



July 2015 Newsletter
"Communicating the Love of Jesus"
Worship Hours:
Christian Growth Hour: 9:00 a.m.
Worship Service: 10:00 a.m.

Living Word Lutheran Church

PO Box 242, New London, MN 56273
Located north of the New London Township Hall on Cty Rd 9 NE
Phone: 320-354-4637
Email: pastor@livingwordlutheran.net
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...

"The colors on the altar have been different almost every week. White, then red, then white then green. Why?"

That's a great question. There actually is a "rhyme and a reason" to our color scheme. We talked in a recent Sunday morning Bible study about how traditions have meaning and purpose, but unless people know the meaning and purpose, those traditions just become meaningless rituals. "That's the way it's supposed to be," or "Because we've always done it that way," are not good answers.

The colors of the paraments on the altar and of the stole that I wear are the traditional colors for the various seasons and celebration days of the Church Year. It's kind of like how we use different colors in our homes at different times in the calendar year. For example, we traditionally use green and red around Christmas, brown and orange at Thanksgiving, red, white and blue next weekend for Independence Day.

There is one major difference, however. The colors in the sanctuary are not merely there for decoration or to 'add color for the sake of adding color'. The liturgical colors are there to remind us of our God - some attribute or action of His. Here's a brief explanation of how those colors direct our focus to God....

White - is the color of purity and holiness, celebration and joy. Thus, it is the appropriate color for the special days that celebrate Jesus and His work - Christmas, Epiphany (arrival of the wise men), Easter, Transfiguration and Ascension. The white color also carries through the whole seasons of Christmas (12 days) and Easter (50 days). White is used on Thanksgiving Day as a reminder that we have not gathered to thank "our lucky stars," but to focus on God as the "giver of all good gifts."



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Purple - has since ancient times been the color of royalty. It is the color you will see on the altar during the Advent season, those four weeks in December where we prepare to celebrate Jesus - the King of kings - coming to live among us. Purple is also the color of the 40-day season of Lent which leads us up to Good Friday and Easter. The 'royalty color' serves to remind us that the One who died for us is no less than the King of all creation.

Red - is the color of fire. It highlights the power of the Holy Spirit who came upon the first disciples the form of tongues of fire (see Acts chapter 2). Thus, red is the color you will see on Pentecost Day, Confirmation Sunday (it is through the power of the Holy Spirit that the confirmands have come to profess their faith in the Triune God) and Reformation Sunday (again, it was through the power of the Holy Spirit that Martin Luther and the other church reformers brought the church back to the truth that we are saved not by works or payments, but by God's grace through faith in Jesus and what He did for us on the cross).

Green - is the color of life and things that grow. It helps us remember that God is the source of both our life on earth and our eternal life. It also serves to remind us that His goal for us throughout life is to grow - in our understanding of Him and our faith in Him. You will notice green on the altar the majority of the time. Green is the color for the Epiphany Season (the one after Christmas) whose emphasis is on sowing the seeds of the Gospel in the lives of the people around us. Green is also the color of the Pentecost season (which lasts roughly half a year from Pentecost Day to Advent in early December). It is during this season that we highlight the words and works of Jesus during His ministry on earth and seek to grow in our understanding of and trust in Him.

Thanks for asking
Pastor David

Send your questions to pastor@livingwordlutheran.net

THANKS...

...for Supporting the Food Shelf! Thanks to everyone who has generously supported the New London Food Shelf through your donations! Donation amounts for June - 7 pounds. Please continue to bring your donations on Food Shelf Sunday (always the 2nd Sunday of each month). And thanks again for supporting this much-needed program!

...for the Playground Help!

To Cody Sarland and Randy Raddatz for moving the playground rock from the pile into the playground

Tuesday's Table...

at Living Word - June 30

We'll serve a simple 'picnic' meal: Brats, beans, bars & chips

Tuesday's Table typically serves 200+ people, so we need LOTS of help.

Here are some ways you can serve God by serving others.
Sunday, June 28 after worship:

- Move pews
- Set up tables / chairs
- Bring outdoor tables / chairs for outdoor seating

Tuesday afternoon / evening

- Pick up extra tables / chairs from Faith Lutheran
- drop off your brownies/bars (cut into approx 2 1/2 x 2 1/2 squares and placed on paper plates)
- Grill the Brats (starting around 5:15)
- Cook the baked beans
- Bring milk / juice
- Set plates, etc... at tables
- Make coffee
- Serve food
- Greet people
- Clean up



Sign up at church to indicate which of these you can help with.
THANKS

'99 Envelope Challenge' Wraps Up July 5

Our 99 Envelope Board is a fund-raising effort to raise money to replace the yearly mission funding we have been receiving from our District. (We began with 99 envelopes on the board - each with a dollar amount from \$1 to \$99. If we fill all envelopes we'll raise \$ 4950.)

With one Sunday remaining in June our total is: 57 envelopes taken and filled with \$2457 ! THANKS !



If you haven't taken an envelope yet... please prayerfully consider taking one from the board and filling it with the dollar amount listed on the envelope. You may simply place it in the offering plate on Sunday, July 5.

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That for a day: Do not regret growing older. It is a privilege denied to many.

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FFAA Night...

Fun For All Ages night on July 8th



Our first FFAA Night in June was a huge success - in spite of the brief shower. We will hold one FFAA Night each month during the summer. July's FFAA Night will be on Wednesday, July 8 at 6:30.

For the kids there will be games, and bonfires. We will also have games for adults

- horseshoes, bean toss, cards.



New this month will be:
Root Beer Floats

If you could help by organizing one of the games or providing food (hot dogs / buns / chips) please talk to Amanda Sharp, Mona Hjelle or Pastor.



We will also introduce a bunch of new books for the "Summer Reading Program 4 Kids" (see examples on page 8)

E-Mail Humor...

My grandson was visiting one day when he asked ,
"Grandma, do you know how you and God are alike?"
I mentally polished my halo, while I asked,
"No, how are we alike?"
"You're both old," he replied.

Miscellaneous Notes...

Summer - A Great Time to Begin Direct Deposit for Your Offerings Summer schedules frequently have us out of town on the weekends. Direct-deposit can ensure your offerings are still supporting our mission while you are away. Thrivent Financial sponsors Simply Giving, a direct-deposit program that you can set up to have offerings automatically transferred from your bank account to the Living Word's general fund. Please see Stewardship Chair Jason Miller for more details.



Check out our "Free Stuff" Table

Here's just a sampling of what you'll find :

- + NEW: Read With Me Bibles for toddlers
- + NEW Today's Light Devotional Bibles
- + NEW July - Sept Portals of Prayer - daily devotionals
- + Christian magazines + Magnet reminders
- + Videos + A devotional book
- + July Living Word newsletters + Local coupons
- + 2015 Lutheran Island Camp schedules

YOU CAN PLAY HANDBELLS

It's really not that difficult. If you can count, you can play! We have the opportunity to form a Bell Choir to play for worship. Please talk to Jason or Sarah Miller if you'd like to be a part of it!

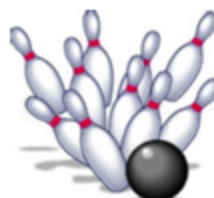


2015 Lutheran Island Camp brochures available

All Parents of students received one in your mailbox. Extras are available on the "Free Stuff" table. Scholarships are available to help with the cost. Just ask.

Church-Bowling League

Plans are in the works to form a church-bowling league this fall at the New London Bowl. The league will run for 16 weeks and begin late October or early November. We are looking to field two mixed-doubles teams (4 people/team). Cost will be \$11/person for each week. This will be a handicap-league, so everyone can compete on the same level. Please talk to Brady Sharp if you would like to bowl or have question. Thanks!



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That for a day: Good manners sometimes means simply putting up with other people's bad manners.

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Rev. Dr. Daniel and Dr. Joan Jastram, Serving the Lord in Northern Asia

(And speaking at Living Word on Sunday, July 5!)



Rev. Dr. Daniel and Dr. Joan Jastram serve the Lord as career missionaries through The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) in northern Asia, based in Tokyo, Japan. In this role, Daniel helps develop and implement a strategic mission plan for this area. He coordinates theological education opportunities and also supervises and evaluates theological educators throughout northern Asia.

When needed, Daniel teaches courses at

Japan Lutheran Theological Seminary, Tokyo.

Daniel was born in Shibata, Japan, and raised overseas in an LCMS missionary family. His childhood congregation was Shibata Lutheran Church, Japan. He received a bachelor's degree from the University of South Dakota, Vermillion, and both a master's degree and a doctorate from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He received his Master of Divinity from Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Ind. Before serving in Asia, he was a professor of theology at Concordia University, St. Paul, St. Paul, Minn., and Concordia University Wisconsin, Mequon. He also served as sole pastor of Messiah Lutheran Church, Forest Lake, Minn. In his free time, Daniel enjoys reading, hiking and bookbinding.

Joan was born in Mitchell, S.D., where her childhood congregation was Zion Lutheran Church. She received both a bachelor's and a master's degree from the University of South Dakota, Vermillion. She received her Doctor of Psychology (Psy.D.) degree from the Minnesota School of Professional Psychology at Argosy University, Twin Cities, Minn. Before her missionary service in Asia, Joan worked as a clinical psychologist and plans to continue in this capacity. Joan enjoys reading, hiking and cooking in her free time.

NOTE: Rev. Jastram and wife Joan will be at Living Word on Sunday, July 5 to share with us the details of their mission to Japan. Please make plans to join us for worship on Independence Day Weekend!

You Are Invited...

You (guys and gals alike) are invited to a Shower for Bryson and Shannon here at Living Word after worship on July 26. A lite lunch will be served (sandwiches, salads, and cake).

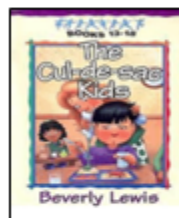
The couple is registered at Target, Herberger's and Bed, Bath and Beyond.

Summer Reading Program for Kids...

We kicked off our new Summer Reading Program for Kids at the June FFAA Night. Here's a sampling of the books available - appropriate for all ages of Sunday School students - to check out from the library at church:



- Chronicles of Narnia
- The Sugar Creek Gang
- The Case for Christ for Kids
- The Cul-de-sac Kids
- Arch Books



Look for these new books arriving by July 8 (our July FFAA Night):

- BOXCAR CHILDREN 1-4 set;
- GIRL'S GUIDE TO MAKING REALLY GOOD CHOICES;
- BOY'S GUIDE TO MAKING REALLY GOOD CHOICES;
- TEN GIRLS WHO CHANGED THE WORLD;
- TEN BOYS WHO CHANGED THE WORLD;
- IF I COULD ASK GOD ANYTHING- AWESOME BIBLE ANSWERS FOR CURIOUS KIDS.



Each student earns points for books read (or books read to them) Older kids can earn points for reading to their younger siblings too. These points can be redeemed at the end of summer for special prizes!

Congratulations!

- **Mary and Randy Raddatz** - on the birth of two new grandchildren!
- **Becca Dauk** - on your graduation from The Univ. of North Dakota
- **Noah Welsh** - on your graduation from NL-S
- **Mariah Welsh** - on your graduation from Gustavus Adolphus
- **Mark & Tammy Fuglie** - on your 25th Wedding Anniversary

Please email pastor@livingwordlutheran.net if there's someone you'd like us to extend congratulations to.

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That for a day: Love at first sight is nice, but it might be wise to take a second look.

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Ribfest 2015...



Thanks... To The Living Word RibFest Team:



Mike Von Rueden (& his sister and brother-in-law), Brady Sharp, Bryan Sharp, Tony and Lyndsay Ampe! Great job and great ribs for a great cause!



(Pastor David even got involved as one of the judges on the Pastors' Judging Panel!)

Mark Your Calendar...



Vacation Bible School

August 26-28 (Wed-Fri) 5:30-8:00 pm
"Discover Jesus at Living Word"

Church-League Softball

Cheer on your team at the Swanson Fields on Willmar Avenue in Willmar

July 2 -	BYE
July 9 -	8:15 Yellow
July 16 -	6:15 - Red
July 23 -	Make-up Game TBA
July 30 -	Playoff Game TBA



July 2015 - Daily Devotionals

TODAY'S LIGHT BIBLE READING PROGRAM: We Read Through the Bible, in Just 15 Minutes a Day. We continue our readings in the Old Testament. Record your insights on the lines provided.

(In parentheses are verses to focus on if you are short on time that day)

June 28 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

June 29 1 Samuel 2:1-36 (2:1-11) _____

June 30 1 Samuel 3:1-21 (3:1-10) _____

July 1 1 Samuel 4:1-22 (4:1-10) _____

July 2 1 Samuel 5:1-6:21 (5:1-6:9) _____

July 3 1 Samuel 7:1-17 (7:7-17) _____

July 4 1 Samuel 8:1-22 (8:1-9) _____

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

July 6 1 Samuel 9:1-10:27 (10:1-16) _____

July 7 1 Samuel 11:1-15 (11:1-9) _____

July 8 1 Samuel 12:1-25 (12:1-15) _____

July 9 1 Samuel 13:1-22 (13:1-14) _____

July 10 1 Samuel 14:1-52 (14:1-23) _____

July 11 1 Samuel 15:1-35 (15:1-23) _____

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

July 13 1 Samuel 16:1-23 (16:1-13) _____

July 14 1 Samuel 17:1-58 (17:1-11,32-51) _____

July 15 1 Samuel 18:1-19:24 (18:1-16) _____

July 16 1 Samuel 20:1-21:15 (20:1-17) _____

July 17 1 Samuel 22:1-23 (22:11-23) _____

July 18 1 Samuel 23:1-29 (23:1-12) _____

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

July 20 1 Samuel 24:1-22 (24:1-13) _____

July 21 1 Samuel 25:1-44 (25:1-33) _____

July 22 1 Samuel 26:1-25 (26:1-11) _____

July 23 1 Samuel 27:1-29:11 (28:1-25) _____

July 24 1 Samuel 30:1-31 (30:1-20) _____

July 25 1 Samuel 31:1-13 (31:1-6) _____

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

July 27 1 Peter 1:1-25 (1:1-21) _____

July 28 1 Peter 2:1-25 (2:1-10) _____

July 29 1 Peter 3:1-4:19 (3:18-22) _____

July 30 1 Peter 5:1-14 (5:5-14) _____

July 31 2 Peter 1:1-2:22 (2:1-22) _____

Aug 1 2 Peter 3:1-18 (3:1-13) _____

July 2015 - Living Word Church Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
June 28 9:00 Adult Study - History of Christianity 10:00 WORSHIP 11:15 Fellowship	June 29 	June 30 TUE SDAY'S TABLE 6:00 Serving begins	1 6:30 – WOMEN'S STUDY - 4-6TH YOUTH	2 CHURCH-LEAGUE SOFTBALL- BYE	3 	4 INDEPENDENCE DAY
5 MISSION SUNDAY 9:00 Adult Study - History of Christianity 10:00 WORSHIP w/Lord's Supper 11:15 Fellowship	6	7 5:30 ELDER'S' TEAM 6:30 MEN'S STUDY	8  6:30 – FFAA NIGHT 'Fun For All Ages' 6:30 - LWML @ Leone's	9  8:15 CHURCH-LEAGUE SOFTBALL - Yellow	10	11 11:00 - CRAFTING / SCRAPBOOKING DAY
12 FOOD SHELF SUNDAY 9:00 Adult Study - 10:00 WORSHIP 11:15 Fellowship	13 <div> Lord's Supper Dates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sunday, July 5th Sunday, July 19th </div>	14	15	16 5:30 COMMUNITY-OUTREACH TEAM 6:30 MISSION & MINISTRY TEAM 6:15 CHURCH-LEAGUE SOFTBALL- Red	17	18 11:00 WATERDAYS PARADE OUTREACH
19 9:00 Adult Study 10:00 WORSHIP w/Lord's Supper 11:30 Fellowship	20	21	22	23 TBA CHURCH-LEAGUE SOFTBALL -	24	25
26 9:00 Adult Study 10:00 WORSHIP 11:15 Fellowship After Worship Couple-Shower for Bryson & Shannon	27	28 <div> Sign up to have this newsletter sent directly to you by e-mail. Send your email address to: newsletter@livingwordlutheran.net </div>	29	30 TBA CHURCH-LEAGUE SOFTBALL -	31	August 1 6:00 SALAD NIGHT

Upcoming Schedules...

Scripture Readers

July 5	Jason Miller
July 12	Mark Fuglie
July 19	Tammy Fuglie
July 26	Duane Hansen
Aug 2	Tammy Wachter
Aug 9	Bryson Wachter
Aug 16	Scott Wachter
Aug 23	Wendy Robbin
Aug 30	Becky Sarsland

Fellowship Servers

July 5	Tammy Wachter / Sarah Miller
July 12	Mona Hjelle / Elaine Abraham
July 19	Violet Dauk / Laurel Iverson
July 26	Linda Dilley / Bonnie Hansen
Aug 2	Leone & Kerry Quigley
Aug 9	Marcia Welsh / Pam Johnson
Aug 16	Wendy Robbin / Alicia Sawatzky
Aug 23	Nancy Jo Wendt / Tammy Fuglie
Aug 30	Becky Sarsland / Mary Raddatz

Usher Schedule

July 5	Linda Dilley & Mona Hjelle
July 12	Kevin & Noah Welsh
July 19	Jamie & Phil Iverson
July 26	Duane Hansen & Chuck Weflen
Aug 2	Jason Miller & Bryson Wachter
Aug 9	Wendy & Lonny Robbin
Aug 16	Joe Johnson & Brady Sharp
Aug 23	Mark Fuglie & Tim Geer
Aug 30	Linda Dilley & Mona Hjelle

Elders

July 5	Mark Fuglie & Scott Wachter
July 19	Kevin Welsh & Keith Hanson
Aug 2	Mark Fuglie & Scott Wachter
Aug 16	Kevin Welsh & Keith Hanson

Altar Guild

July	Nancy Jo Wendt
Aug	Mona Hjelle

Make A Meal Volunteers

July	Violet Dauk & Julie Bajari
Aug	Sarah Miller & Michelle Johnson

Thot for a day: May God give you the courage to speak when you need to, the strength to refrain when it's appropriate, and the wisdom to know the difference

Acolyte (little brothers & sisters can help)

July 5	Noah Miller
July 12	Andrew Sharp
July 19	Levi Miller
July 26	Eli Sharp
Aug 2	Lance Sawatzky
Aug 9	George Arends-Schmidt
Aug 16	Davis Rustad
Aug 23	Carson Jaspersen
Aug 30	Noah Miller

Accompanying Musicians

July 5	Sharon Willen
July 12	Scott Wachter
July 19	Pam Johnson
July 26	Scott Wachter
Aug 2	Sharon Willen
Aug 9	Scott Wachter
Aug 16	Pam Johnson
Aug 23	Scott Wachter
Aug 30	Scott Wachter

Custodian

July	Custodian needed
Aug	Custodian needed

Nursery (volunteers needed)

(Amanda Sharp - substitute helper)

July 5	Mona Hjelle
July 12	McCartney Knutson
July 19	Gracie Geer
July 26	Michelle Johnson
Aug 2	Mona Hjelle
Aug 9	McCartney Knutson
Aug 16	Gracie Geer
Aug 23	Alana Friehl
Aug 30	Michelle Johnson

July Discipleship Verse...



I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." John 16:33

From the Synod President...

A one-person majority of the U.S. Supreme Court got it wrong – again. Some 40 years ago, a similarly activist court legalized the killing of children in the womb. That decision has to date left a wake of some 55 million Americans dead. Today, the Court has imposed same-sex marriage upon the whole nation in a similar fashion. Five justices cannot determine natural or divine law. Now shall come the time of testing for Christians faithful to the Scriptures and the divine institution of marriage (Matthew 19:3–6), and indeed, a time of testing much more intense than what followed *Roe v. Wade*.

Like *Roe v. Wade*, this decision will be followed by a rash of lawsuits. Through coercive litigation, governments and popular culture continue to make the central post-modern value of sexual freedom override “the free exercise of religion” enshrined in the Bill of Rights.

The ramifications of this decision are seismic. Proponents will seek to drive Christians and Christian institutions out of education at all levels; they will press laws to force faithful Christian institutions and individuals to violate consciences in work practices and myriad other ways. We will have much more to say about this.

During some of the darkest days of Germany, a faithful Lutheran presciently described how governments lose their claim to legitimate authority according to Romans 13.

The Caesar cult in its manifold forms, the deification of the state, is one great form of the defection from the [true] idea of the state. There are also other possibilities of such defection. The government can forget and neglect its tasks. When it no longer distinguishes between right and wrong, when its courts are no longer governed by the strict desire for justice, but by special interests, when government no longer has the courage to exercise its law, fails to exercise its duties, undermines its own legal order, when it weakens through its family law parental authority and the estate of marriage, then it ceases to be governing authority.

Raising such a question can lead to heavy conflicts of conscience. But it is fundamentally conceivable, and it has time and again become reality in history, that a governing authority has ceased to be governing authority. In such a case there may indeed exist a submission to a superior power. But the duty of obedience against this power no longer exists.
[Hermann Sasse, “What Is the State?” (1932)]

As faithful Christians, we shall continue to be obedient to just laws.

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Thot for a day: The only people who listen to both sides of an argument are the neighbors.

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We affirm the human rights of all individuals and the inherent and equal value of all people. We respect the divinely given dignity of all people, no matter their sexual preference. We recognize that, under the exacting and demanding laws of God, we are indeed sinners in thought, word and deed, just as are all (Romans 3:9ff.). We confess that the “blood of Jesus Christ, God’s Son, cleanses us from all our sins” (1 John 1:7). We confess that God’s divine law of marriage and the entire Ten Commandments apply to all, and that so also the life-giving sacrifice of Christ on the cross is for all. It is a “righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe” (Romans 3:22).

However, even as we struggle as a church to come to a unified response to this blatant rejection of the entire history of human-kind and its practice of marriage, *“We shall obey God rather than man”* (Acts 5:29). Christians will now begin to learn what it means to be in a state of solemn conscientious objection against the state. We will resist its imposition of falsehood upon us, even as we continue to reach out to those who continue to be harmed by the ethic of radical sexual freedom, detached from God’s blessing of marriage. And we will stand shoulder to shoulder with Christians, churches and people of good will who are resolute on this issue.

God help us. Amen.
Pastor Matthew C. Harrison

LWML News...

LWML will be meeting July 8th, 6:30 PM @ Leone Quigley’s home. 7100 - 199th Ave. NE Please call if you need directions. 320-354-4665.

Thanks to the LWML ladies who have been making pies for our Annual Pie and Ice Cream Social !



Thank God For...

You’ve seen our sign board out by the road with 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.

Last week we thanked God for **Summer!** Let Pastor know how you’d complete that sentence next week.



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

"God's Got It."

That's what my favorite farmer says here, almost daily, on this farm. It's been his mantra for as long as he's worked those fields. His philosophy for farming has become a theology for living.

God is God, and God is good, and God has actually "got it."

This is not just a cute catch-phrase, but an actual way to habitually remember that there is a King in Heaven who holds all things together - even when life stings.

When worry.
When cancer.
When inadequacy.
When pain.
When drought.
When storm.

That's when He's got it. Always.

We repeat it to ourselves, on the bad crop years, and when the diagnoses come, and when we've gathered in hospice rooms, and over hospital beds, and in ugly days of wild uncertainty. It's true: What we say to ourselves, and to one another, can determine whether we will live imprisoned or free.

Because dark days will come. In this world we will have trouble, but what did Jesus say? "*Take heart, for I have overcome the world.*"

So we tell it to each other, over and over again: God's got it.

It's why we return to the table of grace with the cup and the loaf. "*Do this in remembrance of me,*" are the words etched into the altar. We return and remember and receive and repent and repeat. God's got it. He has actually and miraculously overcome the world.

We believe this...

- that Jesus was born of the Holy Spirit, that He came to Earth, and that He died on a cross, and that when Satan was laughing and the disciples were running scared, God actually and miraculously still had it.

- that Jesus was wrapped in a cloth and buried in a tomb, and a stone was rolled into place. And when His followers grieved and

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Thot for a day: A key ring is a handy little gadget that allows you to lose all your keys at once.

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saw nothing but darkness, God still had it.

- that on the third day, in opposition to the laws of nature, Jesus rose from the dead, and ascended into heaven. Because - please hear me here - God most assuredly had it.

- And we believe that our King is seated at the right hand of the Father, because it's true: Our God has still completely and mercifully "got it."

Even in the middle of our worst days.

We may watch a bad situation turn into an impossible situation. Some of it will defy logic. From time to time, God will let us in on the reasons why.

And other times? He won't. But He is still our Lord, because He already sent a Savior. It's as true today as it was more than 2,000 years ago on Calvary:

Our God who had it then, has got it now, and forevermore shall have it. And even when I don't get it, God has still got it.

from Jennifer Lee Dukes on her blog:

<http://jenniferdukeslee.com/when-you-really-need-to-know-gods-got-it/>

Please Remember to Pray At 11:09 Every day

(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...

- For Safety in all of the summer traveling and camping.
- For all the Sunday School Kids to grow through their Summer Reading Program
- Thanking God for the freedoms we have - and take for granted - in our country.
- God to work through the Today's Light program to strengthen faith
- Trusting in God with all of our heart and not in our own (limited) understanding
- For positive Christian witness in the wake of Supreme Court marriage decision
- For protection and boldness is witness for all persecuted Christians
- For the mission and ministry of the Jastrams in Japan
- For another great FFAA Night
- For a fun time of working and serving together at Tuesday's Table

Opportunities to Serve...

A Great Month To Use Our Make-A-Meal Program

One of the best (and simplest) ways to share Jesus' love is by making a meal for someone who is going through a tough time. Please use the Prayer and Care cards in the attendance pad at worship or call Pastor David or Meal Coordinator Linda Dilley if you know of someone who would appreciate a meal. Thanks!

Help with FFAA

(Details on page 5 of this newsletter)

Help with Tuesday's Table

(Details on page 4 of this newsletter)

Needed for our Water Days Parade Outreach - July 18

- Something to pull a float with (4-wheeler?)
- Kids & Adults to hand out our outreach items.

Please talk to Amanda Sharp if you can help with any of these

Bring Food Shelf Items Every Second Sunday

The women of our LWML will be collecting canned and dry goods the second Sunday of each month. These will be delivered to the New London Food Shelf that is sponsored by the Link.

Be "Custodian of the Month"

You (or your whole family) can sign up to provide the necessary cleaning for our church home. A check-list of duties is posted by the mailboxes. Please consider being a part of this service. Talk to Wendy or Lonny Robbin if you have questions or to volunteer yourself or your family.

Read Scripture in Worship

Please talk to Pastor David if you can take a turn once every couple of months reading our New Testament and Old Testament Scriptures.

Serve After-Worship Fellowship Snack

We are looking for more folks to take a turn at serving snacks for fellowship time after worship.

Help With Our Nursery

We need a couple more volunteers to help with our during-worship nursery (2-4 year olds). Please talk to Mona Hjelle if you can help out

Help with Adopt-a-Highway Clean Up

We are in need of someone to organize a clean-up during June. Please talk to Pastor David if you could be that organizer.

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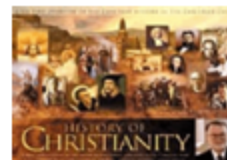
That for a day: Church is not a shrine of saints, but rather a hospital for sinners.

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Opportunities for Growth...

Sunday Morning Study (9:00)

"History of Christianity"



Today's Light Daily Readings:

See pages 10—11 of this newsletter

Men's Study - Tuesdays at 6:30

(Tuesday, July 7 at 6:30)

"Drive Through History: The Holy Land"

Men's Study NOTE: We meet once-a-month during the summer on the first Tuesday of each month. We will grill out before each summer study, so bring your favorite meat - we'll also have brats if you don't bring your own



Wed. Noon Study - Is on "Summer Break" during July

Wed. Evening Women's Study - Is on "Summer Break" during July

Summer Reading Program 4 Kids - details on page 8

Could You Host A Small Group Study This Summer?

One of our Core Values at Living Word is that making disciples (people who are committed to growing to become more like Jesus) happens best in small group settings. For example, it's easier for people to get connected to Jesus through small groups. It's easier to get to know other Christians in small groups. Caring happens best in small groups. With that in mind if you could host a small group study - at your home, a coffee house or at church, please talk to Pastor David. There are many different kinds of studies available. We can find one that fits your situation.

Story Behind The Song...

"The Star Spangled Banner"

You may remember learning in school that our National Anthem was written by Francis Scott Key during the Battle of Baltimore in the War of 1812. Here are some additional facts that you may not know

1. Key's original title was called the "Defense of Fort McHenry."
2. It is commonly believed that Francis Scott Key wrote "The Star-Spangled Banner" as a poem that was later set to music, but this is not the case, according to Dr. David Hildebrand, the director of

the Colonial Music Institute.

"The structure doesn't match any poem," Hildebrand says about Key's words. Early copies of "The Star-Spangled Banner" simply included the lyrics because the tune was already so well known, Hildebrand explains.

The origins for "The Star-Spangled Banner" tune came from "The Anacreontic Song" -- a theme song of sorts composed by John Stafford Smith for the Anacreontic Society, an 18th century amateur musicians' club for men (male glee club). "The Anacreontic Song" is also sometimes called "To Anacreon in Heaven," which is also the opening line. It is one of many songs written to the same music. About a hundred different songs have been written to the melody of "The Anacreontic Song," Hildebrand says.

3. It didn't become the official national anthem until 1931. While "The Star-Spangled Banner" was popular during the 1800s, the song didn't become the national anthem until the early 1930s. The military had adopted it for ceremonial purposes decades earlier, but it took legislation signed in 1931 by President Herbert Hoover to make it official.

4. We only sing the first of four stanzas. Here is the complete version of "The Star-Spangled Banner" showing spelling and punctuation

from Francis Scott Key's manuscript in the Maryland Historical Society collection. Note the final verse that gives credit to God for the victory.

O say can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hail'd at the twilight's last gleaming,
Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous
fight
O'er the ramparts we watch'd were so gallantly streaming?
And the rocket's red glare, the bomb bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there,
O say does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

On the shore dimly seen through the mists of the deep
Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes,
What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering steep,
As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses?
Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,
In full glory reflected now shines in the stream,
Tis the star-spangled banner - O long may it wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

And where is that band who so vauntingly swore,
That the havoc of war and the battle's confusion
A home and a Country should leave us no more?
Their blood has wash'd out their foul footsteps' pollution.
No refuge could save the hireling and slave
From the terror of flight or the gloom of the grave,
And the star-spangled banner in triumph doth wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

O thus be it ever when freemen shall stand
Between their lov'd home and the war's desolation!
Blest with vict'ry and peace may the heav'n rescued land
Praise the power that hath made and preserv'd us a nation!
Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,
And this be our motto - "In God is our trust,"
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

Editor's note: A great acapella version by the Gaither Vocal Group at: <https://youtu.be/WCmk88S2sdQ>

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



ONE NATION.. WITHOUT GOD? Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord, whose people He has chosen for his own. Ps 33:12