

April 2019 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

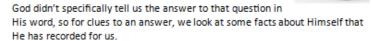
Phone: 320-354-4637

Email: pastor@livingwordlutheran.net Website: www.livingwordlutheran.net

Question for Pastor...

"Why did God create Satan, knowing what he would do?"

This question came out of one of our many "rapid fire" question sessions in Confirmation class. (This group really keeps me on my toes with lots of deep questions. I love it!)



One of the many characteristics of God that we find in the Bible is that He indeed is all-knowing. That means Satan "going over to the dark side" was truly not a surprise to Him. The students got that part right. God did know what Satan would end up doing. As I've said before, you will never hear God say, "Huh! Didn't see that coming!"

The Bible reveals that "Love" is God's most basic characteristic (as the Apostle John reminds us in 1 John 4:16). Because He loves us, God created us with the ability to either return His love or reject it. (It would not be very loving to force us to love Him back.)

Of course, giving us the choice to return His love or reject it means there was the very real possibility that not only would many of God's human creation reject His love, but that many of His angelic creation would too. Revelation chapter 12 indicates that when Satan rebelled against God, fully a third of the other angels did as well! (But what a comfort it is to know that the good angels outnumber the demons two to one!)

Another thing God reveals about Himself in the Bible is that He always has a plan. God knew that Satan would rebel and tempt us into sin - sin that would separate us from our sinless God. So, He planned from the beginning to send His Son to take the punishment for our sin, so that we could be reconciled. (God, being a God of justice, could not just look the other way. Sin had to be punished.)

That brings us back to that most-basic characteristic: love. Jesus coming to take the punishment for our sin is the greatest display of His love that God could have ever made! Romans 5:8 point-blank tells us that "God demonstrates His love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us!" The verses before and after that passage remind us that Jesus didn't die for us, because we deserved it. He didn't die for us because we were

Page 3

"loveable." He didn't die for us because we were God's friends or could return the favor. He died for us in spite of the fact that none of those things applied to us. He died, very simply, because of Love!

God loves us, wants us to spend eternity with Him, but because He loves us, He's given us the opportunity to reject His love. But He's also given us the greatest motivation to not choose that path. If dying to forgive us - when we totally did not deserve His death or His forgiveness - doesn't move us to return His love, nothing will.

In short, God created Satan, knowing Satan would end up rebelling and leading us to do the same, because that rebellion gave God the opportunity to reveal His love for us in a way that nothing else - absolutely nothing else! - could have.

Thanks for Asking, Pastor David

Send your questions to pastor@livingwordlutheran.net

Who Can You Invite?...

- Any of our Bible Studies... Everyone could use the help God has for us in His Word. Classes listed on page 4.
- The Easter Celebration for Kids April 13 @ 10am
 Find details about this event on page 5 in this Newsletter
- 3. Maundy Thursday Worship- April 18 @ 6:30 pm
 We'll have our traditional 'ceremonial' footwashing and look at what
 Jesus taught in the Upper Room "on the night He was betrayed." Then
 we'll share communion.
- 4. Good Friday- the Seven Last Words April 19 6:30 pm Easter is just a "feel-good" story without Good Friday. We extinguish one candle for each of the seven last words Jesus spoke from the cross until all lights have been put out. Join us to be reminded why we call such a dark day "Good."
- Easter We celebrate the Resurrection on April 21
- -6:25 a.m. Sonrise Worship We begin outdoors watching the sun rise (6:25 is actual sunrise time), then move to the sanctuary to finish celebrating the Greatest Event in History.
- -7:45 a.m. Easter Breakfast served following Sonrise service
- -10:00 a.m. Communion Service We again celebrate the Greatest Event in all of History at our regular worship time and share in communion as the Feast of Victory
- Our 3rd Annual Women's Retreat April 26-28 Find details about this event on page 6 in this Newsletter

Opportunities for Growth...

"Places Jesus Walked" Sunday mornings @ 9:00

We learn Lessons from God's Word on living as a Christian in the midst of a non-Christian societv. Please join us for coffee, goodies and study!



MEET FOR PRAYER -

Takes a break during the season of Lent, so everyone can attend the weekly Lenten Devotion Wednesday's at 6:00



Women's Study - Uninvited

Wednesdays @ 6:30

In this six-session video Bible study bestselling author Lysa TerKeurst helps women to explore the roots of rejection; the lies we believe as a result; and the truth about who God is, who we are, and what it looks like to 'live loved'. This will be a good study, not only for people that feel rejected



in one way or another, but also how as Christians we often feel a little left out on the "fun" that the world is having. This is a way to recognize and grow in the relationship we have to with other believers, as well as that in Christ

Men's Group Study-Tuesdays @ 6:30

Tuesdays @ 6:30

"Faith Commander"

Living Five Values from the Parables of Jesus Join the Robertson men of the hit television show. Duck Dynasty®, as they tell stories and discuss some of the Bible's most-loved parables. In this five-session video-based small group Bible study we'll learn about faith-based values and how to apply them to your life.



Choir Notes...

Xtra Xtra read all about it. Rehearsals are happening!!!! Be there Sunday after fellowship on March 31st and April 7th. Also plan to come on Easter Morning at 9:30 to run through all the Easter morning songs. Still time to be a part of the Easter choir. Be Joyful and will see you. ~Leone



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EASTER CELEBRATION 4 KIDS!!!!!

Ages 3-8 (younger siblings welcome!) Saturday, April 13 10:00 A.M.

Story Time

Crafts

Snack

Games

Spring Animal Babies ???

Easter Egg Hunt (weather permitting)

More info? 354-4637 or 212-0069

Please pray and think of kids who you could invite to this outreach!

(Invitations are available at Church)

One Voice NEW -



One Voice for Public Policy Report

The Minnesota North and South Districts of the LC-MS combine to represent us to our Legislators. There are a number of VERY IM-PORTANT issues facing us on both state and federal levels.

> Life Issues like Abortion and Assisted Suicide. Religious Freedom Issues like The 'Equality' Act and Parental Choice in Education

Please take one of the ONE VOICE reports on the "Free Stuff" Table.

Mark Your Calendar...

Confirmation Class

- Apr 3. 10: Students assist in the Lenten Devotion services at 6:00, then have an abbreviated class
- April 18 (Maundy Thursday). Students assist in the worship service.
- Parents: Check the "Parent Helper" schedule for your dates.

3-5th Grade Group March Outing:

Needs Someone to Organize an Outing in April for Our 3-5th Grade Group. Our normal meeting time is Wednesday, April 24. THANKS!

Women's Retreat

PRAYER: Is it your Steering Wheel or... your Spare Tire?



April 26-28 are the dates of Living Word's Annual Women's Retreat held at Koronis Ministries.

Paynesville, MN. Mark your calendars. As always, it will be a time of fun and growth!

Schedule details:

- · Friday night April 26th: Begins @ 6:00 pm with snacks, fellowship and getting to know each other:
- Saturday April 27th All day (sessions, meals, free time) Sunday April 28th Retreat Ends about 2:00 pm

Cost details:

- Hotel style room: \$185.00 per person based on double occupancy. Includes 2 nights stay, 5 meals and supplies for crafts and Bible stud-
- Dorm style is \$130 per person for 2 nights, 5 meals.
- If you can only make Saturday's session: 1 night, 3 meals is \$90 at the dorm rate.
- Can't stay overnight? Then the cost would be \$60.00 per person. (includes 5 meals, studies and crafts

Come and Enjoy spiritual fellowship and invite a friend!

Registration deadline: April 10th:

Money to be paid by then to either Violet Dauk, Ruth Vegdahl, Laurel Iverson or Tammy Miller (Based on availability) Checks can be made payable to Koronis Ministries

Lenten Soup & Sandwich Suppers

Each Wednesday during Lent we will provide a soup and sandwich supper

Page 6

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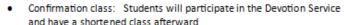
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Hospitality

Page 7

prior to the Lenten devotion.

- Supper will be served from 5:00-5:55
- The Devotion Service will be from 6:00 6:30
- Women's study will stay at 6:30 (Except Ash Wednesday when there will be no study)



We still need soup and sandwich makers for the final Wednesday. Please sign up if you can provide soup or sandwich on April 10. Thanks to everyone who has already provided food!

Congratulations...

- Michael Miller on your adoption into the Miller family March 15!
- Jaxon Evenson on your baptism into God's family March 24.

If you have someone you'd like to offer congratulations to, just email Pastor David with the info: pastor@livingwordlutheran.net

Congregational Outreach News....

Green Lake Sunday-Brunch Boat Cruise

Egg-bake; Fruit platter; Muffins; Coffee/Juice We have finalized a date: July 28 after worship

> Cost: \$29 Adults; \$23 for 10 and Under Reserve your spot by March 31.



See Congregation Outreach Director Marcia Welsh if you have questions or to reserve your spot with a deposit.

Summer Picnic at the Stingers Game!

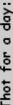
Sunday, June 16 Picnic begins at 4:05

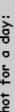
Includes:

- + Reserved-Seat Game Ticket
- + All-you-can-eat Ballpark Buffet

Cost: \$21.58 (Sign up at Church or call Marcia Welsh 320-796-6840)







Get To Know Your...

Mission & Ministry Team Members

Ruth Vegdahl - Community Outreach Director

FAMILY (including pets)

I am married to Ed (who is one of our Elders at Living Word). We have two adult children, both married. They have blessed us with six grandchildren! We have no pets now, but I love Boxers!



JOB / CAREER

I am retired - Yay! I worked almost 30 years for the Minnesota Department of Revenue, but never in Income Tax.

HOBBIES / FAVORITE THING(S) TO DO

I like to spend time with family and friends, watch movies, sew and collect fabric. I have done some gardening and will try again this summer to outwit the deer!

YOUR VISION FOR HOW YOU PRAY GOD USES YOU IN YOUR POSITION ON THE MMT AT LIVING WORD

I feel like God is calling us to some mission work. How does He want us to be helping with needs or touching hearts to bring people to know Christ?

A BIBLE CHARACTER THAT INSPIRES YOU:

Joseph, because his life certainly took unexpected paths. He remained faithful in all circumstances, even in prison. He didn't hold a grudge against his brothers, because he believed that God was in control of all those events.

A PIECE OF "INTERESTING TRIVIA" MOST PEOPLE DON'T KNOW:
I grew up on the Iron Range. When I was in grade school, winter was
my favorite season. I've changed my mind on that now!

Brady Sharp - Congregation Chairman

FAMILY (including pets)

I am married to Amanda who works for McKale's Catering and is finishing up her two-year stint as Sunday School Director. We have three boys, Andrew, Eli, Jonah and one girl, Anna. We also have a dog named Lucy.



JOB / CAREER

I am a plumber at Lake Country Mechanical

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Page 8

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HOBBIES / FAVORITE THING(S) TO DO

Hunting, fishing and sports.

YOUR VISION FOR HOW YOU PRAY GOD USES YOU IN YOUR POSITION ON THE MMT AT LIVING WORD

To be fair and get everyone's perspectives,

BIBLE VERSE THAT GOD HAS USED IN YOUR LIFE:

1 Corinthians 10:13

A BIBLE CHARACTER THAT INSPIRES YOU:

Noah

A PIECE OF "INTERESTING TRIVIA" MOST PEOPLE DON'T KNOW:

I can roll my tongue two different ways!

Marcia Welsh - Congregational Outreach Director

FAMILY (including pets)

Kevin - "the #1 husband in the world" (his words). We have a daughter Mariah (age 26) our oldest, "the diva." We also have a son Noah, who is 22 "the athlete." Our cat, Asia, is second in command in the house (just below me):)



JOB / CAREER

I worked 30 years for the State of Minnesota as an HST and job coach. Currently I drive bus and run the house.

HOBBIES / FAVORITE THING(S) TO DO

Gardening - both flower and vegetable. Canning and baking. Just being outside looking at God's beautiful world! I also enjoy going out to eat, swimming and visiting with friends.

BIBLE VERSE OR PASSAGE THAT GOD USED IN YOUR LIFE:

Any of the passages about "patience" that help me with the "long-haul of healing."

YOUR VISION FOR HOW YOU PRAY GOD USES YOU IN YOUR POSITION ON THE MMT AT LIVING WORD

I pray that people will attend the activities that I plan - and have fun!

A BIBLE CHARACTER THAT INSPIRES YOU:

David (vs. Goliath)

A PIECE OF "INTERESTING TRIVIA" MOST PEOPLE DON'T KNOW: I'm getting older!! Also, I live within shouting distance of David & Sally Schleusner and Mark & Tammy Fuglie.



April 2019 - Daily Readings

We'll begin in John's gospel reading about events leading up to Jesus' death. We'll move to Holy Week event readings from Matthew's gospel, and conclude Resurrection readings.

Week of MAR 31 Daily Readings Pre-Crucifixion events from John's Gospel

pr 1	John 12:20-36
or 2	John 12:37-50
or 3	John 13:1-17
or 4	John 13:18-38
or 5	John 14:1-14
or 6	John 14:15-31
	Week of APR 7 Daily Readings Pre-Crucifixion events from John's Gospel
or 8	John 15:1-17
or 9	John 15:18-16:4
or 10	John 16.5-16
or 11	John 16:17-33
or 12	John 17:1-19
or 13	John 17:20-26
	Week of APR 14 Daily Readings Holy Week Events From Matthew's Gospel
or 15	Matthew 21:1-17
or 16	Matthew 21:33-46

Apr 17	Matthew 25:1-46					
Apr 18	Matthew 26:31-75					
Apr 19	Matthew 27:1-32					
Apr 20	Matthew 27:33-66					
	Week of APR 21 Daily Readings WITNESSES OF JESUS' RESURRECTION					
Easter	Matthew 28:1-10					
Apr 22	Matthew 28:8-10, 16-20					
Apr 23	Mark 16:9-11					
Apr 24	Luke24:15-31					
Apr 25	John 20:19-31					
Apr 26	Luke 24:50-51, Acts 1-2					
Apr 27	1 Corinthians 15:5-8					
	Week of APR 28 Daily Readings. RESULTS OF JESUS' RESURRECTION					
Apr 29	John 11:20-27					
Apr 30	1 Corinthians 15:12-23					
May 1	1 Corinthians 15:51-58					
May 2	Ads 4:32-35					
May 3	Colossians3:1-10_					
	1 Peter 1:3-9					

April 2019 - Living Word Lutheran - Calendar of Events

Sunday Mon		Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9:00 - ADULT STUDY - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 WORSHIP 11:15 Fellowship 11:30 CHOIR PRACTICE		5:30 ELDERS' TEAM 6:30 MEN'S GROUP	5:00 SOUP SUPPER 6:00 LENTEN DEVOTION 6:30 CONFIRMATION 6:30 WOMEN'S STUDY	4	Sunday, April 7 Maundy Thurs Easter Sunday	7th day, April 18th
9:00 - ADULT STUDY - - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 WORSHIP w/communion 11:15 Fellowship 11:30 CHOIR PRACTICE	8	630 MEN'S GROUP WORK PROJECT	10 11:00 LWML 5:00 SOUP SUPPER 6:00 LENTEN DEVOTION 6:30 CONFIRMATION 6:30 WOMEN'S STUDY	11	12	13 10:00 EASTER CELEBRATIO 4 KIDS
9:00 - ADULT STUDY - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 WORSHIP 11:15 Fellowship 11:30 NYG MEETING & STUDY	ngay	630 MEN'S GROUP	6:30 WOMEN'S STUDY	6:30 MAUNDY THURS. WORSHIP Wornmunion	Good Friday 6:30 GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP	20
21 RESURRECTION DAY 625 - SONRISE WORSHIP 7:45 - EASTER BREAKFAST 9:00 - ADULT STUDY / s. s. 10:00 EASTER WORSHIP wcommunion	SUNDAY	6:30 MEN'S GROUP	6:00 CONFIRMATION 6:30 WOMEN'S STUDY	25 Mission Withistry 5:30 ELDERS' TEAM 6:30 MISSION & MINISTRY TEAM	LIVING WOMEN'S at Koronis Ministries	WORD RETREAT Paynesville
9:00 - ADULT STUDY - - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 WORSHIP 11:15 Fellowship 11:45 CHOIR REHEARSAL	29	6:30 MEN'S GROUP	May 1 6:30 WOMEN'S STUDY	directly	May 3 CONFIRMATION LOCK-IN to have this newslet to you by e-mail. Se email address to: er@livingwordluthe	nd your

Upcoming Schedules...

Fellowship Servers

Apr 7 Mona Hjelle / Elaine Abraham Apr 14 Violet Dauk / Laurel Iverson

Apr 21 7:45 NYG Youth (fundraiser)

10:00 Linda Dilley / Bonnie Hansen

Apr 28 Marcia Welsh / Pam Johnson

May 5 Gwen Ruchti / Ruth Vegdahl

May 12 Mike & Brooke Knutson

May 19 Nancy Jo Wendt & Tammy Fuglie

May 26 Leone & Kerry Quigley

Usher Schedule

Apr 7 Kevin Welsh & Jamie Iverson

Apr 14 Duane Hansen & Chuck Weflen

Apr 18 Brent & Lance Sawatzky

Apr 19 Jason & Noah Miller

Apr 21 Wendy & Lonny Robbin

Apr 28 Brady & Andrew Sharp

May 5 Linda Dilley & Davis Rustad

May 12 Wally Abraham and Larry Levin

May 19 Mark Fuglie & Tim Geer

May 26 Derek & Sarah Olson

Make A Meal Volunteers

Apr Wachters & Nancy Jo Wendt May Wendy Robbin & Pam Johnson

Altar Guild

April Mona Hjelle & Nancy Jo Wendt

Elders

Apr 7/14 Keith & Joe
Apr 17 (M. Thurs) & 21& 28 Jason & Ed
May 5/12 Kevin & Keith
May 19/26 Joe & Jason

Seen on Church Signboard...

In Eternity only three things matter:

Location, Location, Location!

Page 14 Pag

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Page 15

Confirmation Parent Helper	Custodian			
Apr 3 Sharp	April Custodians needed			
Apr 10 Dahl	May Custodians needed			
Apr 18 Miller				
Apr 24 Macik				
	Scripture Readers			
Acolyte (little brothers & sisters)	Apr 7 Nykki Foshaug			
Apr 7 Toby Arends-Schmidt	Apr 14 Ruth Vegdahl			
Apr 14 Alex Meis	Apr 21 Mona Hjelle			
Apr 18 Carson Sawatzky	Apr 28 Sarah Olson			
Apr 21 Addison Arends-Schmidt				
Apr 28 Autumn Foshaug	May 5 Kevin Welsh			
	May 12 Laurel Iverson			
May 5 Jonah Sharp	May 19 Tammy Wachter			
May 12 Rya Sharp	May 26 Wendy Robbin			
May 19 Kala Miller				
May 26 Will Dahl	Accompanying Musicians			
	Apr 7 Sharon Willen			
Nursery	Apr 14 Scott Wachter			
(more volunteers needed)	Apr 18 Pam Johnson			
Apr 7 Pam Johnson	Apr 19 Scott Wachter			
Apr 14 Violet Dauk	Apr 21 Sharon Willen			
Apr 21 Mona Hjelle	Apr 28 Scott Wachter			
Apr 28 Laurie Hanson				
	May 5 Sharon Willen			
May 5 Pam Johnson	May 12 Scott Wachter			
May 12 Violet Dauk	May 19 Pam Johnson			
May 19 Mona Hjelle	May 26 Scott Wachter			
May 26 Laurie Hanson				

Church Mice







April Discipleship Verse...

For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God.

1 Peter 3:18

Miscellaneous Notes...

Food Pantry Reminder

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. 33 pounds of food items were collected for the New London food pantry. Thank to everyone for donating

Check out our "Free Stuff" Table

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

- · Read With Me Bibles for toddlers
- Today's Light Devotional Bible
- April Newsletters
- Christian books and magazines
- NEW April June Portals of Prayer



Sermons Now Available in Audio on our Website

http://livingwordlutheran.net/sermons.htm

(Or just click on "New Sermons Online" at the bottom of the <u>livngwordlutheran.net_home page</u>)

3-3-19 "Not just a light at the end of the tunnel"

3-10-19 "Stewardship of God's Word"

3-17-19 "Stewardship of Family"

3-24-19 "Stewardship of Faith"



Living Word Directory... NOW AVAILABLE Online.

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

Offering Envelopes Are Available for 2019

If you like to use dated envelopes for your offerings, we have them available. Just pick up a box of envelopes from under the mailboxes. Write down the # of the box you took. Thanks!



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" flyer are available from the church office.

Page 16 Page 17

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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

Easter flowers are welcomed.

Please set them on back table and the Altar Guild will take care of them. Thank you!

Living Word Apparel

Now is your chance to Order Living Word apparel. Information about the website is below. You will be able to order and pay on that website. To save shipping costs we will have all items delivered to church and you can pick up your items there.



ORDER ONLINE! IT'S EASY, FAST & SECURE!



YOUR ONLINE ORDER MUST BE PLACED NO LATER THAN April 21, 2019

Orders are compiled at program end date



Questions or problems ordering?

CONTACT ONLINE SUPPORT

e-mail: support@rambow.com toll-free: 1.800.4RAMBOW (800.472.636)

Sunday School News...

- The Sunday School is pleased to welcome Sarah Olson in bringing Music back to the Sunday School!! The children will be singing for Palm Sunday, April 14th.
- 5-6th grade will do a servant event on April 7th during the Sunday School hour by filling the Easter Eggs w/treats.

"Ten Commandment Update":

We continue to learn the Commandments, having just recited the 2nd Commandment March 31. So we continue on to the 3rd Commandment which is "Remember the Sabbath Day by keeping it Holy" (all kids)

Meaning: "We should fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and His Word, but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it." (5-6th Grade)

Leviticus 23:3 " There are 6 days when you may work, but the 7th day is a holy day; a Sabbath of rest, a day of sacred assembly." (3-4th grade)

Luke 11:28 "Blessed are they that hear the Word of God and keep it." (1st-2nd grade)

Colossians 3:16 "Let the Word of God dwell in you richly." (Preschool-K)

Isaiah 42:8 "I am the Lord, that is my name." (preschool-Kindergarten)

PRESENT.

National Youth Gathering Update:

- NYG participants will be serving Easter Breakfast. (Your freewill donations will be one of their fundraisers)
- Stock Certificates have been given to each participant to use along with letters to family/friends to ask them to invest in this spiritual growth opportunity.
- 3. April Meeting & Bible Study: Sunday, April 14 after worship
- We have a hotel! Radisson Blu Downtown Room assignments and \$507 deposit are due April 15.
- Remember to check our Facebook page! It's called Living Word Lutheran Youth Group. It's a place to go for all info needed for the National Youth Gathering.

Page 20

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LWML...

Page 21



LENTEN SUPPERS: LWML members have posted a sign-up sheet at church for anyone wishing to provide soup or sandwiches for the suppers prior to Lenten services. April 10 is still open for both soup & sandwiches

LWML will meet on Wednesday April 10, at 11:00 a.m., at church. Everyone please bring an appetizer. We will be finalizing plans for the Mother-Daughter Salad Luncheon.

MOTHER-DAUGHTER SALAD LUNCHEON: Will be Saturday, May 18th, at 11:00, at church.

NEW LONDON MUSIC FESTIVAL PIE AND ICE CREAM OUTREACH: Anyone wishing to help with making pies, or providing fruit for the pies, please contact Bonnie Hansen at 796-5605.

Community Outreach News...

Let us know if you have some new ideas for reaching out to people who do not have a church home. Thanks again and God bless you!

Ruth Vegdahl

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. This past month we thanked God for

- Spring
- Jaxon Evenson Baptized into God's Family
- Green Grass

Let Pastor know how you'd complete that sentence during April

Thot for a day: Life you

Opportunities to Serve...

Provide Soup or Sandwich for Lenten Suppers:

The LWML is again sponsoring Soup & Sandwich Suppers prior to our Wednesday Lenten Services. Please sign up on the sheet at church if you'd like to provide soup or sandwiches on April 10th

Help Chaperone a Lock-In for Confirmation Students:

The kids are anxiously awaiting the opportunity to have a lock-in here at church. If you could help by hanging out with them, please talk to Pastor David. (You'll be a hero - maybe even a SUPER hero!)

Organize a Fun Event for Our 3-5th Grade Group.

We'd like to have a fun outing (something within and hour's drive) for our 3-5th Grade Youth Group during April. Please talk to Pastor if you could help. THANKS!

Custodians Needed

You (or your whole family) can sign up to provide the necessary cleaning A check-list of duties is posted by the mailboxes. Please consider being a part of this service. We are in need of custodians after March. Talk to Jamie Iverson if you have questions or to volunteer.

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.

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.

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 if you know of someone who would appreciate a meal. Thanks! Our April Make-a-Meal volunteers are Wachters and Nancy Jo Wendt

We are also looking for a person to be the Make-a-Meal coordina-

 \underline{tor} - someone who notifies the meal makers when a meal is needed and who also arranges for the meal to be delivered.

If you could be that person, please talk to Pastor David. Thanks!

Remember to use our "We Prayed for You" program...

Page 18

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Page 19

We'd like to send out a card or two each week to people we prayed for during worship. How you can help: Simply tell Pastor David when you feel that someone you asked us to pray for would be greatly encouraged by getting a card. Then just call, email or text him with that person's address. It truly is a simple way to brighten the spirits of someone who's going though a tough time.

We are currently in need of a volunteer to mail the cards. If you could help, talk to Pastor David.



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Remember the Teal's Rebate Program.

Teal's Grocery gives a 1% rebate to eligible organizations. There's a box under the mail boxes where you can put in your receipts. Our receipts from 2018 were submitted in February and we received our rebate of \$94.63! Thanks you to all who turned in receipts. Keep stuffing the box!

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...

- Asking God to bring lots of kids to our Easter Celebration for Jesus
- Asking God to open hearts to the message of the Cross & Empty Tomb
- The Holy Spirit to work through our Holy Week services
- · Asking God for great attendance at the Women's Retreat
- Asking God to provide an organizer for our 3-5th Grade April Outing
- Asking God to continue to prepare the hearts of our NYG attendees
- Thanking God for the Holy Spirit's work in the lives of our Sunday School and Confirmation students
- The Holy Spirit to continue to work through our Daily Bible readings
- Safe travels during the remainder of winter
- Continued wisdom for guidance and decisions (BIG and small)
- Courage to take a stand for Jesus at school and work.
- Protection from the deceitful messages Satan sends your way
- Protection and boldness in witness for all persecuted Christians
- God to keep strengthening faith through our Bible Studies
- The mission and ministry of the Jastrams in Japan

That for a day: Forgive your enemies. It messes

Story Behind The Song...

"The Old Rugged Cross"

[Excerpt from Amazing Grace: 365 Hymn Stories by Kenneth Osbeck]

"He himself bore our sins" in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; "by his wounds you have been healed." 1 Peter 2:24

The author and composer of this beloved hymn, George Bennard, began his Christian ministry in the ranks of the Salvation Army. Eight years later he was ordained by the Methodist Episcopal Church and devoted himself to the ministry of evangelism - bringing the message of Jesus to people.

One time, after returning to his home in Albion, Michigan, Bennard passed through a particularly trying experience, one that cause him to seriously reflect on the cross and what the Apostle Paul meant when he wrote of of entering into the fellowship of Christ's sufferings (Philippians 3:10). Bennard began to spend long hours in study, prayer and meditation until one day he could say,

"I saw the Christ of the cross as if I were seeing John 3:16 leave the printed page, take form and act out the meaning of redemption. The more I contemplated these truths, the more convince I became that the cross was far more than just a religious symbol but rather the very heart of the gospel."

During this spiritual struggle, the theme for "The Old Rugged Cross" began to formulate itself in Bennard's mind, but an inner voice seemed to keep telling him to "Wait." Finally, the words and melody began to flow easily from his heart. Shortly thereafter, Bennard sent a manuscript copy to one of the leading hymn writers of the time, Charles Gabriel. Gabriel replied with these prophetic words, "You will certainly hear from this song, Mr. Bennard." Indeed. The hymn became one of the most widely published songs, either sacred or secular, in America.

On a hill far away stood and old rugged cross, The emblem of suff'ring and shame; And I love that old cross where the dearest and best For a world of lost sinners was slain.

Chorus: So I'll Cherish the old rugged cross
Till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross
And exchange it someday for a crown

Page 22 Page 23

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Oh that old rugged cross, so despised by the world Has a wondrous attraction for me; For the dear Lamb of God left his glory above To bear it to dark Calvary (Chorus)

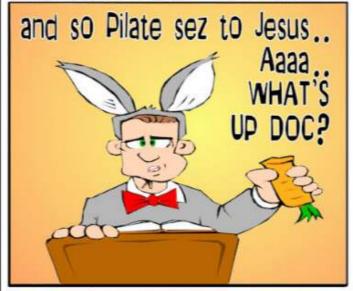
In the old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine,
A wondrous beauty I see; For twas on that old cross
Jesus suffered and died To pardon and sanctify me (Chorus)

To the old rugged cross I will ever be true
It's shame and reproach gladly bear;
Then He'll call me some day to my home far away
Where His glory forever I'll share. (Chorus)

Editor's note: This classic hymn has been recorded by numerous artists from rock to country to gospel. I will stick with one of my all time favorite versions by Guy Penrod (Gaither Vocal Band) at https://youtu.be/zyfR7URb8TY

For a change listen to it sung in a medley with Jesus Paid It all by Anthem Lights at https://youtu.be/GLeHDfCGKM0

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



Rev. Wilson's attempt to create a contemporary Easter sermon did not go over well with the traditional congregation at Ninnyville Lutheran.