Lutheran Church LCMS

March 2006 Newsletter

"Communicating the Love of Jesus"



Traditional Worship: 8:00 a.m. Christian Growth Hour: 9:15 a.m. Contemporary Worship: 10:30 a.m.

Living Word Lutheran Church

Located on the West of Spicer on Cty Rd 10 in old Prairie Meadows building PO Box 242. New London, MN 56273

Phone: 320-796-0742

Website: www.livingwordlutheran.net

Questions for Pastor...



There's nothing wrong with Ouija boards is there?

Many young people get exposed to these things - and have for years. Are they harmless fun or things to stay away from? Depending on who you listen to you could get either answer.

Curiosity about supematural things is pretty natural. God has not only created us as physical beings, He has made us spiritual beings as well. There is a physical world that we can see, but the spiritual side of us also wants to know about the unseen spiritual world.

God's people in Old Testament times were no different. As the Israelites entered the land of Canaan they would be exposed to many occult practices like sorcery, witchcraft, fortune-telling. They would have a natural curiosity about these things, so God told them in advance how to respond: (Deuteronomy 18:9-15)

When you enter the land the Lord your God is giving you, do not learn to imitate the detestable ways of the nations there. [10] Let no one be found among you who sacrifices his son or daughter in the fire, who practices divination or sorcery, interprets omens, engages in witchcraft, [11] or casts spells, or who is a medium or spiritist or who consults the dead. [12] Anyone who does these things is detestable to the Lord, and because of these detestable practices the Lord your God will drive out those nations before you. [13] You must be blameless before the Lord your God.

[14] The nations you will dispossess listen to those who practice sorcery or divination. But as for you, the Lord your God pa<u>4</u>€ 3

has not permitted you to do so. [15] The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own brothers. You must listen to him.

The prophet God promised to raise up for us to listen to is Jesus. God is very clear that we should seek spiritual information and guidance only from Him. All the occult practices are "detestable" to Him. I'm pretty sure that if Ouija boards would have been around at the time, God would have included them in His list.

We would do well to learn a lesson from the people in Ephesus in Acts 19:18-19

(The apostles, just prior to this passage, demonstrated Jesus' power over Satan by driving an evil spirit out of a person.)

[18] Many of those who believed now came and openly confessed their evil deeds. [19] A number who had practiced sorcery brought their scrolls together and burned them publicly. When they calculated the value of the scrolls, the total came to fifty thousand drachmas. (About 4-5 million dollars in today's economy)

Those people now realized that Jesus was the most powerful supernatural force. As a result they were willing to throw away a literal fortune in occult books they had used in an effort to tap into Satan's power.

To sum it up, I think something we talked about recently in our Tuesday study is important to remember:

Satan is very powerful, but he can't force his way into your life. He is, however, ready and willing to "make himself at home" in your life if you give him an invitation. In fact he'll do all sorts of things to get you to issue an invitation.

I would definitely say that using a Ouija board (or any other way of trying to contact the spirit world for answers) is kind of like opening the door and putting out the "Welcome" mat inviting Satan to come into your life. Don't do it.

Thanks for asking, Pastor David

Send your questions to pastor@livingwordlutheran.net

Opportunities to "Share the Love of Jesus in Practical ways"...

Make A Meal

The only requirement is ability to cook a meal (or go out and buy one).

One of our most successful ways of sharing the love of Jesus is by bringing a meal to someone going through a tough time.

If you could take a turn making and delivering a meal once in awhile, please sign up on the "Make A Meal" sign up sheet or talk to "Make A Meal" coordinator Jack Kuppich or Pastor David

And please remember to tell Jack or Pastor David when you know of someone whose going through a tough time and could use a meal. Thanks!

Serve As An Usher

Hand out worship folders, collect the offering, usher people to communion.

It's not difficult at all, but we need people to help.

Bryson Wachter is scheduling ushers for both services for the coming year. Indicate which service and time of year you prefer to help. Thanks in advance!

8:0	O or	10:30	Season	of	the	year

Pray

This is something everyone can do.

We are updating our Prayer Force list. You will receive special requests for prayer via email or phone (you choose which).

My email				
My phone	#			_

Help Out With Children's Church Once A Month

The only pre-requisite is a love for Jesus and for His kids.
You read a Bible story or Object Lesson, say prayers and do
an activity that reinforces the lesson. Lessons are provided All
you do s show up and lead. Please talk to Violet Dauk if you
can help in this way. Thanks!-

Be an Alter Guild sub for 2 Sundays in Feb.

All that's needed is to "take down" after communion; clean and put away the communion ware. Please talk to Mona if you can help Feb 5 & 19.

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New Booklets...

New Booklets (a whole bunch of them) from Lutheran Hour Ministries

Check out this list. Find the booklets in our booklet display in front of the office. Take home the ones that relate to your situation

- Your Place in God's Plan
- Forgiveness is For Giving
- Stressed But Connected
- No Need to Fear
- For Better... For Worse
- Take Heart in Your Grief
- Raising Your Children With Respect
- Dealing with Depression
- So You Prayed for a Miracle...
- · How to Know What's Right and Do It
- What A Man Needs
- Break Free Finding Self-Control in an Addictive World
- Out of the Shadows
- Pornography and the Search for Intimacy
- THHPPPTT! And Other Practical Ways to Manage Anger
- Talking With God
- The Purpose of Living... The Purpose of Dying
- When in Doubt... Read the Book!

Look for these in our Project Connect booklet rack. Give one to a friend.

REMINDER:

Go to www.livingwordlutheran.net

Click on "Pastor's Notes" for Pastor David's comments on the daily Bible readings. You can add your own insights by clicking on "comments" below Pastor's comment

New Member Bios...

Second in a series of biographies of members we received on January 15. If you haven't met any of these new members yet, please introduce yourself and welcome them when you see them.



Lonny Robbin

Some background info to help us get to know you...
I grew up in the Hawick/New London area on a farm. I graduated from New London-Spicer High School. I have one sister and two brothers - one of whom is my twin. I now make my home in the New London area, and all my siblings and parents live nearby.

I work at Jennie-O-Turkey Store as a warehouse manager.
I've been there for 29 years.

What do you like to do in your free time...

I am a serious motorcycle rider. I enjoy yard work, playing pool, spending time with family and friends and going to auctions.

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What attracted you to Living Word...

I was raised and confirmed in the Methodist church, but it had been years since I had been to church until I met this very special girl (Wendy), and that's what attracted me to Living Word at first. But it's the power of His Word that keeps me coming here. Along with the congregation that helps me feel at home and I know they are there for me when I really need them.



Laurel Iverson

Jamie Iverson

Jamie:

Some background info to help us get to know you...

Born in Winona, Minnesota but has lived in the New London area since age 6. Graduated from NL-S in 1985 and went on to earn a BFA in Graphic Design from St. Cloud State University. Met his lovely wife Laurel while attending SCSU and they wed on Oct. 6th 1990. Worked in the embroidery and screen print field as an Art Directory for 14 years and earned numerous national awards for embroidery digitizing. Currently running our business - Art in the Village with Laurel for the past 3 years which has been a real adventure.

What do you like to do in your free time..

Free time activities include spending time with family, rollerblading, biking, reading, movies, computer graphics. I have had a long time interesting in aviation subjects,

especially WWII era aircraft, aviators and events.

What is a favorite Bible story and why...

My favorite Bible story is the Story of Daniel because it shows how God is never limited by predicaments. God is able to provide answers that we never could imagine.

What attracted you to Living Word...

I was attracted to Living Word through the people and because of the emphasis on Biblical truth and making sure the Gospel is heard and understood.

Laurel:

Some background info to help us get to know you...

I grew in Apple Valley, MN, but met Jamie at St.Cloud State. I moved back to the Twin Cities area after college. When we became engaged, he was going to find a position in Cities, but I was offered something in this area. I wasn't sure what life was going to be like, moving to a town the size of my high school, but liked it right away and after 15 years, it is definitely home. I enjoy raising our son, Phillip, here and running our business, Art in the Village in New London

What do you like to do in your free time...

I read a lot, go to the movies, spend time on the computer.
I wish I was one of those active, adventurous people that
do things like cliff rappelling for fun, but so far that hasn't
happened. I do enjoy inline-skating and some time ago did
a two-day 75 mile event rollerblading from Hinckley to
Duluth for the MS society.

What is a favorite Bible story and why...

Naturally, I have lots of favorites, however, the one that comes to mind is in I Samuel. In I Samuel 5, the Philistines have taken the Ark of the Covenant from the Israelites. The Philistines stored the Ark in one of their temples in front of one of their large idols. The next morning, the idol had fallen on its face before the Ark. The people propped the idol back up, but the next day, not only was the idol tipped over, but its head and hands were missing. After this, it says that God really came down on the Philistines and "smote them with tumors", (which in some translations, says, "hemorrhoids"), until the people freaked out and

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decided they better give the Ark back to Israel.

This might sound like a strange story to have as a favorite, but it has always had an impression on me for a number of reasons. First of all, I love the image of the power of God knocking that statue over. It reminds of the scene in "Indiana Jones" where God's power burns the swastika off the crate in which the Ark is being kept — only this is real. Also, I like how the story demonstrates that you don't mess around with God or His people, and that there are consequences for those who do. Lastly, the warnings that God sent as well as His choice of punishment (possibly hemorrhoids) tells me that God has a sense of humor, which makes Him more approachable to me, someone I'd like to get to know.

What attracted you to Living Word...

I had known a few people that have gone to Shepherd of the Hills for years and were very active in their church. As they were people that seemed to really walk the walk, this made an impression on me. I had been a regular at Assembly of God and other charismatic churches for many years, but had been looking for a new home church and had fallen out of the habit of regular church attendance. After getting to know Violet through art functions, I decided to give her church a try. Pastor David had such right-on sermons, with the especially important point of knowing Jesus as one's savior, that I not only felt at home at Living Word, but felt I was where God wanted me.

Check out the pink survey stakes...

What pink survey stakes?

The ones that mark the boundaries of the land we will be acquiring for Living Word. (7.3 acres we will be purchasing from Charlie Koch)

Where will I find them?

Along County Road 9 just north of the New London
Township hall (about 1 mile south of the intersection of
County Road 40 and County Road 9). Drive past and
envision the ministry that God will be doing there in the
future.... Then thank Him for His goodness in providing
this land for us.

March Living Word Lutheran Church - Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
8:00 - Traditional Worship 9:15 - Sunday School 9:15 - Bible Study "Personal Witnessing" 10:30 - Contemporary Worship	Feb 27 11:00 Warnen's Study "Living Free"	Feb 28 9:30 - Bible Study - Ephesians @ Agape' 6:30 - Women's Study "Breaking Free" @ Millers'	1 6:00 Meal 6:30 + All Stars 4 Jesus + 7-8th Confirm'n + 9 th Confirmation 7:30 Ash Wednesday Worship	2 6:00 Elders' Team	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
8:00 - Traditional Worship W Lord's Supper 9:15 - Sunday School 9:15 - Youth Study 9:15 - Bible Study "Personal Witnessing" 10:30 - Contemporary Worship w/ Lord's Supper	11:00 Warmen's Study "Living Free"	9:30 - Bible Study - Ephesians @ Agape' 6:30 - Women's Study "Breaking Free" @ Millers'	6:00 Meal 6:30 + All Stars 4 Jesus + 7-8th Confirm'n + 9" Confirmation 7:30 Lenten Worship (Ice cream after)	6:30 Women's Craft Night		
12	13	14	15	16	17	25
8:00 - Traditional Worship 9:15 - Sunday School 9:15 - Youth Study 9:15 - Bible Study "Personal Witnessing" 10:30 - Contemporary Worship	11:00 Warnen's Study	9:30 - Bible Study - Ephesians @ Agape' 6:30 - Women's Study "Breaking Free"	6:00 Meal 6:30 + All Stars 4 Jesus + 7-8th Confirm'n + 9 th Confirmation 7:30 Lenten Worship (Ice cream after)	6:00 Sunday School Teachers 7:00 - Mission & Ministry Team	83	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
8:00 - Traditional Worship W/ Lord's Supper 9:15 - Sunday School 9:15 - Youth Study - Battle Cry 9:15 - Adult / Parent Study "Battle Cry for a Generation" 10:30 - Contemporary Worship W/ Lord's Supper	11:00 Warnen's Study	9:30 - Bible Study - Ephesians @ Agape' 6:30 - Women's Study "Breaking Free"	6:00 Meal 6:30 + All Stars 4 Jesus + 7-8th Confirm'n + 9 th Confirmation 7:30 Lenten Worship (Ice cream after)		5	
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
8:00 - Traditional Worship 9:15 - Sunday School 9:15 - Youth Study - Battle Cry 9:15 - Adult / Parent Study "Battle Cry for a Generation" 10:30 - Contemporary Worship	11:00 Warmen's Study	9:30 - Bible Study - @ Agape 6:30 - Women's Study "Breaking Free"	6:00 Meal 6:30 + All Stars 4 Jesus + 7-8th Confirm'n + 9th Confirmation 7:30 Lenten Worship (Ice cream after)			

March 5-Minutes-a-day Devotional Readings

This Month's Readings: More "Bible Overview in 125 readings (plus Psalm & Proverb)

Remember, you can go to www.livingwordlutheran.net and click on "Pastor's Notes" to read His comments about the passages (click on "Comments" to add your own insights)

Feb 26	Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed
Feb 27	Romans 3:1-31
Feb 28	Romans 5:1-11
Mar 1	Psalm 103
Mar 2	Romans 7:14-25
Mar 3	Romans 8:1-39
Mar 4	Proverbs 15:1-10
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Mar 5	Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed
Mar 6	Romans 12:1-21
Mar 7	1 Cor 11:17-32
Mar 8	Psalm 107
Mar 9	1 Cor. 13:1-13
Mar 10	1 Cor 15:1-34
Mar 11	Proverbs 16:2-3
	Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed
Mar 13	1 Cor 15:51-58
Mar 14	2 Cor 5:11 - 6:2
Mar 15	Psalm 119:9-16
Mar 16	2 Cor 9:6-15
Mar 17	Galatians 5:13-26
Mar 18	Proverbs 16:16-21
Mar 10	Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed
Mar 21	Ephesians 2:1-22
Mar 22	Ephesians 4:22-5:7
Mar 23	Ephesians 6:10-20_
Mar 24	Philippians 3:1-4:19
Mar 25	Proverbs 17:13-17
CONTRACTOR OF STREET	out terminative confession in the
	Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed
Mar 27	Colossians 3:1-4:1
Mar 28	1 Thess 4:1-18
Mar 29	Psalm 119: 65-72
Mar 30	Hebrews 11:1-40
Mar 31	James 1:2-27
April 1	Proverbs 19:17-21

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"The Ministry Machine" is on the move.

What is the Ministry Machine... and where is it moving?

The Ministry Machine is the name we've given to Pastor's big old blue and white van - the one we use to haul youth to events and activities. (It may not be blue and



white for much longer - but it still will be big and old).

It's on the move on Sunday mornings. Youth director Ryan Block will be using it to pick up kids and youth who need rides to Sunday School and Sunday morning youth study.

Please call Ryan @ 354-2594 if you need to schedule a ride.



A Great Object lesson presented by Old St. Paddy.

A Minute for Parents...

TEACHING THE FAITH - PART 7

How do you "stay connected" to Jesus ?

If we want our children to grow up to be disciples of Jesus, we must be attached to Jesus ourselves. But how can you stay attached to Jesus? Here's where "the rubber meets the road" - some practical things you can do to stay connected and produce fruit in your home:

+ Connect to Jesus in daily Bible study. You can't be connected to someone unless you let them speak to you. God talks to you in his Word. God's power to grow the fruits of faith is in His Word. You must be "plugged in" to His Word to have that power flowing through you.

If your children witness you reading and studying your Bible daily, they will naturally develop the belief that God's Word is an important part of daily life. Of course, we should also make a daily practice of reading God's Word to and with them from the beginning. (2 Timothy 3:15)

- + Connect to Jesus in daily prayer. You also can't really be connected to someone unless you talk to them. Pray daily. Pray for God's Spirit to empower you to stay connected to Jesus and to let your actions match your words. Pray for opportunities to talk with your kids about faith issues. Pray specifically for the Holy Spirit to work in the lives of your kids to help them grow closer to Jesus. Pray for God to protect your children from the anti-Christian influences they will encounter from friends, television and movies, music and school.
- + Connect to Jesus in worship. You can't really be connected to someone without hanging out with them on a regular basis. What will your child learn about the importance of God if you skip worship to sleep in, or get a work project done, or go golfing or when you have company. What will your child learn about God if you go to worship even when you would love to sleep in, and even when you have lots of work to do, and even when there's a golf tournament Sunday morning, and even when you have company? As 2 Kings 17:41 reminded us, our kids will worship what we worship not what we give lip service to.

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The most important thing to remember in teaching the faith is STAY CONNECTED TO JESUS. The fruit-bearing details will naturally take care of themselves if you are connected to Jesus through daily prayer and Bible Study, weekly worship. Ask God for His help to do these.

Bible Wordsearch 🖔

Promises for Believers

Fit the words in the list into the diagram below reading forward, backward, up, down, diagonally, always in a straight line.

Puzzle #123

M Y S G N I S S E L B Y R H H
S T R O F M O C O C N T K O T
O D P I H S N O S Y W R M P H
A E N P E A C E T F O E F E G
S R C E D E F I R U R B T N I
S U G N I S N A E L C I I G L
U E U O A R S A N L L L R S T
R B R I E D F O G N A M E N G
A Y F T R V I O T E W P H R T
N C E A E I O U H S E A N G R
C R W V W C E L G S N R I I S
E E C L O T H I N G E D S F T
R M O A P O J O Y G R O W T H
A S T S E R V I S I O N A S V
C G L O R Y W I S D O M E M E

ABUNDANCE	INHERIT
ASSURANCE	JOY
BLESSINGS	LIBERTY
CARE	LIGHT
CLEANSING	LOVE
CLOTHING	MERCY
COMFORT	NAME
CROWN	PARDON
ETERNITY	PEACE
FRIENDS	POWER
FULLNESS	RENEWAL
GIFTS	REST
GLORY	REWARDS
GROWTH	SALVATION
GUIDANCE	SONSHIP
HEALING	STRENGTH
HOME	VICTORY
HOPE	VISION
WISDO	M

After you find all the hidden words the left over letters spell out a Bible verse reading from the top left to the bottom right

March Discipleship Verse...



Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.

Ephesians 6:11

Opportunities to Learn...

Battle Cry for a Generation

What do these statistics tell you?

Percent of Bible-believing Christians by generation

WWII Generation (Bom 1927 - 1945) 65% Baby Boomers(Bom 1946-1964) 35% Busters (Bom 1965-1983) 16% Millennials (Bom 1984 -) 4%

At the very least, these statistics should be alarming for those of us who are Christian. They should lead us to want to find out "why?" They should also lead us to want to find out "What can we do about this?"

Please come to one of the "Battle Cry for a Generation" studies starting in March to find out what "Why?" as well as what God is calling each of us to do about the situation.

Youth Study - Sunday Morning @ 9:15

beginning March 19

Sunday Adult & Parent Study @ 9:15

beginning March 19

"Satan's Lies - Jesus' Truth"

Each day you wake up, you are in a battle....

The battle is for your life - your soul....

The enemy is Satan....

His tactic in the battle is always the same: he lies...

Knowing the enemy's tactic only helps if you can recognize it. During the Wednesdays of Lent we will take a look at some of the lies Satan uses in an attempt to entice us into his camp. We will compare the sugar-coated lies with the truth of Jesus, so that next time we hear the lies, we won't get taken in by them.

Please join us to prepare for the battle at 7:30 p.m. each Wednesday during March.

Stay after for Ice Cream fellowship served by the Igniter's Youth. Donations go to the Youth Fund to help them with their events and ministry opportunities.

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Opportunities for Growth...

Daily Bible Readings - see "5-Minutes a day readings" page

Sunday School Classes: 3 years to 9th grade 9:15 10:15

Sunday Morning Adult Study: Sunday Morning Youth Study:

"Battle Cry for A Generation"

beginning March 19th

Women's Daytime Bible Study: "Living Free"

11:00 - noon Mondays

Women's Evening Bible Study: "BreakingFree"

6:30 p.m. Tuesday evenings

(a) Tammy Miller's, 202 Pine St SW, New London

Tuesday Prayer and Bible Study -9:30 @ Agape' Coffeehouse

Join us for a great time of fellowship and walking through books of the Bible. We begin a new study: "How to Live in the family of God" A study of Ephesians

Men's Group -

7:00 p.m. Tuesdays

All Stars 4 Jesus (4th - 6th Graders)

Wednesday -6:30 p.m.

Join us at 6:00 for a light supper followed at 6:30 by lots of fun growing closer to Jesus.

7-8th Graders: Confirmation classes -

6:30 p.m. Wednesday

We get to know God by reading His Diary (the Bible)

Join us at 6:00 for a light supper before we study at 6:30

9th Graders: 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays

We study at 6:30 how to become "Just Like Jesus"

Join us for a light supper at 6:00 before we study.

Lenten Services

Wednesday evenings @ 7:30

Confirmation & All Stars Parents:

Meal Makers... are needed for our March and April suppers. Sign up on the Sanctuary door. Thanks!

A Minute for Men...

Lessons From Bible Guys: Another Unnamed Guy

In the first chapter of the Gospel of Mark we read about a man who had leprosy. This could have been one of a number of chronic skin diseases that ranged from "nuisance" to "life-threatening". No matter what the severity one thing was certain: His disease rendered him "unclean" which meant that he was prevented him from entering the presence of God in the Temple.

A man with leprosy came to him and begged him on his knees, "If you are willing, you can make me clean." Mark 1:40

I think the man sets us a great example in what he asked for. Did you notice that he didn't ask for what we'd expect? He didn't ask to "be healed.." He asked to be "made clean."

In that simple request we see what was most important to him. It wasn't physical healing but spiritual healing. He wanted to be made clean and able to enter the presence of God more than he wanted to be healed. He had his priorities straight.

Lent is a great time to check your priorities. Who or what is more important than God in your life? Ask God for the power to re-arrange any misplaced priorities. Then ask him to do for you what he did for the man with leprosy. Ask Him to make you clean. Jesus died to make you clean - to forgive your sins and enable you to enter the presence of God eternally. That's great motivation to make Him number one priority in your life.

Confirmation Parents:

Meeting, Wednesday, March 8 @ 6:30p.m. (while the students work on their poster project)

It's important that all parents attend. Please call Pastor if you can't make it.

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Becoming Northern Lights



are being transformed..." -2 Cor. 3:18

An Outreach Resource Fair for You and Your Church from your Minnesota North District - LCMS

Don't miss this amazing opportunity for your congregation to be equipped for outreach!

- *Participation in 3 (of 25+) relevant workshops AND
- *Large group session with pastor, author & outreach encourager: Dr. Phil Bickel

Saturday, April 8th, 2006, 9:30am - 3:30pm Forestview Middle School, Baxter, MN

Take advantage of Early Bird registration - only \$20 - by March 1st; \$25 by March 20th.

Walk-ins are also welcome, but workshop options may be limited. Fee includes lunch.

Publicity and registration materials are out, so sign up TODAY! Call 218-829-1781 or 800-482-5022 to register now!