



December 2018 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

Question for Pastor...

How can God be everywhere... and hear everyone's prayers at the same time?

This year's confirmation class keeps me on my toes with lots of great questions - like "Is God a Republican?" (You can listen to my answer in the online recording of the 11-18-18 sermon). The questions above were ones they tossed my way during a recent class.



The most basic answer is pretty simple, "I don't know." But that answer begs another question, "Why don't you know?" The answer to that question is pretty simple as well: "I don't know, because I'm not God. And since I'm not God - and never will be! - there are things about Him that I will never understand. There are things He does that I will never figure out how He was able to accomplish." And I'm okay with that, because I want a God who is way too big to totally understand and explain.

I have noticed, though, that there is a tendency in our modern society to judge God's ability to do things by our own ability to do things. For example, some people just cannot bring themselves to believe that God could possibly have created the world and everything in it in just six, 24-hour days. Why? Because WE couldn't do it!

But, I would say, "Since God is God and we are not, we should expect that He is capable of doing things we can't do. Creating the world in six days should be no big deal for Him."

Think of it this way. The three dogs at our house will never be capable of driving a car - or understanding how to do it. But when I say, "Let's go for a ride," they don't glance at each other with skeptical looks that say, "We could never drive a car, therefore we know he can't possible drive one either." Just the opposite! They bowl me over heading out the door, because they know I can do things they will never be able to do. And they seem to be just fine with that. They don't have to know how I do it. They don't have to be able to do it themselves. They just sit back and enjoy the ride!

I'd suggest we do the same when it come to things about God we can't

Page 3

understand. Thank God He can do all sorts of things we can't do - like come to earth as a human being. Like die to take the punishment for our sins. Like rise from His own grave as proof that He has power over sin and death! Thank Him, then just sit back and enjoy the ride!

As we enter the Advent / Christmas Season we will read in Luke chapter one about the angel coming to Mary with the news that she is to be the mother of the Messiah. Mary asks, "How can this be since I am a virgin." The angel finishes his explanation with a statement we would all do well to remember: "Nothing will be impossible for God."

We don't always need to understand "How it can be?" Just thank God that it is!

Thanks for Asking, Pastor David

Send your questions to pastor@livingwordlutheran.net

Who Can You Invite?...

Two of the prophesies about the Messiah that God promised to send talk of Him as being a "Light to the Gentiles." People who are living without Jesus are living in the dark - and that's no way to live!

Those of us who believe that Jesus is truly the "Light of the World" and our only Savior have the privilege of being like "mirrors" - reflecting the Light of Jesus to those around us.



One great way we can

reflect that Light is by a simple invitation to friends, neighbors, relatives. Invite them to join you for one of our special services this Christmas. Who can you invite? Pray about it. Ask God to give you the words and opportunity. Then just do it. Ask them to come with you. Offer to pick them up. (And if they don't take you up on your invitation,, keep praying for them and for another opportunity to invite.)

- The Christmas Program (Sunday, December 16 @ 10am) (Special music, songs by the Sunday School students)
- Christmas Dinner (Sunday, December 23 @ 11:15)
- Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship (Dec. 24 @ 5pm)

Mark Your Calendar...

Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship (Monday, December 24 @ 5:00 pm)

- The entire service is done by candlelight.
- The Christmas Story from Luke chapter two is interspersed with Christmas Carols
- The Lord's Supper is Celebrated



Children's Christmas Program

"No Room in the Inn"

Sunday, December 16 during the 10:00 A.M. Worship



- Practice during the Sunday School Hour December 2nd and 9th
- "Dress Rehearsal" (with Pizza!) Wednesday, December 12 @

Annual Christmas Dinner

Sunday, December 23 11:15 a.m. (After Worship)

You are invited to Living Word Lutheran's annual CHRISTMAS DINNER following Worship on Sunday, December 23rd.

Turkey will be provided. Each family is asked to bring a dish to pass. There will be a signup sheet at church so that you can indicate what

item(s) of food that you would like to bring, and the approximate number of family members attending (so that we can adequately prepare for seating and food amounts), or if you are able to assist with setup, serving, or cleanup. Any questions or additions, please contact Bonnie Hansen at 796-5605 or email textbooks@tds.net

Meatballs Sweet Potatoes

Potatoes (mashed, scalloped, potato hotdish - your choice)

Spinach Salad Lettuce Salad Fruit Salad Pasta Salad Squash Vegetables

Baked Beans Fresh Vegetables and Dip

Christmas Cookies Cranberry Sauce
Gallon of Milk Apple Pie

Pumpkin Pie Other Pies or Dessert

Buns/Dinner Rolls Loaf of Bread (sliced & buttered)

Christmas Breads Pickles

Page 4

and

Men;

2

Goodwill

Earth;

6

Peace

are:

Christmas

맠

phrases that sum ries Not Included.

Three Batter

day

O

for

Thot

Confirmation Class

 Parents check the "Parent Helper" schedule for your dates to serve

3-5th Grade Group December Outing:

Volunteers Needed to organize an outing for the group between Christmas and New Year's Day. Please talk to Pastor David if you can help with that. Thanks!

Mark Your Calendars: January 26



Mexican Fiesta Dinner 2019



Opportunities for Growth...

"Cultures in Conflict"

Sunday mornings @ 9:00

The culture in Corinth conflicted greatly with the lifestyle that the Apostle Paul proclaimed to those who chose to follow Jesus. In the



same way, the church today is called to proclaim the gospel in every environment, showing the world what it looks like when we give our lives to Jesus. Filmed on location in Israel and Greece Cultures in Conflict is part of the That the World May Know series.

Daily Bible readings:

See pages 10 & 11 in this Newsletter

MEET FOR PRAYER-

WEDNESDAYS @ 6 p.m. at church God tells us (Philippians 4:6) "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition present your requests to God."





Women's Study - Seamless Wednesdays @ 6:30

Our 'Seamless' study covers the people, places, and promises of the Bible, tying them together into the greater story of Scripture. Come when you can. We are going through the New Testament this month.

Men's Group Study-Tuesdays @ 6:30

Perseverance: Learning to persevere from selected Psalms

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 encour-



age people who drive past to remember that God is the giver of all good things - especially things we take for granted. On "Black Friday" we thanked God for: GOOD Friday!

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

Page 6

tree.

m

under

8

Christm

find

never

heart will

his

.⊆

88

Christm

2

has

who

운

day:

O

for

Thot

Page 7

Special Thank-offering Can Still Be Given

God commanded the Israelites to come to the temple once a year for a joyful celebration of the blessings God provided in the harvest. This harvest festival was called The Feast of Weeks.

Then celebrate the Feast of Weeks to the Lord your God by giving a freewill offering in proportion to the blessings the Lord your God has given you. Deuteronomy 16:10

With that in mind we came together on Thanksgiving Eve for a special joyful celebration of the blessings God has provided us. We were each encouraged to bring a special freewill offering in proportion to how God has blessed us this past year.



If you didn't have the

chance to attend the Thanksgiving worship, please pray about your Thank-offering proportion.. Use the special Thank-Offering envelope in the pew rack to make your Thank-Offering.

"But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand."

King David in 1 Chronicles 29:14

Email Humor...

The priest asked the poor farmer, "If you had a horse, would you give it to the Lord?"

- "Yes, of course."
- "And if you had a cow?"
- "Absolutely."
- "And a goat?"
- "Sure."
- "A pig?"

"Now, that's not fair!" protested the farmer. "You know that I actually have a piq!"

'Twas the night before Christmas...

'Twas the night before Christmas, the eve of Christ's birth; Many people were resting all over the earth. The Shepherds were watching their sheep in the night, When all of a Sudden they saw a bright light And what to their wondering eyes should appear, But a beautiful Angel, high up in the air His face was all shining; his garment so bright, The shepherds began to tremble with fright. But as he came nearer, the words that he said, Soon gave them to know there was nothing to dread. He told them of "Peace," with no fear and no danger, For their Wonderful Gift, they would find in a manger. So leaving their sheep, they went into town, To seek for this Gift, they would look all around. They came to the stable, the covers they lift, And there in the Manger, God's wonderful Gift. So pure and so holy, so full of God's love, They knew it was Jesus, God's Gift from above. And so as we think of this Savior again, May our worship this Christmas not be in vain Let us love Him and trust Him; there's none that's too small; May the Lord richly bless you. Merry Christmas to all!



Page 8

Page 9

E-mail Wisdom

(Plus it's kind of funny!)

A politician, a priest, and a young boy were in a plane that was going to crash, yet they only had 2 parachutes. The politician proclaimed that since he was the smartest man on the plane, that he deserved to survive. He took a chute and jumped.

The priest looked at the young boy, and quickly reflecting back on his life, told the lad to take the last parachute, since he'd already lived a wonderful and full life.

The boy replied, "You can have the other chute, because the smartest man on this plane just jumped out with my book bag!"

"All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble."

1 Peter 5:5

Choir Notes...

Choir will be singing December 2nd - "O Magnify the Lord" . Please come early that Sunday so we can have a quick rehearsal. After coffee fellowship that Sunday we will also be having a rehearsal in preparation for the Christmas Eve service. We will be singing "How Crost Our Jay" and "Pages". Please agrise at shurch

singing."How Great Our Joy" and "Peace". Please arrive at church at 4:15 for a special rehearsal with our accompanist Sue, on Christmas Eve.

The Choir will NOT be singing the first Sunday in January. So all you dedicated choir member can take a well deserved break. Next rehearsal will be January 20th after coffee fellowship.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart to all of you who give you voices to praise the Lord.

Joy to the World the Lord has come. Leone



of love conspiracy m ₽ world whole the engages whid season ‡ 2 Blessed day:

for a

Thot

Dec. 2018 - 5 Minute Daily Readings

Last month we began our **Bring It Home** readings. 5 readings per week, Monday - Friday. We've listed the readings that can be found in **The Story Bible** (TSB) and **Know the Bible Now** (KTBN) If you do the readings from the Bible you currently have, simply read the chapters listed on the KTBN line. Record your insights from these chapters on the lines provided.

Week of DECEMBER 2

Dec 3	TSB: Hannah's Prayer 1 Samuel 1-2 pg 164
	KTBN: Elijah & the Prophets of Baal 1 Kings 18 pg 136
Dec4	TSB God's Promise 1 Samuel 2 pg 167
	KTBN: God Takes Elijah to Heaven 1 Kings 19 & 2 Kings 2 pg 138
Dec 5	TSB: God Calls Samuel 1 Samuel 3 pg 169
	KTBN: Naaman & Elisha 2 Kings 5 pg 140
Dec6	TSB: Saul Becomes King Samuel 8-11 pg 172
	KTBN: Jonah's Story Jonah 1-4 pg 144
Dec 7	TSB: Samuel Anoints David 1 Samuel 16 pg 176
	KTBN: Isaiah Sees the Lord Isaiah 6-7,9,53 pg 150
We	ek of DECEMBER 9
Dec 10	TSB: David Sees the Army 1 Samuel 17 pg 180
	KTBN: King Hezekiah Prays 2 Kings 18-19 pg 154
Dec 11	TSB: David Fights Goliath 1 Samuel 17 pg 182
	KTBN: King Josiah 2 Kings 22-23 pg 158
Dec 12	TSB: David & Jonathan Become Friends 1 Samuel 18 pg 185
	KTBN: God Calls Jeremiah Jeremiah 1,23,31 pg 162
Dec 13	TSB: God's Great Promise to David 2 Samuel 7 pg 188
	KTBN: Israel & Judah in Exile 2 Kings 17, 24-25 pg 168
Dec 14	TSB: The Wisdom of Solomon 1 Kings 3; Proverbs 8 pg 193
	KTBN: God's Pramises to the Exiles Ezekiel 8 & 36 pg 174
We	ek of DECEMBER 16
Dec 17	TSB: Soloman Builds the Temple 1 Kings 5-6 pg 197
	KTBN: Three Men in the Fiery Furnace Daniel 3 pg 178

	TSB: Jonah Jonah 1-4 pg 199				
	KTBN: Daniel in the Lion's Den Daniel 6 pg 180				
Dec 19	TSB: Israel Goes Away 2 Kings 17 pg 203				
	KTBN: Daniel Sees Heaven Daniel 7 pg 182				
Dec 20	TSB: Isaiah Sees the LORD Isaiah 6; 52-53 pg 205				
	KTBN: A New Temple and a New Wall Ezra & Nehemiah pg 190				
Dec 21	TSB: King Hezekiah Prays 2 Kings 18-19 pg 209				
	KTBN: Esther and the King Esther 1-2 pg 196				
Week o	of DECBMBER 23				
Dec 24	TSB: King Josiah's New Book 2 Kings 22 pg 211				
	KTBN: God Saves His People Esther 3-8 pg 198				
Dec 25	TSB: God Calls Jeremiah Jeremiah 1: 23:31 pg 215				
	KTBN: Waiting for God's Messenger Malachi pg 202				
Dec 26	TSB: God Provides for Elijah 1 Kings 16-17 pg 218				
	KTBN: The Birth of Jesus Forefold Luke 1 pg 214				
Dec 27	TSB: Elijah & the Prophets of Baal 1 Kings 18 pg 221				
	KTBN: The Birth of Jesus Foretold Luke 1 & Matthew 1 pg 216				
Dec 28	TSB: Elijah is Taken to Heaven 2 Kings 2 pg 224				
	KTBN: The Birth of John Luke 1 pg 218				
We	ek of DECEMBER 30				
Dec 31	TSB: Naaman & Elisha 2 Kings 5 pg 227				
Dec 31	TSB: Naaman & Elisha 2 Kings 5 pg 227 KTBN The Birth of Jesus, Luke 2 pg 220				
	LOTEN TO 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10				
	KTBN The Birth of Jesus, Luke 2 pg 220				
Jan 1	KTBN The Birth of Jesus, Luke 2 pg 220 TSB: Three Men in the Fiery Furnace Daniel 3 pg 232				
Jan 1	KTBN The Birth of Jesus, Luke 2 pg 220 TSB: Three Men in the Fiery Furnace Daniel 3 pg 232 KTBN The Visit of the Wise Men Matthew 2 pg 223				
Dec 31 Jan 1 Jan 2 Jan 3	KTBN The Birth of Jesus, Luke 2 pg 220				
Jan 1 Jan 2	KTBN The Birth of Jesus, Luke 2 pg 220				
Jan 1 Jan 2	KTBN The Birth of Jesus, Luke 2 pg 220				

December 2018 - Living Word Lutheran - Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9:00 - ADULT STUDY - PROGRAM PRACTICE 10:00 WORSHIP wcommunion 11:15 Fellowship 11:45 CHOIR REHEARSAL	3	4 6:30 MEN'S GROUP	6:00 PRAYER GROUP 6:00 CONFIRMATION 6:30 WOMEN'S STUDY	6	7 8:30 Circuit Pastors' Meeting @ Living Word	8
9:00 - ADULT STUDY - PROGRAM PRACTICE 10:00 WORSHIP 11:15 Fellowship	10	11	12 11:00 LWML @ Ruth's 6:00 PRAYER GROUP 6:00 CHRISTMAS PROGRAM	Lord's Supper Da Sunday, Decem		10:00 COOKIE BAKING for NYG Bake Sale Fundraiser
Noon NYG YOUTH MEETING 16 S.S. CHRISTMAS PROGRAM	17	6:30 MEN'S GROUP	PRACTICE 6:30 WOMEN'S STUDY 19	Christmas Eve, 20	December 24th	22
9:00 - ADULT STUDY - - PROGRAM PRACTICE 10:00 WORSHIP W CHRISTMAS PROGRAM 11:15 Fellowship		6:30 MEN'S GROUP	6:00 PRAYER GROUP 6:00 CONFIRMATION 6:30 WOMEN'S STUDY	MISSION Winistry 5:30 ELDERS' TEAM 6:30 MISSION & MINISTRY TEAM		
23 CHRISTMAS DINNER 9.00 - ADULT STUDY - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 WORSHIP 11:15 CHRISTMAS DINNER 11:45 CHOIR REHEARSAL	24 4:15 Choir Rehearsal 5:00 CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT WORSHIP W/communion	25 CHRIST IS BORN I	6:00 PRAYER GROUP 6:30 WOMEN'S STUDY	27	28	29
9:00 - ADULT STUDY - - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 WORSHIP 11:15 Fellowship	31	Jan 1 HAPPY NEW YEAR	2 6:00 PRAYER GROUP 6:00 CONFIRMATION 6:30 WOMEN'S STUDY	Sign up directly newslet	to have this news to you by e-mail. email address to ter@livingwordlut	sletter sent Send your or theran.net

Upcoming Schedules...

Fellowship Servers

Dec 2 Marcia Welsh / Pam Johnson Dec 9 Gwen Ruchti / Ruth Vegdahl Dec 16 Sunday School parents

Dec 23 Christmas Dinner

Dec 30 Mike & Brooke Knutson & Tammy Fuglie

Leone & Kerry Quigley Jan 6

Wendy Robbin / Alicia Sawatzky / Mary Lee Moore Jan 13

Jan 20 Tammy Wachter / Sarah Miller Jan 27 Mona Hjelle / Elaine Abraham

Usher Schedule

Dec 2 Brady & Andrew Sharp Linda Dilley & Davis Rustad Dec 9 Wally Abraham and Joe Johnson Dec 16

Mark Fuglie & Tim Geer Dec 23

Dec 30 Larry Levin

Derek & Sarah Olson Jan 6 Kevin Welsh & Jamie Iverson Jan 13 Jan 20 Duane Hansen & Chuck Weflen Jan 27 Brent & Lance Sawatzky

Make A Meal Volunteers

Wendy Robbin & Pam Johnson Dec Jamie & Laurel Iverson Jan

Elders

Dec 2/9 Kevin Welsh / Keith Hanson Dec 16/23/24 Joe Johnson / Jason Miller Dec 30/Jan 6/13 Ed Vegdahl / Kevin Welsh Jan 20/27 Keith Hanson / Joe Johnson

Custodian

December Custodians needed Custodians needed January

Altar Guild

Mona Hjelle Dec

Seen on Church Signboard...

Come Early for a Good Seat in the Back!

Page 14

when overly different meanings...it loses value never spoken or shown to others. have many alue at all if r he word "love" can hav used and has no value "love" The day:

σ

ş

Thot

Page 15

Jan Mona Hjelle	Dec 23			
0 h.t. / :44 -	Dec 30			
Acolyte (little brothers & sisters)	Jan 6	Ruth Vegdahl		
Dec 2 Addison Arends-Schmidt	Jan 13			
Dec 9 Autumn Foshaug	Jan 20			
Dec 16 Cody Wendt	Jan 27	Kevin Welsh		
Dec 23 Jonah Sharp				
Dec 30 Rya Sharp	Accompanying Musicians			
Jan 6 Kala Miller	Dec 2	Sharon Willen		
Jan 13 Will Dahl	Dec 9	ScottWachter		
Jan 20 Carter Foshaug	Dec 16	Pam Johnson		
Jan 27 Toby Arends-Schmidt	Dec 23	ScottWachter		
	Dec 24	Susan Johnson		
Nursery	Dec 30	ScottWachter		
(more volunteers needed)	Jan 6	Sharon Willen		
Dec 2 Pam Johnson	Jan 13	ScottWachter		
Dec 9 Violet Dauk	Jan 20	Pam Johnson		
Dec 16 Mona Hjelle	Jan 27	ScottWachter		
Dec 23 Laurie Hanson				
Dec 30 Gwen Ruchti				
Jan 6 Pam Johnson	Confirn	Confirmation Parent Helper		
Jan 13 Violet Dauk	Dec 5	Miller		
Jan 20 Mona Hjelle	Dec 12	Rustad		
Jan 27 Laurie Hanson	Dec 19	Sarsland		
	Jan 2	Sharp		
Scripture Readers	Jan 9	Dahl		
Dec 2 Jason Miller	Jan 16	Macik		
Dec 9 Mark Fuglie	Jan 23	Miller		
Dec 16 Tammy Fuglie	Jan 30	Rustad		

Church Mice



December Discipleship Verse...

Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is the Messiah, the Lord. Luke 2:11

Miscellaneous Notes...

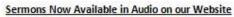
Food Pantry Reminder

9# of food was donated the month of November. Please continue to support the New London Pantry that is part of the Link. Food donations are so important this time of year. Please leave your donations in the purple container in the front of the church marked FOOD SHELF. Thank you so much for supporting this so others can have a blessed Christmas!

Check out our "Free Stuff" Table

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

- Read With Me Bibles for toddlers
- Bible-Story Activity Books
- December Newsletters
- . Bring It Home Readings for the week
- Christians magazines & books
- LOTS More



http://livingwordlutheran.net/sermons.htm (Or just dick on "New Sermons Online" at the bottom of the livngwordlutheran.net_home page)



11-11-18: "A Talking Donkey with an Important Message"
11-18-18: "An important lesson from God's 'crazy' battle plans"
Thanksgyg Eve: "How to Replace Complaints with Thankfulness"
11-25-18 "Giving Thanks Without Saying A Word"

Elders Available for Prayer After Worship

Each Sunday, after worship two members of the Living Word Elders' Team will be available near the altar to pray with you. Simply come up and tell them your request and they will bring that to the Lord in prayer for you.

Living Word Directory... NOW AVAILABLE Online.

Email <u>pastor@livingwordlutheran.net</u> and he will send you a link to view the directory online.

Still Available: Direct Deposit for Your Offerings

Just a reminder that there is an electronic option for making regular offerings. Contributions can now be debited automatically from your checking or savings account. Our electronic giving program offers convenience for you and much-needed donation consistency for our congregation.

If you are currently giving on a weekly basis, you will no longer need to write out 52 checks a year or prepare 52 envelopes. And, when travel, illness or other circumstances prevent you from attending services, this program will allow your weekly offerings to continue on an uninterrupted basis. An authorization form and a "Frequently Asked Questions"



ANYTHING

4

any

E

out how

figure

8

0

tim

きま

have plane

that he le the

people uld circle

are these to-end wou

Who end-t Page 17

flyer are available from the church office.

Reminder: We Have a 'Tough Times' Fund

If you know someone who is going through some temporary financial difficulty and would be blessed to get a gas card or grocery card to use for these expenses, please talk to Pastor David

Fall Voters' Assembly:

On November 18 the Voters' Assembly approved the 2019 budget and goals recommended by the Mission and Ministry Team.

Poinsettias Welcome

Everyone is welcome to bring a poinsettia plant to place in the sanctuary for Christmas. You may bring the plant any time and set it on the counter. The Altar Guild will take care of it and place it around the altar.



Many, Many Thanks...

Thanks to ...

Keith Hanson, Lara Dahl and Becky Sarsland for driving the kids to AirMaxx for their November outing - and to Joe Johnson for letting us use his truck!

Thanks to ...

Bonnie Hansen for organizing the Pumpkin Pie Fellowship After Thanksgiving Eve Worship



Thanks to ...

Everyone who Helped with Care Packages for College Students!

Thanks to ...

Laura & Mike Albert for donating our new Christmas Tree!

and

to the Women of our LWML for making the Chrismons they decorated it with!





Operation Christmas Child We sent 21 Shoe boxes

Thanks to ...

Everyone Who Packed a Box & to Mona Hjelle for organizing the effort!



Give the Gift of God's Word for

Christmas !

We've been reading 5 great stories of the Bible each week, in our homes since the beginning of October. God does amazing things in our lives and families as we read His Word!

All of our story Bibles are gone, but our District has arranged with Concordia Publishing House for special pricing to order them as Christmas gifts. Orders need to be placed by DECEMBER 7 in order to be received by Christmas. Order on the Order Form outside Pastor's office.



Know the Bible Now \$15



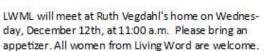
KNOW THE RIPLE Know the Bible Now is a confidence-booster book that helps you embrace a fuller understanding of the biblical narrative. This highly visual Bible overview will put you on the fast track for understanding. The chapters combine 120 significant Scripture passages with easy-to-skim infographics that connect all of the Word to Jesus, from creation to Reve-

The Story Bible \$15



130 Bible stories drawn directly from the Bible. Throughout this Bible, high quality realistic art from our Growing in Christ series is used to fully engage the reader. Unique features included in this Bible are discussion questions, learning activities, and prayers. These bring each story to life, making a meaningful and lasting impression on children from ages 3 to 8.

I WMI





Thanks to Everyone who helped decorate the tree and the church and pack Care Boxes for our College Students !!!

Page 20 Page 21

couldn't

but

= gift,

the

not

counts,

that

thought

National Youth Gathering Update:

From NYG Registration Central:

Congratulations!

Your group is officially accepted as participants of The 2019 LCMS Youth Gathering! According to our records, registration forms and deposits from your congregation have been received.



- 1. Meeting for ALL attendees & Parents -Sunday, December 9 after worship (11:46) We will plan fundraisers and pick Bible study times.
- 2. Baking Cookies (for a Bake Sale Fundraiser) Starting at 10 a.m., Saturday, December 15 at church.
- We have a Facebook page! Jason Miller started one for our youth group. It's called Living Word Lutheran Youth Group, It's a place to go for all info needed for the National Youth Gathering.

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...

- God to open hearts to invitations to celebrate His Son's birth
- Asking God to bless all the students involved in our Christmas Program
- Thanking God for the Holy Spirit's work in the lives of our Sunday School and Confirmation students
- Thanking God for sending His Son to be with us that first Christmas
- Thanking God that Jesus is still "Immanuel" (God With Us) today.
- A great turnout for our Christmas Program and Christmas Dinner
- A "giving" attitude all year not just at Christmas
- Thanking God for an abundant harvest
- Safe travels over the Christmas holiday
- Protection and boldness in witness for all persecuted Christians
- God to embolden our Christian witness in our daily lives
- The Holy Spirit to continue to work through our Bring It Home readings
- God to keep strengthening faith through our Bible Studies
- The mission and ministry of the Jastrams in Japan

the "It's People say, it bigger?! ō . I know. think a bi I know. people t

day: 0 for Thot

Opportunities to Serve...

Provide Light Suppers for Confirmation students:

We we'd like to provide a light supper (sandwiches, hot dogs, etc) for the Confirmation students. Please talk to Pastor David if you could take a turn once a month providing this meal for six students.

Custodians Needed for December & next year

If you or your family could serve as church custodians either of these months, please talk to Jamie Iverson. Thanks!

Help With Our Nursery

We need a couple more volunteers to help with our during-worship nursery (2-6 year olds). Please talk to Mona Hjelle if you can help.

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.

One More Fellowship Server Needed: We are looking for someone to team up with another family to take a turn at serving snacks for after-worship fellowship time once every 2 months.

One More Usher Needed: To team up with another usher once every couple months. Talk to Pastor if you can help. Thanks!

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. Our November Make-a-Meal volunteers are Wachters & Nancy Jo Wendt

Tell us who could use a "We Prayed for You" card.

Tell Pastor or Nancy Jo Wendt when someone you asked us to pray for would be greatly encouraged by getting a card. Then just give us their address.

Donate to Living Word when you order from Amazon

amazonsmile

Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of eligible smile.amazon.com purchases to Living Word. Use this link to have your purchases support Living Word: https://smile.amazon.com/ch/41-1513306

Page 18

Claustrophobic

Santa?

40

afraid

0

T

who

people

8

do you

What

day:

0

for

Thot

Page 19 | Just For Fun...





Story Behind The Song...

The First Noel

[Reprinted from "Amazing Grace 366 Inspiring Hymn Stories" by Kenneth Osbeck]

Although no Christmas season would be complete without the melodious singing of this carol, very little is know about its origin. It is believed to have had its rise in France during the 15th century. Noel is a French word originating from Latin meaning "birthday." The song is thought to have been brought across the English Channel to England by wandering troubadours. The carol, under the English



form "Nowell," became a great favorite for Christmas Eve - especially in the west of England where the entire village gathered for singing and celebrating the bringing in of the Yule log. At this time carols were thought of as popular religious songs meant to be sungoutside the church rather than within

"The First Noel" portrays, from verse one through six, in vivid narrative style the story of the birth of Christ. The song culminates with the final stanza urging us to join together to sing praises to God for the marvels of His creation and for the salvation provided through Christ's shed blood. The repetition of the joyous "noel" in the refrain is the equivalent to our singing out "happy birthday" to someone.

The First Noel, the angel did say, Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay, In fields where they lay keeping their sheep, On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Noel, Noel, Noel Born is the King of Israel

They looked up and saw a star Shining in the east, beyond them far; And to the earth it gave great light, And so it continued both day and night. Noel...

And by the light of that same star, Three wise men came from country far; To seek for a king was their intent, And to follow the star wherever it went. Noel ...

This star drew night to the northwest: Or Bethlehem it took its rest; And there it did both stop and stay, Right over the place where Jesus lay. Noel... Page 22

blood

Then entered in those wise men three, Full rev'rently upon their knee, And offered there, in His presence, Their gold and myrrh and frankincense. Noel...

Then let us all with one accord. Sing praises to our heav'nly Lord That hath made heav'n and earth of naught And with His blood mankind hath bought. Noel...

Editor's note: One of my favorite renditions is by Pentatonix. See at https://voutu.be/0u5UvnKICTA Another great version is by county group Lady Antebellum at https://youtu.be/dVtNXp56kiQ

For a special Christmas treat, watch a video of Kaylee Rodgers, a young girl at the age of 10, a student at Killard House Special School in Northern Ireland, who suffers from autism and ADHD who stunned the online world with a choir rendition of Leonard Cohen's "Hallelujah" at https://youtu.be/Bmx--WjeN7o

draw just as much and paq SE you just stick e would nam thorn. other m ab any 6 by ar when Ø day: O for Thot

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson Ya-sure.. Jesus is born. Jesus mommy wants to go inside. The Minne ROLL to Live Motivity

Page 23