us. He doesn't have voice mail and He listens - without delay - when we pray! So, don't forget to call Him.

## Story Behind The Song...

### "All Creatures of Our God and King"

God reminds us in Psalm 19 that all the magnificent wonders of nature reveal His majesty and glorify Him. From the grateful heart of a devoted Italian monk came the beautiful message of this song. As a lover of nature, Francis of Assisi saw the hand of God in all of creation. He urged others to respond with expressions of praise and alleluias.

Giovanni Bernardone, the given name of St. Francis, demonstrated in his own life the tender, humble, forgiving spirit and absolute trust in God that this hymn urges us to have. At age 25 Bernardone left an indulgent life as a soldier, renounced the wealth he'd inherited and determined to live meagerly and imitate the selfless life of Christ

Throughout his life Francis appreciated the importance of music in the life of the church and encouraged singing in the monastery. He wrote more than sixty hymns for this purpose. A prayer written by St. Francis has become familiar and well-loved:

*Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace.  
Where there is hatred, let me sow love  
Where there is injury, pardon. Where there is discord, unity.  
Where there is doubt, faith. Where there is error, truth.  
Where there is despair, hope. Where there is sadness, joy.  
Where there is darkness, light.  
For it is in giving that we receive.  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned.  
It is in dying that we are born to eternal life.*

His beautiful expressions of praise in "All Creatures of Our God and King" have also endured for nearly 900 years.

**All creatures of our God and King,  
Lift up your voice with us and sing,  
Alleluia, Alleluia!  
Oh, burning sun with golden beam,  
O silver moon with softer gleam,  
O Praise Him, O Praise Him, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**O rushing wind that is so strong,  
You clouds that sail in heav'n along,  
O Praise him, Alleluia  
O rising morn in praise rejoice,**

## Page 22

That for a day: I cannot do everything, but I can still do something.

## Page 23

**You lights of evening find a voice  
O Praise Him, O Praise Him, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**O all you men of tender heart,  
forgiving others take your part,  
O sing ye, Alleluia!  
You who long pain and sorrow bear,  
Praise God and on him cast your care.  
O Praise Him, O Praise Him, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**Let all things their creator bless,  
And worship him in humbleness,  
O Praise him, Alleluia!  
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,  
And praise the Spirit, Three in One.  
O Praise Him, O Praise Him, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

### THANK YOU FROM "THE LINK"

Dear Pastor David and Living Word Lutheran Volunteers,  
Wow! Thanks for your great participation last night (April 19) at Tuesday's Table! It was wonderful to have all of your friendly faces helping out. It was a record breaking meal – close to 170 guests were served and including the volunteers the total was over 182 served! I heard positive comments about the Easter Bags you shared too – what a great idea!

We would invite you to continue to participate in this ministry in any way that fits for your congregation. I'd be happy to hear your interest in this and your feedback about the meal itself. What was good? What might be something to improve?

The next Link community event is our Shop-n-Drop May 13th and 14th and we need volunteers for this too! Friday we need help from noon – 6pm to receive donations and set up. On Saturday we need help with the event itself from 8:30- noon. I invite Living Word to send a group or individuals to volunteer with this event. Please contact me if you are interested!

Thanks again!  
Naomi Mahler, Director, The Link