



June 2022 Newsletter

"Communicating the Love of Jesus"

Worship Service: 9:00 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

Questions for Pastor...

"What happened at the District Convention this year?

Every three years each LCMS district has a convention to conduct business and prepare overtures for the following year's Synodical Convention. Living Word is a part of The Minnesota

North District. In May our convention lay-delegate Duane Hansen and I attended its convention that was held in Brainerd. I'll share a few of the major items of business that were acted upon and also, some comments that stuck in my mind from various speakers.

- Probably the most noteworthy item of business was to elect a president to replace Rev. Don Fondow who is retiring. The convention elected Rev. Brady Finnern of Sartell.
- We passed a resolution denouncing Critical Race Theory as being unbiblical.
- We heard that the Malagasy Lutheran Church in Aftica has 4.5
 million members many more than the LCMS has here in the United
 States. (AND, that count only includes people who regularly attend
 worship services).
- The bishop of the Lutheran Church in Finland referring to those who brought a lawsuit accusing him of promoting "hate speech" by publishing the Bible's views: "Every time they attack us, we grow!"
- Luther: "God does not need your good works. Your neighbor does!"
- As a result of the 2021 year-end debt-reduction drive (to which Living Word contributed \$500) Lutheran Island Camp's debt was reduced from \$250,000 to \$49,000!
- One of the Pastors instrumental in starting a Classical Lutheran College commented, "Woke-ism is bullying."
- An LCMS Chaplain compared military fighting to the spiritual battles

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we face daily:

"The first step in being ready: Know Your Enemy (how they operate). The second step: Have a Plan!"

 We learned of an LCMS program called "Everyone His Witness," that helps congregation members to be what God has called us all to be: His Witnesses to our friends, neighbors and relatives. I made a note that this program is one that we would find very beneficial and should find a way to utilize.

> Thanks for asking! Pastor David

Send your questions to pastor@livingwordlutheran.net

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.

- Emergency Workers!
- Spring!
- Moms!
- Sunday's Cool Teachers!
- Dennis Bratsch!
- Summer Worship Time (9:00)

Let Pastor know how you'd complete that sentence in June.

Communion Notes...



The Lord's Supper will be celebrated in June on 1st ^ 3rd Sundays—June 5th and June 19th.

Those who are not comfortable coming to the altar should inform an Elder or Usher, and communion will be brought to you in your pew.

Reminder: Gluten-free bread wafers are available for those who have gluten-sensitive conditions. You will find these wafers in a separate cup in the communion tray.

Opportunities for Growth...

Sunday Morning Study:

Sunday mornings @ 9:00
"The Radical Teachings of Jesus"
Please join us for coffee and God's



Word as we look at just how Jesus' teachings turned the first-century world upside down (and have the power to do the same in your world)!

Sunday Morning Youth Study

Sundays @ 9:00 Bring friends!

Monthly Morning Women's Study:

Due to busy summer schedules, we will not meet during June July, and August.

Evening Women's Study

Is on Summer Break

Men's Study

Tuesdays @ 6:30 (Come at 6:00 for Brats, etc...) Who can you invite to join you?

Confirmation News...

Be Sure to Check: The PowerPoint Clicker-Person Schedule... Each student will take a turn operating the "clicker" that changes the PowerPoint screens during Sunday Worship.



Womens Bible

- Finish the Test June 8
- Adopt-A-Highway June 15. We need parents to help and drive.

Wanted...

PLAYGROUND TOYS NEEDED

We are in need of replacing some of our playground toys, like hot wheels or other small riding items. Items that are safe and in good working order could be donated or possibly found at garage sales.

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Sunday School News...

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR ...

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

August 15-17

Monday-Wednesday and concludes on Thursday the 18th with our "Big Kahuna" outing!

A HUGE "THANK YOU" TO THIS YEAR'S "SUNDAY'S COOL" TEACHERS:

Meggie Ashburn Lara Dahl Carmen Macik Sarah Olson Mona Hjelle



Youth Gathering...

The NEXT National Youth Gathering (2022 in Houston)



Our Ongoing Fundraiser: "The Envelope Board"

Our "Envelope Board" (found at the back of the sanctuary) is filled with envelopes numbered from 1 to 144 tacked to a bulletin board.

The fundraiser works this way. Whatever number is on the envelope, that's the amount you put in the envelope as your donation for the Youth Gathering Trip. It really is that simple!

+++

Our youth will be taking on the Custodial duties at church during May, June, August and September!

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NEXT MONTH-ON TO HOUSTON!

Youth attending:	Chaperones:	
Noah Miller,	Becky Sarsland,	
Levi Miller,	Mike Macik	
Zoe Rustad,	Jason Miller.	
Lexi Macik		
Alison Sarsland.		

Miscellaneous Notes...

Food Pantry Reminder

Please remember to bring your donations for the Food Pantry on the 2nd Sunday of each month. Place them in the purple container by the door at church. 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
- 100 or so Key Chapter Bible Reading Booklets
- The July—Sept Portals of Prayer are available mid-June in your mailbox or on the "free stuff" table.

Recorded videos of Sermons

Sermons can be found in on our Living Word YouTube channel (New London Living Word) at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCG9eU-VVIJEU22yCYxbhwig/videos



•	May 1	"Peter, Paul and not Mary, but US!"
•	May 8	"What does it mean to 'follow' Jesus?"
		#= #

May 15 "Follow the Son: With Passion for God's Kingdom"
 May 22 "Follow the Son: Learn from Him About Joy"
 May 29 "Follow the Son: Win battles by 'Surrendering'"

Still Available: Direct Deposit for Your Offerings

Living Word has the option of an electronic option for making regular offerings. Contributions can 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.

Offering Envelopes Are Available for 2022

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 picked up. Thanks!

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Lutheran Island Camp...



PRAYER

Has a FULL Summer Schedule !!!

The summer camp of the Minnesota North District congregations (like Living Word) is back in action with a full schedule this summer!

Check out the camp-schedule poster at church go to <u>www.islandcamp.org</u> for complete descriptions and pricing information

Prayer...

Remember to use "The Prayer Force"

Please continue to call, text (320-220-1816) or email (pastor@livingwordlutheran.net) prayer requests to Pastor David for the Prayer Force prayer chain to include in their prayers. Thanks!

And an Invitation to Join our "Prayer Force"

Being a part of our prayer chain is a HUGELY important - and very simple - way you can serve God and His people! When a request to pray comes in, Pastor forwards it via text message (or email for those who don't have a cell phone). Then you simply include that request in your prayers. Text Pastor today and tell him "Yeah, I can do that!" Thanks!

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 PRAY for things like... these VBS Prayers:

- Asking the Spirit's guidance for our new District President Brady Finnern
- Thanking God for All Who Died for our Freedom!
- Thanking God for All Families Who lost a member fighting for our freedom
- Thanking God for our Graduates and asking God's guidance for them.
- Asking God to protect the farmers and everyone who works outdoors.
- Asking God's continued guidance for our Building Committee.
- Asking God to raise up people to fill our open MMT positions.
- Thanking God that His Word is Truth amidst the lies of the world.
- God to show you opportunities to Share His Love in Practical Ways.
- Protection from the deceitful messages Satan sends your way
- God's protection, guidance, wisdom & courage for government leaders
- Continued wisdom for guidance and decisions (BIG and small)
- Protection and boldness in witness for all persecuted Christians
- The ministry of the Jastrams in Japan

Thot for a day:

Upcoming FUN Stuff...

Hemker Zoo -June 11th @ 10:00





Green Lake Cruise- June 26th @ 2:00

Stingers' Game -July 24th
 Picnic begins at 4:05 (Game @ 5:05)

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





Hinterland Vineyards - August 5th

• Big Kahuna -August 18th



Talk to Marcia for details on any of these outings!

Adopt-a-Highway

Wednesday, June 15th We will leave from church at 6:00



We need drivers and a minimum of 8 people in order to complete the cleanup in an hour. Please sign up at church.

GRAD PARTY | STATE |

HONORING:

Lance Sawatzky

PLEASE JOIN US:

Saturday, June 11th 3pm-6pm

The Sawatzkys House 10712 52nd Ave NW Pennock, MN 56279

RSVP:

Optional Text 320-212-4083

Bonfire to follow

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class

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Mark Your Calendars...

Mission & Ministry Team

Thursday, June 9th @ 6:30 p.m. Elders' Team @ 5:30 prior to MMT

Spring Voter's Assembly

will be held after worship on June 5. The Spring Assembly is our annual election to fill Mission and Ministry positions. We will be elect members to 2-year terms in the following positions:

- Chairman Tim Geer
- Stewardship (Position open)
- Secretary Tammy Miller
- Trustee (position open)
- Elders (three): Steve Wulf, (two positions open)
- Christian Growth Youth (position open)
- Community Outreach (position open)

We need suggestions for people to fill the open positions. If you have members you'd like us to consider for either position, please give their names to an Elder or Mission and Ministry Team member.

Building Committee

Meets next on Thursday, June 23rd @ 6:30

Trap-Shooting Fellowship 2022

SEASON KICK-OFF EVENT:

Saturday, June 18

Lunch at noon. Shooting from 12:30 - 1:30

New this year: Daily prizes for "Best 25 shots" as well as a Grand Prize at the end of the year!

We will also meet the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays this summer with supper at 6:00 and shooting at 6:30

Saturday events will be held July 9 and August 6.

"Participate" in Worship from home...

If you can't be here in person: Watch on our YouTube channel with Sunday services being livestreamed at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCG9eU-

VvIJEU22vCYxbhwjg/featured



Email Humor...

We were sitting in church a few weeks ago while the minister delivered a sermon based on the timeless story of the prodigal son. When he got to the point where the father sees his son returning and races out to meet him, the minister said, "Throwing wide his arms, the father said..."

At which point my younger son leaned over to me and whispered, "YOU'RE GROUNDED!"

Punishment

Two rabbinical students were caught by the Rabbi gambling and drinking in the company of undesirable characters -- even before the sun set on the evening of the Sabbath. The Rabbi called them into his study the next day. Both confessed to having given in to weakness, and admitted that they deserved punishment.

The Rabbi thought and then went into his kitchen and brought back two bags of dried peas. "Put these in your shoes," he told them, "and walk on them for a week, to remind yourself how hard life can be when you turn away from the Law."

A few days later the two students met. One was limping terribly, had dark circles under his eyes, and looked very tired. The other seemed much as he had been the week before.

"Hey," said the first. "How is it that you are walking so freely. Didn't you do as the Rabbi told us and put the peas in your shoes?"

"Of course I did," said the other. "How could I disobey the Rabbi?" He started to walk away, paused and then said, "But I boiled them first."

A SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER REPORTS:

- With your eyes closed for prayer, anything can happen in a room full of preschoolers.
- Prayer requests reveal a lot about parents.
- Cheap glue adheres very well to skin even if to nothing else!
- Kool Aid and song motions do not mix.
- There IS a doggie Heaven.
- Parachute games should not be used in a room with a chandelier.
- Church maintenance men do not usually have a sense of humor.
- Animal crackers can actually be sneezed out the nose!

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Page 11 LWML News...

LWML MEETING:

Due to busy summer schedules, LWML will not meet in May, June July, and August.

NEXT LWML MEETING: Wednesday, September 14th at 10:00a.m.



SHOES FOR MISSIONS:

This is a continuing fundraiser for Lutheran Island Camp. Please bring shoes, boots, slippers, sandals (in rubber banded pairs, or with shoestrings tied) to church, and place them in the SHOES FOR MISSIONS box near the entrance.

LWML MINNESOTA NORTH DISTRICT CONVENTION:

June 20-22nd at Courtyard by Marriot in Moorhead, Minnesota.

Church Clean-up...

You can sign up to take on any of these "cleaning" projects. They can be completed any time that works for you (there won't be a designated "Clean Up Day").



CLEAN / ORGANIZE WEST FURNACE ROOM

Church Choir...

Sings on PENTECOST (June 5)

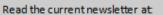
(Willingness to make a "joyful noise" is the only requirement)

Thanks to Sarah Olson for leading us!



Thank You from the Jastrams...

We are so happy to have you as part of our missionary team. Your support for LCMS mission work in Asia means a lot to us. Dan & Joan Jastram



https://tinyurl.com/5n6nfwk5



June 2022 - Daily Readings

We Celebrate the Outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost on June 5, so after we finish last month's "40-Days" readings, we spend this month reading how the Holy Spirit built the church after Pentecost. Record after each day's insights for how God wants to work through you.

	Week of MA	Y 29
May 30	ded tiller i den bed ble	
May 31		
June 1		1:12-18
June 2	Exodus 32	
June 3	Exodus 33-34	
June 4		
	Week of JUN	E 5
June 6	Acts 1	
June 7	Acts 2	
June 8	Acts 3	
June 9		
June 10		
June 11		
	Week of JUN	IE 12
June 13	Acts 8	
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Acts 9	
Acts 10	
Acts 11	
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Acts 20-21	
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Acts 24	
Acts 25	
Acts 26	
Acts 27-28_	
	Acts 10

June 2022 - Living Word Lutheran - Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May 29 9:00 - WORSHIP	May 30	May 31 6:30 - MEN'S STUDY	1 6:15 - CONFIRMATION	15000	3 Carlos Supper D Sunday, June Sunday, June	5th
5 PENTECOST 9:00 - WORSHIP w/Communion 10:15 - SPRING VOTERS' ASSY.	6	7 6:30 - MEN'S STUDY	8 6:15 - CONFIRMATION	9 5:30 - ELDERS' TEAM 6:30 - MISSION & MINISTRY TEAM	10	11 10:00 HEMKER ZOO 3:00 - 6:00 GRAD RECEPTION for Lance Sawatzky
9:00 - WORSHIP	13	14 6:30 - MEN'S STUDY	6:00 ADOPT-A-HWY CLEANUP	16	17	NOON: TRAP SHOOT (with lunch)
9:00 - WORSHIP w/Communion	20	21 6:30 - MEN'S STUDY	6:00 TRAP SHOOT (With Brats, etc.).	6:30 BUILDING COMMITTEE	24	25
2:00 - GREEN LAKE CRUISE	27	28 6:30 - MEN'S STUDY	29	30	July 1	July 2

Upcoming Schedules...

After-Worship Fellowship

We've had requests to re-start our after-worship fellowship time (complete with coffee, juice, and maybe even goodies).

COORDINATOR NEEDED

Here's what that would involve:

- + Putting together a rotating schedule of Fellowship Servers.
- + Reminding servers of their date to serve.
- + Making sure there are cups, plates, napkins, etc... to use. If you could take on this ministry to our congregation, there are LOTS of folks who would be extremely grateful for your effort!

Usher Schedule

June 5 Wendy & Lonny Robbin

June 12 Open June 19 Larry Levin June 26 Open

USHERS NEEDED AGAIN:

Since we are back to "normal" after covid restrictions, we are in need of ushers to greet people at the door as well as to usher people to the altar for communion.

Please sign up at church on the table by the door (you can choose which type of ushering you are interested in)!

Scripture Readers

NOTE: Pastor David will read the Scriptures in Worship until COVID restrictions are eased

Elders

June 5, 12, Joe & Duane June 19, 26 Jason & Ed

Custodian

June Living Word Youth July Volunteers needed

PowerPoint Operator

June 5	Alex
June 12	Carson
June 19	Rya
June 26	Jonah
July 3	Will

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(Volunteers needed - please talk to Mona H.)

Altar Guild

June Mona Hjelle

Make A Meal Volunteers

Violet Dauk

Accompanying Musicians June 5 Sharon Willen

June 12 ScottWachter June 19 Pam Johnson

June 26 Open

Building Committee....

At our May meeting:

- We heard a capital fundraising proposal from Michael Davy of Mark Davy and Associates.
- . We decided to invest \$40,000 of the Building Fund money in a 2year CD @ 21/8% with Lutheran Church Extension Fund

We meet next on: Thursday, June 23 @ 6:30

I'm glad you see

it that way...



BUT EVERYTHING SEEMS TO BE BROKEN BEYOND WHAT CAN BE FIXED! DIDN'T YOU SEE ANY OF THE NEWS SHOWS I don't need to watch the news to see..



Seen on Church Signboards...

SON SCREEN **PREVENTS SIN BURN**

June Discipleship Verse...

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 15:13



A Minute for Couples...

(from the Prepare-Enrich blog)

If you had to write a book full of the lessons your parents taught you, what would be in it? Would there be a long chapter on the importance of kindness or having a good work ethic? Would there be a glossary of "things we don't talk about" or an appendix of secret family recipes?

While the contents might be different for everyone, one chapter that most of our books would have is "Lessons on Marriage and Relationships." Yep, for better or for worse, our parents have a big influence on the way we think about and behave in our marriage. Through both direct guidance and observation, here are some of the things you may have picked up on. Talk about each area with your spouse, because they probably learned something different from their parents!

How to show love and affection

Were your parents openly affectionate with each other, or was it rare to even see them hug? Were they generous with saying "I love you" or did they tend to show love more through their actions? Did they have pet names for each other? If you and your partner are very different in this area, having a conversation about each of your needs and preferences can go a long way in helping you avoid misunderstandings or misinterpretations. Talk about what feels natural for you versus what requires a bit more effort. Be open to putting in that extra effort while also showing each other empathy.

Who does what

How did your parents break down household responsibilities? Were they divided along traditional lines, or did they have their own unique mix of duties? Who was "in charge"? Going into marriage, this is one area where couples tend to bring lots of unintentional assumptions or preconceived notions about how their own relationship will operate. After all, it's natural to feel that what we witnessed growing up is the "normal" way things are done. This might leave you at odds if your partner has very different ideas for how you'll split up roles and responsibilities. Have a discussion about your expectations, but be openminded and willing to adjust or let them go. Know that you can try out various things to see what works the best for your relationship. You're not locked into one way forever, and being flexible will help you adapt to different seasons of life.

How to solve conflicts

Did your parents argue in front of you, or was it all done behind closed doors? Did they apologize to each other openly, or did actions speak

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louder than words? Was conflict something to be avoided, concealed, or was it just part of daily life? How do you feel when you and your spouse experience it? For many couples (and individuals) it can be uncomfortable addressing conflict, but reflecting on the way your parents handled it can give you both insight into your own tendencies. If you and your spouse are very different in this area, have a discussion about how this manifests in your relationship. Are there things you could both work on to make conflict resolution more productive?

How to handle money

Our parents not only model the practical ways of handling finances (who pays the bills or tracks the monthly budget), they also set an example when it comes to the values we associate with money. Was it tied to a sense of security or status? Did it mean enjoyment, like getting to go on a family vacation? Or was money related to feelings of control or influence? For some couples, differing values around money can make financial alignment an ongoing challenge. The influence of your parents' money attitudes means that it's not always as simple as making adjustments to spending and saving habits; differences often run much deeper. Keep this in mind as you navigate your financial journey together as a couple.

Reflecting on what your parents modeled for you in their relationship gives you insight into where your own expectations and perceptions of marriage come from. It can help you and your spouse better understand each other, especially if you have very different ideas about what your own marriage should look like. It's important to remember, however, that you're not stuck doing things the way your parents did. You have the power to be intentional about what you want to carry on in your marriage (and potentially model for your own children) and what you'd prefer to leave behind.

Thank you...

- To Everyone who helped with the Dennis Bratsch funeral and lunch
- To this year's Sunday School Teachers: Meggie Ashburn, Lara Dahl, Carmen Macik and Sarah Olson for your willingness to serve the Lord by teaching!
- To our Sunday School Director Mona Hjelle for all your hard work every week on behalf of our kids and grandkids!

Please email webmaster@livingwordlutheran.net if there's someone you'd like us to give thanks to.

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Fmail Wisdom

Movies or Brownies

A father of some teenage children had the family rule that they could not attend PG-13 or R rated movies. His three teens wanted to see a particular popular movie that was playing at local theaters. It was rated PG-13.

The teens interviewed friends and even some members of their family's church to find out what was so offensive in the movie. The teens made a list of pros and cons about the movie to use to convince their Dad that they should be allowed to see it.

The cons were that it contained ONLY 3 swear words the ONLY violence was a building exploding and you did not actually "see" the couple having sex is was just implied sex, off camera.

The pros were that it was a popular movie block buster. Everyone was seeing it. If they could see it then they would not feel left out when friends were discussing it. It contained a great story and plot and lots of adventure. There were some fantastic special effects in the movie and would probably be nominated for several awards.

Therefore, since there were more pros than cons, the teens said they were asking their father to reconsider his position on just this ONE movie and give them permission to go see it.

The father looked at the list and thought for a few minutes. He said he needed a day to think it over before making his decision.

The teens were thrilled thinking, "Now we've got him!"

The next evening the father called in his three teens who were smiling very smugly. There on the coffee table he had a plate of brownies, the teens were puzzled. The father told his children he had thought about their request and if they would eat just one brownie then he would let them go to the movie. But like the movie, the brownies had pros and cons.

The pros were they were made with finest chocolate and other good ingredients. They were moist and fresh with wonderful yummy frosting on them. And best of all they had been made lovingly by their fathers hand.

They only had ONE con. The father had included a special ingredient. The brownies also contained just a little bit of dog poo! But he had mixed it into the dough well and they would probably not be able to taste it. He had baked them at 350 degrees so bacteria was probably destroyed.

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Therefore, if any of his children could stand to eat the brownies which included just a "little dog poo" and not be effected by it, then he knew they would be able to see the movie with just a "little bit of smut" and not be effected.

Of course, none of the teens would eat the brownies and the smug smiles left their faces. Only Dad was smiling as they left the room.

Now when the teenagers ask permission to do something he is opposed to, the father just asks, "Would you like me to whip up a batch of my special brownies?"

Congratulations!...

- Derek Olson on your graduation from College
- George Arends-Schmidt, Kaia Olson, Lance Sawatzky and Andrew Sharp on graduating from High School

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

REVERENDEUN COM COPYRIGHT GO, INC.

YES I COULD MAKE FIVE THOUSAND OF THOSE, BUT A FEW FISH AND SOME BREAD MIGHT BE A

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Opportunities to Serve...

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.

<u>Pick Your Month</u> for you (or your family) to be our Church Custodian: We are still in need of volunteers for July, October, November, & December. Talk to our Trustee, Steve Wulf, to sign up or find out more details.

Make A Meal

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 call Pastor David or our June Make-a-Meal volunteer Violet Dauk if you know of someone who would appreciate a meal.

We are also looking for a person to be the

<u>Make-a-Meal coordinator</u> - The coordinator is NOT responsible for making the meals, but rather notifies the meal makers when a meal is needed and then 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...

We'd like to send out a card or two each week to people we prayed for during worship.

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



Operate our new Video Camera . . .

to record the worship service that we livestream and later upload our YouTube channel (New London Living Word). Talk to Pastor David if you can help out with this - at least one Sunday a month. (Hint It's not difficult!)

Remember the Teal's Rebate Program.

Teal's Grocery gives a 1% rebate to eligible organizations. There's a teal-colored box on the back-wall table where you can put in your receipts.

Donate to Living Word when you order from Amazon

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

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Custodian Volunteers Needed.

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Pick Your Month for you (or your family) to be our Church Custodian:

We are still in need of volunteers for...July, October, November and December. Talk to our Trustee, Steve Wulf, to sign up or find out more details.



Thanks to our National Youth Gathering attendees for covering the months of May, June, August and September!

Story Behind The Song...

In honor of Father's Day later this month I am going to feature a relatively new song... Good Good Father.

You are probably most familiar with this 2016 Dove Awards Song of the Year by the version performed by Chris Tomlin, but in reality Tomlin is only one of several artists to have recorded *Good Good Father*. The song, written by Pat Barrett and Tony Brown, was originally released in 2015 by Housefires, their worship team from Grace Fellowship in Atlanta, GA. The song has also been recorded by Big Daddy Weave, Casting Crowns, Zealand Worship, Anthem Lights, and Phil Wickham to name a few.

Good, Good Father left an impression on Chris Tomlin from the first time he heard it when his wife played it for him. He says that "Songs like this don't come around that often. You try and you try as a songwriter to write songs that even get close to this and every once in a while that happens... I love talking about this song cause I had nothing to do with writing it."

Anthony Brown, Good, Good Father co-writer, tells the story of how he came to write the chorus. Tony explains that he had no dad. "The only one I've ever called 'Father' is God. That is part of my redemption history. I also identify that in others and so our worship took a direction in sharing that message with those who need to hear it. The phrase 'Good Good Father' may not be grammatically correct, but saying God is good once is not enough!" "He said that the chorus arose during spontaneous worship, and that they used the chorus in worship for about four years before he sat down with Pat Barrett and composed the entire song.

Pat Barrett shared that he was inspired to write the song when he became a father himself. "When I started having kids and I'm looking at my daughter Harper Gray, and I'm like, 'How am I going to explain God to you? How am I going to introduce you to someone who so transformed my life? How am I going to tell you what he's like?""

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Barrett goes on to say how Good Good Father speaks on multiple different levels showing who God is and who we can be because of Him. "One person says God is this way, another says God is that way, but what did Jesus say? Good, Good Father helps you unlearn damaging things you have heard about God... the bridge "You are perfect in all of your ways, to us" personalizes (His goodness)." The result is a powerful song that many people relate to at a deep level.

Good, Good Father is impacting worship around the globe. It's already a classic and will continue to broaden our understanding of the depth of God's love for each of us each time we sing it. Both Tony Brown and Pat Barrett understand that their song carries a priceless message from God as He is worshiped through it. All of us relate to the message of a father's loves, some as sons and daughters, and some as fathers. As Chris Tomlin summarizes, songs like this don't come around very often.

Oh, I've heard a thousand stories
Of what they think You're like
But I've heard the tender whisper
Of love in the dead of night
And You tell me that You're pleased
And that I'm never alone

CHORUS:

You're a good good Father It's who You are, it's who You are, it's who You are And I'm loved by You It's who I am, it's who I am, it's who I am

Oh, and I've seen many searching For answers far and wide But I know we're all searching For answers only You provide 'Cause You know just what we need Before we say a word

CHORUS

Cause You are perfect in all of Your ways You are perfect in all of Your ways You are perfect in all of Your ways to us You are perfect in all of Your ways Oh, You are perfect in all of Your ways You are perfect in all of Your ways to us

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Oh, it's love so undeniable
I, I can hardly speak
Peace so unexplainable
I, I can hardly think
As You call me deeper still
As You call me deeper still
Into love, love, love

CHORUS (2X)

You're a good good Father You are perfect in all of Your ways You are perfect in all of Your ways You are perfect in all of Your ways

Editor's note: The original by Housefires featuring Pat Barrett can be seen at https://youtu.be/dirY eFDOwE

The award winning version recorded by Chris Tomlin can be heard at https://youtu.be/WLA4D9UFgr8

One of my favorite versions is by the group, Anthem Lights at https://youtu.be/-NhHzTq5wQQ

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



Thot for a day: You're never too old to learn something

stupid.