



**July 2016 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](mailto:pastor@livingwordlutheran.net)  
Website: [www.livingwordlutheran.net](http://www.livingwordlutheran.net)

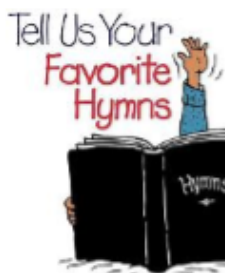
What we aim to do:  
**Make disciples for Jesus - as we go, wherever we go.**  
What we aim to be:  
**A joyful, caring, Christ-centered family of God.**

## Question for Pastor...

What's your favorite hymn ?

Our organist, Sharon Willen, asked me this question a couple months ago. One of the other churches she accompanies was having a "March Madness"-style tournament to determine that congregation's favorite hymn.

That's a question with no "easy" answer. That's because the answer will likely change every time I'm asked that question.



For example, if I fielded that question in December, my answer would most likely be "Hark the Herald Angels Sing." It does a masterful job of describing what really happened when Christ was born. e.g. "God and sinners reconciled." (Plus, it's the song the kids sing at the end of A Charlie Brown Christmas after Linus recites from Luke chapter 2 reminding them what Christmas really is all about!)

If I were asked around Easter "Jesus Christ is Risen Today" would get my vote - based on the rousing tune that really helps us get into celebrating the greatest event in all of history.. "I Know That My Redeemer Lives" would win out if words were the main criteria. In all eight verses that hymn reminds us what Jesus' resurrection really means for our everyday lives.

"What A Friend We Have in Jesus" is another favorite, and may be the greatest reminder we have of the power of prayer - and the peace God



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brings through it. The hymn title is also what my father chose for his and mom's gravestone.

"How Firm a Foundation" is also a great song with an easy-to-sing tune. It reminds us that God's Word is the rock on which to build a solid life. It contains, in my estimation, one of the greatest verses of comfort and hope ever penned:

The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,  
I will not, I will not desert to it's foes.  
That soul, though all hell shall endeavor to shake,  
I'll never, no never, no never forsake.

The refrain of *Solid Rock* (in our hymnal it's titled *My Hope is Built on Nothing Less*) has a much needed reminder that everything other than Jesus in which we can place our trust will eventually crumble:

"On Christ the Solid Rock I stand,  
all other ground is sinking sand."

The answer I gave off the top of my head the moment Sharon asked was "Be Thou My Vision." That answer is based largely on the tune - which probably is my all-time favorite (*From All That Dwell Below the Skies* is a very close second) - although the words are also a great reminder of the difference that focusing on Jesus makes in life.

If you were to ask me that question a week from now, I just might name a hymn that has slipped my mind today, one whose words are a perfect fit for the situation that day.

The answer to the above question, I assumed, was limited to the more traditional songs in hymnals. But, if I were to be able to include some of the contemporary songs..... well, that's a question for another month.

Thanks for asking  
Pastor David

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

## Sermons Now Available on our Website!

This year we have begun making the sermons from Sunday available in audio on the website. Check it out at [www.livingwordlutheran.net/sermons](http://www.livingwordlutheran.net/sermons)

(Or just click on "New Sermons Online" at the bottom of the LivingWord-Lutheran.net home page)

## Opportunities for Growth...

### Today's Light Daily Readings:

See pages 10–11 of this newsletter

### Sunday Morning Study (9:00)

*Stuff they didn't teach me in Sunday School:* Gospel of Luke

### Men's Study- "Bible & Brats"

**Bratwürship.** 1st Tues of month during Summer @ 6:30pm (July 5th)

Mom's Study - Wed. @ 9:00 a.m. - on Summer break

Wed. Evening Women's Study - on Summer break

Confirmation Class - Help with WaterDays Parade



H.S. Youth Study - Attends National Youth Gathering

Sunday School: Summer Reading program

Marriage Enrichment Evening- July 10th @ 6:00 pm

"Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage"

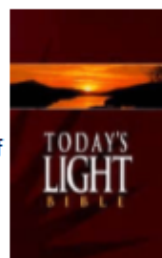
F.F.A.A. (Fun for All Ages)- Wednesday, July 13 - 6:30pm

MOVIE! Picnic food; Summer Reading Program update  
(Vote for the family movie you'd like to see) - page 11



### 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.



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That for a day: When at a loss for the right word to say, try silence.

## Page 5 | The LINK...

# JULY NEWS



Chasity Onnodi, Client Services and Community Engagement • 329.796.2522 • [thelinkservice@faithapcar.org](mailto:thelinkservice@faithapcar.org)



## Third Annual Rib Fest a success!

Thank you to the Rib Fest sponsors, competitors, volunteers, pie makers and to all of those who attended the 3rd Annual "Smokin' for The Link" Rib Fest. Approximately 900 community members came to show their support. Because of people like you, Rib Fest was another success! It was a beautiful day with delicious ribs and delectable pies.

There were four categories that rib teams competed. Here are your winners:

People's Choice - Green Lake Smokers

Pastor's Choice - Long Lost BBQ

Best Church Team - Cross Roads Community Methodist Church

Best Fire Department team - New London Fire Department

## Your Support & Impact

Your support has a daily impact on the families The Link serves. You have made it possible for a single mom to find hope during a very dark time in her life. With the support and guidance of The Link staff, she has reconnected with a church, and received gas so she can continue to get to work. Your support in The Link has reminded her that she is not alone and that there are people in the community that care and want her to succeed. You may not always see how your support affects those served, but you are making a tremendous difference in people's lives. Thank you for all you do.

*Looking for a way to volunteer? The Household Exchange is in need of an on-call volunteer for Tuesdays 2pm to 6pm. If you would like to learn more, please contact Chasity at 796-2522.*



## Tuesday's Table

July 5th: No Tuesday's Table

July 12th: Evangelical Covenant Church

July 19th: No Tuesday's Table

July 26th: Peace Lutheran Church

Food. Friends. Fellowship.



## Opportunities to Serve...

### Help Needed on Saturday, July 23

Living Word will receive a \$500 donation from the Jennie-O Turkey Store for providing 4 people to help at their 75th Anniversary celebration, July 23, on Robbins Island. Here's what we need:

- 2 strong guys - to load/unload sound equipment.
  - 2 gals - to help at the entertainer's merchandise-sales booth
- Please talk to Pastor if you can help with one of these. THANKS!

### Could You Drive our NYG group to the Airport?

We'll be leaving church at 12:30 p.m. on July 15. If you have a vehicle that sits at least 6 people (plus a bunch of luggage), and could take us to the Airport please talk to Lyndsay Ampe.

### 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! Our July Make-a-Meal volunteers are Donna Peterson and Jamie Iverson.

### Bring Food Shelf Items Every Second Sunday

We did not receive any donations in June. Just a reminder that Food shelf Sunday is always the second Sunday of the Month - this month July 10. Donations can be placed in the purple 'Food Shelf' container. Thanks again for helping to fill this need in our community!



### We're looking for more Ushers

Please talk to Pastor David if you can serve once every other month.

### 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

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That for a day: When everything's coming your way, you're probably in the wrong lane.

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### Can You Help with a new 3-5th Grade Group?

We would like to start up a 3-5th Grade Youth Group for the summer months. It will include fun, snacks and helping of God's Word. If you could help in any way to make this happen, please talk to Pastor David

### Needed for our Water Days Parade Outreach - July 16



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

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

## 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
- 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.



Look for new books at our July FFAA Night

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!

## Mark Your Calendars...

### JULY 10: M.E.E. (Marriage Enrichment Evening)

We've had a bunch of laughs watching the video curriculum Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage.



Last month we learned the one thing "guy movies" and "chick flicks" have in common - and why that one thing is so important.

We also learned about the power of "bartering" in marriage, and how setting "conditions" can be a great motivator for guys to actually get stuff done - even if you have to remind them several times!

Our July MEE is Sunday, July 10 from 6pm - 8pm at Pastor & Violet's. This month we find out: "How to stay married and not kill anybody!"

This is a great time for married couples of ALL ages to spend a little time being intentional about our marriages (and getting some good laughs in at the same time.) Please consider joining us - it's ok to just 'jump in' this month without having attended the first sessions.

### Our July FFAA Night (Fun For All Ages) - July 13th

The plan is to hold FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT this month.

We will have a pre-movie meal and start the showing at 7:00 (with lots of popcorn available)

Vote for the movie you'd like to see.

Some examples:

- Toy Story,
- Home Alone,
- Chronicles of Narnia,
- Cheaper by the Dozen,
- Monsters Inc.
- The Incredibles,
- Homeward Bound - The Incredible Journey



**Save the Date....**

August 16-18 (Tues-Thurs)  
Vacation Bible School

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That for a day: We have 35 million laws to enforce the Ten Commandments.

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### Church-League Softball

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



June 30 St Marys	@ 8:15 Yellow
July 7 Salem Covenant	@ 8:15 Red
July 14 First Covenant	@ 7:15 Red
July 21 Playoffs	TBD
July 28 Playoffs	TBD

## Email Inspiration...

A teacher's first graders were examining and discussing a picture of a family. One little boy in the picture had a different hair color than the other members. One of the students suggested that he was adopted.

A little girl said, "I know all about adoption, I was adopted."

"What does it mean to be adopted?" asked another child.

"It means," said the girl, "that you grew in your mommy's heart instead of her tummy."

Thank God for adopting us into His family at our baptism - more proof of His love for us!

### **Please thank and pray for these people elected to serve on our Mission & Ministry Team**

Chair -	Tim Geer
Secretary -	Kari Sharp
Stewardship -	(Position Open)
Trustee -	Jamie Iverson
Elders -	Keith Hanson (One position open)
Community Outreach	-Amanda Sharp
Christian Growth - Youth	Lyndsay Ampe

### **Please thank these outgoing MMT members:**

Trustee	Lonny Robbin
Secretary	Sarah Miller
Stewardship	Jason Miller
Elder	Scott Wachter

# July 2016 - Daily Devotionals

## TODAY'S LIGHT BIBLE READING PROGRAM:

We conclude our look at God's message through Isaiah the prophet, then jump back to the New Testament for Paul's letter to the Philippians as well as the book of Hebrews.

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

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

June 27 Isaiah 44-45 (44:1-28) \_\_\_\_\_

June 28 Isaiah 46-47 (46:1-12) \_\_\_\_\_

June 29 Isaiah 48-49 (49:1-26) \_\_\_\_\_

June 30 Isaiah 50-52 (52:1-15) \_\_\_\_\_

July 1 Isaiah 53 (53:4-11) \_\_\_\_\_

July 2 Isaiah 54-57 (55:1-13) \_\_\_\_\_

July 3 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

July 4 Isaiah 58-59 (59:1-21) \_\_\_\_\_

July 5 Isaiah 60-62 (61:1-11) \_\_\_\_\_

July 6 Isaiah 63-66 (66:1-24) \_\_\_\_\_

July 7 Song of Songs 1-3 (3:6-11) \_\_\_\_\_

July 8 Song of Songs 4-6 (4:1-16) \_\_\_\_\_

July 9 Song of Songs 7-8 (7:11-8:14) \_\_\_\_\_

July 10 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

July 11 Philippians 1 (1:1-24) \_\_\_\_\_

July 12 Philippians 2 (2:1-18) \_\_\_\_\_

July 13 Philippians 3 (3:1-16) \_\_\_\_\_

July 14 Philippians 4 (4:1-19) \_\_\_\_\_

July 15 Hebrews 1 (1:1-4) \_\_\_\_\_

July 16 Hebrews 2 (2:5-18) \_\_\_\_\_

July 17 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

July 18 Hebrews 3 (3:1-13) \_\_\_\_\_

July 19 Hebrews 4 (4:9-16) \_\_\_\_\_

July 20 Hebrews 5 (5:1-10) \_\_\_\_\_

July 21 Hebrews 6 (6:9-20) \_\_\_\_\_

July 22 Hebrews 7 (7:20-28) \_\_\_\_\_

July 23 Hebrews 8 (8:7-13) \_\_\_\_\_

July 24 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

July 25 Hebrews 9 (9:11-28) \_\_\_\_\_

July 26 Hebrews 10:1-18 (10:11-18) \_\_\_\_\_






July 27 Hebrews 10:19-39 (10:19-35) \_\_\_\_\_

July 28 Hebrews 11 (11:1-31) \_\_\_\_\_

July 29 Hebrews 12 ((12:1-13) \_\_\_\_\_

July 30 Hebrews 13 (13:1-8, 10-21) \_\_\_\_\_

# July 2016 - Living Word Church Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>June 26</b> 9:00 ADULT STUDY 10:00 WORSHIP 11:15 Fellowship	<b>June 27</b>	<b>June 28</b>	<b>June 29</b>	<b>June 30</b> 10:00 PIE MAKING for NL Music Fest  8:15 CHURCH-LEAGUE SOFTBALL Yellow	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> 9:00 ADULT STUDY 10:00 WORSHIP w/Lord's Supper 11:15 Fellowship  6:30 Sr High YOUTH	<b>4</b> INDEPENDENCE DAY  	<b>5</b> 5:30 ELDERS' TEAM 6:30 MEN'S 'BRATS & BIBLE' <b>Bratwürship.</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>  8:15 CHURCH-LEAGUE SOFTBALL Red	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> NYG COMMISSIONING 9:00 ADULT STUDY 10:00 WORSHIP 11:15 Fellowship  6:00 LAUGH YOUR WAY TO A BETTER MARRIAGE	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 6:00 LWML General Mtg	<b>13</b>  6:30 - FFAA NIGHT 'Fun For All Ages' Movie Night	<b>14</b> 7:15 CHURCH-LEAGUE SOFTBALL Red	<b>15</b> noon PRAY W/ NYG GROUP 12:30 LEAVE FOR NYG	<b>16</b> 11:00 PARADE OUTREACH @ NL Water Days 
<b>17</b> 9:00 ADULT STUDY 10:00 WORSHIP w/Lord's Supper 11:15 Fellowship 6:30 Sr High YOUTH	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>  6:30 MISSION & MINISTRY TEAM	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> TBD CHURCH-LEAGUE SOFTBALL Playoff  11:00 NYG GROUP RETURNS	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 9:00 ADULT STUDY 10:00 WORSHIP 11:15 Fellowship	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> TBD CHURCH-LEAGUE SOFTBALL Playoff -	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> TOMORROW... NYG GROUP RECAP THEIR EXPERIENCE IN WORSHIP

## Lord's Supper Dates

- Sunday, July 3rd
- Sunday, July 17th

Sign up to have this newsletter sent directly to you by e-mail. Send your email address to:  
[newsletter@livingwordlutheran.net](mailto:newsletter@livingwordlutheran.net)



## Upcoming Schedules...

### Scripture Readers

July 3 Wendy Robbin  
July 10 Linda Dilley  
July 17 Jason Miller  
July 24 Mark Fuglie  
July 31 NYG Participants

Aug 7 Tammy Fuglie  
Aug 14 Larry Hultgren  
Aug 21 Becky Sarsland  
Aug 28 Mona Hjelle

### Fellowship Servers

July 3 Marcia Welsh / Pam Johnson  
July 10 Tammy Wachter & Sarah Miller  
July 17 Mona Hjelle / Elaine Abraham  
July 24 Violet Dauk / Laurel Iverson  
July 31 Linda Dilley / Bonnie Hansen

Aug 7 Mike & Brooke Knutson  
Aug 14 Kerry & Leone Quigley  
Aug 21 Wendy Robbin / Alicia Sawatzky / Mary Lee Moore  
Aug 28 Becky Sarsland / Mary Raddatz

### Usher Schedule

July 3 Bo & George Arends-Schmidt  
July 10 Wendy & Lonny Robbin  
July 17 Brady & Andrew Sharp  
July 24 Joe Johnson & Wally Abraham  
July 31 Linda Dilley & Davis Rustad

Aug 7 Mark Fuglie & Tim Geer  
Aug 14 Kevin Welsh & Jamie Iverson  
Aug 21 Duane Hansen & Chuck Weffen  
Aug 28 Brent & Lance Sawatzky

### Acolyte (little brothers & sisters can help)

July 3 Eli Sharp  
July 10 Lance Sawatzky  
July 17 George Arends-Schmidt  
July 24 Davis Rustad  
July 31 Gage Dahl

Aug 7 Carson Jaspersen  
Aug 14 Noah Miller  
Aug 21 Andrew Sharp  
Aug 28 Levi Miller

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That for a day: You can tell a lot about a man by the way he handles these three things: a rainy day, lost luggage, and tangled Christmas tree lights.

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### Make A Meal Volunteers

July Donna Peterson & Jamie Iverson  
Aug Mona Hjelle & Gracie Geer

### Nursery (volunteers needed)

(Amanda Sharp - substitute helper)  
July 3 Mona Hjelle & Lance Sawatzky  
July 10 Noah Miller & Davis Rustad  
July 17 McCartney Knutson & Andrew Sharp  
July 24 Gracie Geer & Carson Jaspersen  
July 31 Alana Frieht & George Arends-Schmidt

Aug 7 Mona Hjelle & Lance Sawatzky  
Aug 14 Noah Miller & Davis Rustad  
Aug 21 McCartney Knutson & Andrew Sharp  
Aug 28 Gracie Geer & Carson Jaspersen

### Altar Guild

May Mona Hjelle  
June Nancy Jo Wendt

### Accompanying Musicians

July 3 Sharon Willen  
July 10 Scott Wachter  
July 17 Pam Johnson  
July 24 Scott Wachter  
July 31 TBD  
Aug 7 Sharon Willen  
Aug 14 Scott Wachter  
Aug 21 Pam Johnson  
Aug 28 Scott Wachter

### Custodian

July Ed & Ruth Vegdahl  
August NYG Youth

### Elders

July 3 Mark Fuglie & Scott Wachter  
July 17 Kevin Welsh & Keith Hanson

## July Discipleship Verse...



*"For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope."*

Romans 15:4



## Miscellaneous Notes...

### Check out our "Free Stuff" Table

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

- A BUNCH of new kids books
- New Devotional books
- Read With Me Bibles for toddlers
- Today's Light Devotional Bibles
- July Today's Light daily Bible readings
- Faith, Hope and Love Scripture bags
- July Living Word newsletters + Local coupons
- July—Sept Portals of Prayer - daily devotionals



### Summer: A Great Time to Direct Deposit 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 Jason Miller for more details.

### 2016 Summer Camp Brochures

All Parents should have received a Lutheran Island Camp brochure in your mailbox. Extras are available on the "Free Stuff" table and under the mailboxes. Scholarships are also available to help with the cost. Just ask.



## Email Humor...

Some people are extremely impressed when you tell them you're a Navy SEAL.

Case in point: My grandson's Kindergarten class on Career Day. I regaled them with stories of my exploits in the military. After I finished, hands shot up into the air all over the classroom. The kids were eager to ask questions.

One little girl asked, "Can you balance a ball on the end of your nose?"

Kids have a way of keeping us all humble! Thank God for kids !!!

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That for a day: The biggest lie I tell myself is "I don't need to write that down, I'll remember it."

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## National Youth Gathering...



It's Finally Here !

July 16-20 in New Orleans.

Upcoming Special Days this month:

- Commissioning Sunday - July 10 during worship.
- Pray with us at church before we leave - Noon, July 15
- Leave for the airport - Leave church 12:30, July 15

*(We are still in need of someone who could give us a ride to the airport - need a vehicle that holds 6 people and a bunch of luggage. Talk to Lyndsay if you can help in this way. Thanks!)*

- NYG !!! July 16-20
- Arrive back at the airport - 11:00 p.m., July 21

*(We are also still looking for someone who could pick us up from the airport - again, need a vehicle that holds 6 people and a bunch of luggage. Talk to Lyndsay if you can help in this way. Thanks!)*

- We'll recap our experience during worship on July 31.

Lyndsay, Alana, Gracie, Michelle and Emma greatly appreciate your donations, help with our fundraisers, and continued prayers!

## LC-MS Presidential Election Results

This past month the congregations of the LC-MS re-elected to a third term the Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison, who received 56.96 percent of the votes cast. The voters in the president's election were the congregations' delegates in attendance at the 2015 district conventions (Pastor David and Keith Hanson for Living Word).

The results of the balloting are as follows:

Harrison (current LC-MS President) 3,507 votes - 57 %  
Rev. Dr. Dale A. Meyer (Concordia Seminary Pres.) 2,257 votes - 37%  
Rev. Dr. David P.E. Maier (Michigan District President) 393 votes - 6%

## 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

## Welcome to our family...

In this newsletter we continue to introduce you to the new members we received in March here at Living Word. This month we have bios and a picture of **Randy & Mary Raddatz**. If you haven't had the chance already, please introduce yourself and welcome them to Living Word.



We both grew up near Brainerd and have lived in New London for over thirty years. We were married near Brainerd on July 30, 1977. Randy was born on April 1st and works for MN DOT as a heavy equipment mechanic. Mary was born on October 18 and works at Jennie-O Turkey Store as an administrative assistant.

We feel very blessed to have found faith, fellowship, friendship and great sermons (thank you Pastor David!) at Living Word and we want to thank all of the members for making us feel at home.

We enjoy collecting Oliver and Minneapolis Moline tractors and equipment, traveling to tractor shows and camping, but love spending time with our children and their families.

Our children (oldest to youngest) are:

Becky and Cody Sarsland, Alison and Troy,  
Melissa and Cody Wright, Evelyn and Catherine;  
Ashley and Brian Aschenbrenner, Jayden and Avery;  
James and Tayah Hinrichs, Brekkyn.

Our favorite bible verse is Psalm 23

Randy & Mary

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That for a day: If you aim at nothing, you'll hit it every time.

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## LWML News...

This Thursday, (June 30) at 10:00 a.m. the LWML Ladies will be making pies for our Annual Pie & Ice Cream Social at the NL Music Fest. @ 10:00 AM at church. The Music Fest is coming up quickly. We are also looking for donations of cherries, peaches and apples to use in the pies.

Watch the Sunday bulletins for future pie-making dates.

LWML - General meeting will be Tuesday July 12th, at 6:00pm The meeting will be at church. Come for an old fashioned hot dog roast (Just bring your stick for roasting). We will have a Bible Study, finish all the plans for the Music Fest Pie Booth and lots of sisterly fellowship. All women of Living Word are welcome. See you there.



### 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...

- Our Youth Gathering group - health, safe travel & a great experience
- Thanking God for the freedom we have in the USA
- God to move our government leaders to uphold our religious freedoms
- A safe Independence Day holiday for everyone
- The Holy Spirit to work through the LC-MS convention this month
- Safe travel and God's guidance for Duane Hansen - our convention rep
- The Holy Spirit's power and guidance for our MMT folks taking office
- Thanking God for the MMT people who have faithfully served
- Great weather for our FFAA Night and Parade Outreach
- Asking the Holy Spirit to continue to empower us to be bold witnesses
- Protection and boldness in witness for all persecuted Christians
- God to give us wisdom as we choose leaders in this election year.
- God to raise up leaders in our nation who seek His will
- The mission and ministry of the Jastrams in Japan

## Now through July 4...

...for just \$25 you can help get an mp3 audio Bible stick into the hands of one person serving in our Armed Forces. They can also request as well as mp3 Bibles for their family back home. (A working example can be found on the Ushers' Table by the door)

## CELEBRATING FAITH, FAMILY, AND FREEDOM

"Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom."

2 Corinthians 3:17



Freedom to gather, to worship, and to live as we choose are important values to us Americans. While we enjoy vacations, BBQs, and picnics this summer, we hope to not forget those who make it possible for us to enjoy these freedoms – our dedicated servicemen and women!



During the month of July, express your appreciation for our service members by providing them a Military BibleStick. This small digital audio player is designed specifically for the safety of deployed Troops. Each one includes the complete Audio New Testament along with 65 minutes of selected Psalms.

**More than 660,000 Troops have already received God's Word on the Military BibleStick, but more are waiting to receive this gift. Join with us this July and honor our military through the Military BibleStick.**



**Tear off this portion and return with your gift. Please make checks payable to the church.**

I \_\_\_\_\_, will give:

- ☐ \$25 to sponsor one service member and their family.
- ☐ \$50 to sponsor two service members and their families.
- ☐ \$100 to sponsor four service members and their families.
- ☐ \$\_\_\_\_\_ to help as much as possible.

**MilitaryBibleStick.com | Info@MilitaryBibleStick.com**

## Page 16

Thot for a day: Farmer wisdom : Life is simpler when you plow around the stumps.

## Page 17

## E-mail Wisdom...

*Unless the LORD builds the house, they labor in vain who build it. — Psalm 127:1 NASB*

Have you ever been involved in the construction of a home or a major remodel? Was it true for you that it came out double the estimated time and triple the financial cost?

So many issues — ranging from unforeseen foundation or mold problems to back-ordered appliances to delayed subcontractors or inspectors — can hold up project like this. That fact makes a good foreman or general contractor worth his weight in gold. A good foreman knows how to keep the work on track. He also knows when an obstacle is a critical matter or a normal bump in the road.

Construction of a God-focused home and family can also be more challenging than we anticipate. But our Lord is willing and able to help with any and all structural issues we may encounter, and He is an expert at setting a firm foundation. He knows how to get things moving and keep the work on track. He also can identify and address critical matters. When the construction dust becomes overwhelming and the structure doesn't seem to be matching the plans, we can always call on our Lord.

God, I am grateful You for Your expertise and 24/7 availability. What peace comes with knowing You are only a prayer away. Amen.

Excerpted with permission from 365 Devotions for Peace, copyright Zondervan.

How is the construction on your home and family going? Is it a little dusty? Noisy? Time-consuming? Expensive? What changes do you see developing in your relationships? It's not complete yet, but maybe you can see it taking shape. What have you learned about God and about yourself as He builds your house and your heart?

## Story Behind The Song...

"The Solid Rock"

aka: "My Hope is Built on Nothing Less"

Pastor's Note about the song:

In a sermon last month I referenced a line from this hymn that has always stuck in my brain, because it so accurately sums up the correct attitude we need about heaven and our place in it:

"No merit of my own I claim, but wholly lean on Jesus' name."



Here's the story behind the song from *Then Sings My Soul* - 150 of the world's greatest hymn stories.

Edward Mote was born into poverty on January 21, 1797 in London. His parents were innkeepers who would not allow a Bible into their home. Nevertheless, Edward heard the Gospel as a teenager and came to place his faith in Jesus. He eventually became a skilled carpenter and owner of his own cabinet-making shop.

"One morning," he recalled, "it came into my mind as I went to labor to write a hymn on the 'Gracious Experience of a Christian.' As I went up to Holborn I had the chorus: *On Christ the Solid Rock I stand / All other ground is sinking sand*. In the day I had four verses complete, and wrote them off."

"On the Sabbath following I met brother King... who informed me that his wife was very ill, and asked me to call and see her. I had an early tea and called afterwards. He told me that it was his usual custom to sing a hymn, read a portion and engage in prayer before he went to meeting. He looked for his hymnbook but could find it nowhere. I said, 'I have some verses in my pocket; if he liked we could sing them.' We did, and his wife enjoyed them so much that after service he asked me, as a favor, to leave a copy for him and his wife.

"I went home, and by the fireside composed the last two verses, wrote the whole off and too them to sister King... and these verses so met the dying woman's case, my attention to them was more arrested, and I had a thousand printed for distribution."

In 1852 at age 55 Edward gave up carpentry to pastor the Baptist Church in Horsham, Sussex where he ministered 21 years.

The four verses as printed in our hymnal:

**My hope is built on nothing less  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness  
No merit of my own I claim,  
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.**

Refrain: **On Christ the Solid Rock I Stand  
All other ground is sinking sand**

**When darkness veils His lovely face,  
I rest on His unchanging grace  
In every high and stormy gale  
My anchor holds within the veil (Refrain)**

**His oath, His covenant and blood**

## Page 18

That for a day: Of course I talk to myself, sometimes I need expert advice.

## Page 19

**Support me in the raging flood  
When every earthly prop gives way,  
He then is all my hope and stay (Refrain)**

**When He shall come with trumpet sound,  
Oh may I then in Him be found,  
Clothed in His righteousness alone,  
Redeemed to stand before His throne! (Refrain)**

And a verse from Mote's original that is omitted from most hymnals:

**I trust His righteous character  
His counsel, promise and His power;  
His honor and His Name's at stake  
To save me from the burning lake. (Refrain)**

Editor's note: A great version (and video) by one of my favorite groups from several years ago—4Him: <https://youtu.be/kC-UyIgoaLU>

## 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**