

Living Word Lutheran Church LCMS

February 2008 Newsletter
"Communicating the Love of Jesus"



Worship Hours:
Christian Growth Hour: 8:45 a.m.
Worship Service: 10:00 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

Question for Pastor...



What are your thoughts on this?

"This" is the email below and an accompanying response that challenged the email saying "God doesn't work that way. This isn't scriptural"

The Email:

It is written in the Bible (Galatians 6:7): *"Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."*
Here are some men and women who mocked God :

John Lennon (Singer):

Some years before, during his interview with an American Magazine, he said: "Christianity will end, it will disappear. I do not have to argue about that. I am certain. Jesus was ok, but his subjects were too simple. Today we are more famous than Him" (1966).
Lennon, after saying that the Beatles were more famous than Jesus Christ, was shot six times.

Tancredo Neves (President of Brazil):

During the Presidential campaign, he said if he got 500,000 votes from his party, not even God would remove him from Presidency. He got the votes, but he got sick a day before being made President, then he died.

Cazuza (Bi-sexual Brazilian composer, singer and poet): During A show in Canecio (Rio de Janeiro), while smoking his cigarette, he puffed out some smoke into the air and said: "God, that's for you." He died at the age of 32 of AIDS in a horrible manner.

The man who built the Titanic

After the construction of Titanic, a reporter asked him how safe the Titanic would be. With an ironic tone he said: "Not even God can sink it" The result: I think you all know what happened to the Titanic

Marilyn Monroe (Actress)

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She was visited by Billy Graham during a presentation of a show. He said the Spirit of God had sent him to preach to her. After hearing what the Preacher had to say, she said: "I don't need your Jesus". A week later, she was found dead in her apartment

Bon Scott (Singer)

The ex-vocalist of the AC/DC. On one of his 1979 songs he sang: "Don't stop me, I'm going down all the way, down the highway to hell". On the 19th of February 1980, Bon Scott was found dead, he had been choked by his own vomit.

Christine Hewitt (Jamaican Journalist and entertainer) said the Bible (Word of God) was the worst book ever written. In June 2006 she was found burnt beyond recognition in her motor vehicle .

Many more important people have forgotten that there is no other name that was given so much authority as the name of Jesus. Many have died, but only Jesus died and rose again, and he is still alive . "Jesus"

P.S: If it was a joke, you would have sent it to everyone. So are you going to have courage to send this?. I have done my part, Jesus said..... "If you are embarrassed about me, I will also be embarrassed about you before my father."

So, is there a scriptural basis for what is implied in that email - or not? Does God bring about the deaths of those who take Him lightly and mock Him- or not? Here's my answer:

The folks who wrote the original email are obviously disappointed by the absence of the fear of God in our society. They have good reason to be. There are countless passages in the Bible that talk about the need to fear God (to know that He is real and all-powerful and has the right to make and enforce rules). In fact the Bible says that *"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom."* But there really does seem to be a noticeable lack of the "fear of God today. It appears to me that the prevailing view of God in our society is something like this " God's like a 'buddy' who has the power to grant wishes, but who doesn't really care about what you do." That view of God is the unscriptural view.

The original email really is not out of line to suggest that God can "toast" folks who have no fear of Him and take Him lightly or mock Him. The Scriptures actually have quite a few examples of God doing just that - in the New Testament as well as the Old. (Acts 5:1-11 - Ananias and Sapphira; Acts 12:19-23 - Herod, Daniel 5 - Belshazzar-"the hand writing on the wall", 2 Samuel 6:6-7 - Uzzah, 1 Samuel 25:1-38 - Nabal, 1 Kings 22:18-38 - Ahab, 2 Kings 1:16-

17, - Ahaziah; 2 Kings 2:23-25 - youths who taunted Elijah; 2 Chronicles 26:16-21 - Uzziah; 2 Chronicles 35:20-24 - Josiah; Leviticus 10:1-2 - Aaron's sons; and more) These actually make some quite interesting reading and serve to drive home the point that many times God has directly stepped in and brought about a quick end to those who take Him lightly. Go ahead. Take some time to read those passages. They should bring back some of the fear of God.

However, the original email goes too far in suggesting that what God did in those passages is exactly what He did in the specific examples of the modern-day God-mockers listed in the email. We can't presume to know the mind of God in every situation. I'd say there may be a good chance that God chose to step in and directly bring about the demise of some of the folks mentioned, but we certainly can't say that for sure. What we can say for sure is that "sin always has consequences" and the ultimate consequence of sin is death. *"The wages of sin is death."*

On the flip side, the person who responded to the email by saying "God doesn't work that way." makes an excellent point of reminding us that God also deals with us on the basis of grace and patience. The Scriptures are literally filled with examples of God's grace and patience.

To sum up: Both the email and the person who challenged it make some good points. We need to have a healthy fear of God - He doesn't take sin lightly (Look what He had to do in order to offer us forgiveness for our sin.) Yet, God is also a God of grace. The thing He wants most is for us to come to our senses, repent, receive His grace and be forgiven. The key is to remember that "God sees the heart." (Something we can't see.) He always knows perfectly when grace is needed. He also knows perfectly when to bring the hammer down to remind people that He alone is God and can't be taken lightly.

It comes down to a fact we learn from Luther's catechism: *Sometimes* God deals with people on the basis of law (justice) and *sometimes* He deals with us on the basis of Gospel (grace). It's not an 'either-or' thing, it's a matter of which one is needed at the time. (And God always knows exactly what is needed in the eternal scheme of things). The result is, as Luther put it in the explanation of the Commandments: "We should fear *and* love God..."

Thanks for asking,
Pastor David

Send your questions to pastor@livingwordlutheran.net

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That for a day: Christians are like tea; their strength is drawn out by hot water.

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Upcoming Events...

This Sunday

- **Easter Planning Team**
Meet after worship to plan special Easter week services

THIS Wednesday, February 6

- **ALL STARS 4 JESUS (1-6th Grade)**
ICE SKATING from 6:30 to 7:15
(Hosted by the confirmation students)
- **Ash Wednesday Worship**
Beginning this Wednesday, Feb 6th @ 7:30 p.m.
**see page 16 for more information*

NEXT Sunday, February 10

- **Friendship Sunday / Secret Paul's Revealed**
The Men will be serving the Annual "Friendship Brunch" following worship. Secret Paul's prayer partners will be revealed during the brunch. **see page 16 for more information*

Thursday, February 14

- **"Grief-Follow Up" Info Session**
Janae Rambow will share personal experience with grief and her ideas for a congregational follow-up program to assist families when someone dies. She'll present this at the LWML meeting, but this would be a **great session for anyone who has ever wondered what to do after someone you know has lost a loved one.**

Friday, February 15

- **Flood Relief Project:**
We head to Rushford again to help with rebuilding homes damaged by last summer's floods. Please mark your calendar and plan to join us. You will be blessed as much as the people you will be helping! **see page 21 for more information*

Saturday, February 23

- **Progressive Supper**
The Progressive supper is always a fun event and great way to get to know some of the people in the church. We travel from home to home and eat one course of a meal at each place. **see page 23 for more information*

New Members...



Hi, my name is Lana Bjork. I live just south of Hawick where I work as a site manager for the Jennie O Turkey Store. I've been with Jennie O for eleven years.

I was born in Springfield, MN to Donald and (the late) Deloris Bjork. I grew up on a turkey farm near Hawick.

I have three children, Nicole, 20; Erica, 18 and Peter, 15. In my spare time I enjoy spending time with my family, baking, hunting, fishing, watching movies and going on vacations.

My favorite Bible passage is Acts 20:33-35 *"It is more blessed to give than to receive."* I like it, because my mom explained it to me as a child and it made a lasting impression on me.

God worked through my son Peter to attract me to Living Word. He was going through confirmation classes when he told me how happy it would make him if I would start going to church with him.



We are Charlie and Heather Carver. We both grew up in this area and were high school sweethearts at NL-S in the mid-80s. After high school we went our separate ways for many years but remained friends. After reconnecting only once a year during Christmas throughout the early and mid-

90s, we married on December 22, 1999. We have an old black lab/Husky mix dog named Shasta, and we are blessed to be surrounded by our family, all of whom live in the area. We have eight nieces and nephews, and we enjoy the role of Aunt and Uncle.

Charlie is a SCSU graduate with a degree in Microbiology. He began his career as a microbiologist at Land O' Lakes in Arden Hills. In 2003 he was recruited for a position at Eastman Chemical Company in Kingsport, Tennessee, where we lived for 2 1/2 years. We thoroughly enjoyed eastern Tennessee and our home there - a quintessential Tennessee log home on 10 wooded, very hilly acres with a Koi fish pond and six peacocks. In early 2006 Charlie accepted a position with EpiTopix, which is a subsidiary of

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Willmar Poultry Co, and we relocated back home.

I am a graduate of Concordia College in Moorhead, MN, with a degree in English Writing and Environmental Science. I began my career as a business analyst in the telecommunications industry and have worked for small telecom companies as well as MCI and AT&T in Washington, DC. I am currently working remotely from home for TEDS, Inc., a software firm located in Virginia.

Prior to moving to Tennessee, we were active in a small ELCA church in Vadnais Heights, but we never found a church home while we were in Tennessee. Upon returning home to Minnesota, it was very important for us to find a new church home. Although we were both members of Hope Presbyterian while growing up, we found that we really liked the Lutheran church, and so we focused our church search on Lutheran churches in the area. We were both immediately drawn to the friendly people and spirit filled atmosphere at LWLC, and we are very happy to have joined the LWLC family. We look forward to getting to know the members of the congregation better and contributing to the mission of this church.

E-Mail Humor...

There was a little old lady, who every morning, stepped onto her front porch, raised her arms to the sky, and shouted: "Praise The Lord!"

One day an atheist moved into the house next door. He became irritated at the little old lady. Every morning he'd step onto his front porch after her and yell: "There is No Lord!"

Time passed with the two of them carrying on this way every day.

One morning, in the middle of winter, the little old lady stepped onto her front porch and shouted: "Praise The Lord! Please Lord, I have no food and I am starving, provide for me, oh Lord!"

The next morning she stepped out onto her porch and there were two huge bags of groceries sitting there.

"Praise The Lord!" she cried out. "He has provided groceries for me!"

The atheist neighbor jumped out of the hedges and shouted: "There is No Lord; I bought those groceries

The little old lady threw her arms into the air and shouted: "Praise The Lord! He has provided groceries for me AND made the devil pay for them!"

Welcome! New Members!



Ways You've Seen God Shining Through Living Word...

On Charter Sunday (the 3rd Anniversary of Living Word) those in attendance had a chance to list ways they've seen the Light of Christ shining through Living Word or some of its members. Here's a list of the answers.

If you were not in attendance that day, please take one (or more) of the yellow stars from the usher's table and write on it the ways you've seen the Light of Christ shine through our congregation this past year.

- + Living Word revived my daily Bible reading and commitment to studying and living God's Word
- + Bible Study
- + God strengthened my faith through excellent Bible studies and services
- + The Today's Light Bible Reading Program
- + Learning about Jesus through Bible study
- + Getting closer with the youth by teaching
- + Encouraging young people to share their faith
- + Getting confirmed!
- + The people and 'outgoingness' of the church is unbelievable
- + While searching for a church home we found Living Word to be by far the most friendly and Spirit-filled church we attended
- + The Holy Spirit is very active in the church: When I thought something might not get done, the Holy Spirit laid it on someone's heart and it was done. (Not to give ourselves glory, but to give God glory by the things that are being done) Sometimes it may not fit our schedule or other things going on in everyday life, but the Spirit can intercede and do great things!
- + We had a tough time when a couple families moved away, but God pulled us together and made us even stronger spiritually.
- + Blessed through knowing members better
- + Becoming a member of Living Word
- + Meeting new friends through church
- + God's love is with me - the congregation's love shines through
- + Loving arms to help
- + The love of God
- + Joy
- + We have more people
- + A bigger congregation
- + Through the growth of the congregation
- + We've gotten more people over the year
- + Through the raising of funds for the new building and location
- + By allowing us to pay the final payment on the land for our new building

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That for a day: A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory.

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- + We have property!
- + The support from District both financially and in our new building
- + Children's church singing group
- + Anthony and Joe playing guitar and bass and Alyssa leading singing
- + Scott's faithfulness in leading worship music every week
- + God brought Susan back to us
- + Bringing me to St. Cloud, so I can return to worship here and renew fellowship
- + Sunday School
- + Our dedicated Sunday School teachers
- + Youth and chaperones who went to Orlando
- + God speaking through insights of youth, confirmation students and children
- + The Mexican Dinner - and how good the food was
- + Our trip to SE MN to help with flood relief
- + Servant projects
- + When we passed out batteries to the people of Spicer
- + Bryson's willingness to help with anything
- + I have seen God shining His light through Living Word's "Take-A-Meal" program
- + Coming together to worship in one service (3)
- + The coming together of the congregation as a family
- + Fellowship
- + Pushing forward in faith
- + Getting a new Lutheran Women's Missionary League group started (2)
- + All the people God led to help with VBS this past year
- + The dedication of our Mission and Ministry Team
- + The new faces that have come forward to serve on the MMT
- + Forgiveness for all
- + Forgiveness - helped me to put aside the ideas of revenge and turned it over to God
- + Prayers answered (2)
- + Praying for others
- + The Secret Paul program has adults praying for young people
- + Opportunity to witness at my business and meet Christians
- + Blessed through new hires at work
- + I have looked for a new church, but God kept me coming here. So I'm coming here!
- + The congregation in Browns Valley donating new hymnals.

THANK YOU

...TO THE OUR 2008 "POLAR PLUNGERS"

Bryson Wachter, Tammy Fuglie, Emily Fuglie



Very Important Guy Stuff...

The Elders and the Mission and Ministry Team of Living Word have been discussing the importance of having the men of the congregation involved in spiritual leadership.

God tells us, throughout the Bible from Genesis through Revelation, "Men you are the spiritual Leaders of your household, and you are the ones ultimately responsible to teach your children what God has done and be an example to the community."

Titus 2 says: "You must teach what is in accord with sound doctrine. Teach the **older men** to be temperate, worthy of respect, self controlled, and sound in faith in love and in endurance. Similarly, encourage the **young men** to be self-controlled. In everything set them an example by doing what is good. In your teaching show integrity, seriousness and soundness of speech that cannot be condemned, so that those who oppose you may be ashamed because they have nothing bad to say about us."

Benefits of assuming our role as spiritual leaders:

God commands it, (and whenever God gives a command, He always promises blessings for keeping it). Here are some of the spiritual and physical blessings:

Spiritually: In Hearing, and Teaching the Word of God we grow stronger in our own faith

Physically: We are created to do God's work (living in this world). The physical satisfaction we get from accomplishing work is natural, it's what we were created to do. There's an equal, if not greater, feeling of physical satisfaction when we accomplish some spiritual task, because that is also what we were created to do.

Revelations 1:3 "**Blessed is the one who read the words of this prophesy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near.**"

With these things in mind we have decided we need to begin providing opportunities for men to get more involved in learning and doing God's will. So.....

We will be starting

- 1) A men's study group and
- 2) A men's "Work Project Group"

giving us an opportunity to use our hands to serve the Lord by

helping others.

We've enclosed a survey card that you can bring back to church or mail - there's a stamp already on it. Please take a moment to ask God what He would have you do, then fill out the card.

Thanks in advance for your help.

Living Word Elders Team and Mission & Ministry Team

New Schedules...

February—March Scripture Readers

If you aren't able to serve on your Sunday, please call someone and switch with them. Thanks!

Feb 3	Kevin Welsh	796-6840
Feb 10	Jamie Iverson	354-4932
Feb 17	Linda Dilley	235-0235
Feb 24	Mark Fuglie	796-6975
March 2	Tammy Fuglie	796-6975
March 9	Lu Kiehm	979-0097
March 16	Allan Fuglie	796-6975
March 23	Janet Towner	444-0125
March 30	Tammy Wachter	796-6222

February—March Fellowship Servers

If you aren't able to serve on your Sunday, please call someone and switch with them. Thanks!







February 3	Tammy Fuglie	796-6975
February 10	Men Serve Brunch	
February 17	Mona Hjelle	354-4315
February 24	Stacy Olson	212-9647
March 2	Violet Dauk	220-0344
March 9	Lu Kiehm	979-0097
March 16	Tris Mische	354-9046
March 23	Youth Serve Easter Breakfast	
March 30	Linda Dilley	235-0235

Something to Think About...

"A building is certainly not a necessity in obeying the evangelism imperative, but appealing church facilities can increase a newly church person's comfort level in inviting others to church."

- Thom S. Rainer.

February 2008 - Living Word Church Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour Sunday School Adult Forum 10:00 Worship w/Lord's Supper 11:15 Fellowship 11:30 Easter Planning Team Mtg	4 Pastors' Conference @ Rural Montevideo	5 NOON Bible Study @ Geneva Olson's "Ecclesiastes" 	6 ASH WEDNESDAY Noon Study: Ephesians 4 6:30 Confirmation 6:30 All Stars 4 Jesus 6:30 Confirmation Parents 6:30-7:30 Soup Supper 7:30 Ash Wed. Worship	7 	8	9
10 - FRIENDSHIP SUNDAY / SECRET PAUL BRUNCH 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour Sunday School Adult Forum 10:00 Worship 11:15 FRIENDSHIP BRUNCH / SECRET PAUL'S REVEALED	11 	12 NOON Bible Study @ Geneva Olson's "Ecclesiastes"	13 Noon Study: Ephesians 4 6:30 Confirmation 6:30-7:30 Soup Supper 7:30 Lenten Worship	14 7:00 Grief-Response Program by Janae Rambow (LWML & Elders)	15 Flood Relief Service Project (Travel to Rushford)	16 Flood Relief Service Project (Today and tomorrow)
17 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour Sunday School Adult Forum 10:00 Worship w/Lord's Supper 11:15 Fellowship 11:30 Easter Worship Practice 6:00 Sr. High Bible Study	18	19 NOON Bible Study @ Geneva Olson's "Ecclesiastes"	20 Noon Study: Ephesians 6 6:30 Confirmation 6:30-7:30 Soup Supper 7:30 Lenten Worship	21 7:00 Mission & Ministry Team	22	23 Progressive Supper Starts @ 5:00 
24 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour Sunday School Adult Forum 10:00 Worship w/ Lord's Supper 11:15 Fellowship	25	26 NOON Bible Study @ Geneva Olson's "Ecclesiastes"	27 Noon Study: Ephesians (Summary) 6:30 Confirmation 6:30-7:30 Soup Supper 7:30 Lenten Worship 	28 	29	
March 2 8:45 Growing in Christ Hour Sunday School Adult Forum 10:00 Worship w/Lord's Supper 11:15 Fellowship 11:30 Easter Worship Practice	March 3 8:30 Circuit Pastors @ Living Word	March 4 NOON Bible Study @ Geneva Olson's "Ecclesiastes"	March 5 Noon Study: 6:30 Confirmation All Stars 4 Jesus Confirmation Parents 6:30-7:30 Soup Supper 7:30 Lenten Worship	March 6	March 7	March 8

February 15-Minutes-A-Day

TODAY'S LIGHT BIBLE READING PROGRAM: We finish the book of Numbers; read an Ash-Wednesday-like call to repentance from Joel; Song of Songs for Valentines; then travel into the Promised Land with Joshua (In parentheses are verses to focus on if you are short on time that day)

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

Feb 4 Numbers 22:1-25:18 (22:1-41) _____

Feb 5 Numbers 26:1-27:23 (27:15-23) _____

Feb 6 Numbers 28:1-30:16 (28:1-31) _____

Feb 7 Numbers 31:1-54 (31:1-8) _____

Feb 8 Numbers 32:1-34:29 (32:1-27) _____

Feb 9 Numbers 35:1-36:13 (35:9-34) _____

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

Feb 11 Joel 1:1-20 (1:1-12) _____

Feb 12 Joel 2:1-32 (2:12-32) _____

Feb 13 Joel 3:1-21 (3:16-21) _____

Feb 14 Song of Songs 1:1-3:11 (1:1-17) _____

Feb 15 Song of Songs 4:1-6:13 (4:1-16) _____

Feb 16 Song of Songs 7:1-8:14 (7:11-8:14) _____

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

Feb 18 Habakkuk 1:1-2:20 (2:1-20) _____

Feb 19 Habakkuk 3:1-19 (3:3-13, 17-19) _____

Today's Light Devotional Readings

Feb 20 Joshua 1:1-18 (1:1-9) _____

Feb 21 Joshua 2:1-3:17 (2:1-24) _____

Feb 22 Joshua 4:1-5:12 (4:1-24) _____

Feb 23 Joshua 5:13-7:26 (6:1-17) _____

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

Feb 25 Joshua 8:1-9:27 (9:1-27) _____

Feb 26 Joshua 10:1-43 (10:1-14) _____

Feb 27 Joshua 11:1-12:24 (12:7-24) _____

Feb 28 Joshua 13:1-15:63 (14:6-15) _____

Feb 29 Joshua 16:1-17:18 (17:7-18) _____

Mar 1 Joshua 18:1-19:51 (19:49-51) _____

Mar 2 Use the time today to worship and catch up on any readings you missed

Mar 3 Joshua 20:1-21:45 (21:1-45) _____

Mar 4 Joshua 22:1-34 (22:11-34) _____

Mar 5 Joshua 23:1-16 (23:1-11) _____

Mar 6 Joshua 24:1-33 (24:1-15) _____

Mar 7 Judges 1:1-36 (1:1-20) _____

Mar 8 Judges 2:1-23 (2:11-19) _____

Friendship Sunday...

FEBRUARY 10th

A great opportunity to invite some friends to come and meet the ultimate Friend: Jesus.

Special Events on Friendship Sunday:

- Worship service celebrating our Greatest Friend - Jesus
- Brunch after worship - prepared by men of the congregation
- **Secret Paul Prayer Partners will be revealed at the Brunch** (with special "Thank you's for all Secret Pauls and for the youth they prayed for).
- Opportunity to volunteer to be a "Secret Paul" this coming year (We will open up the program to young people who want to pray for someone too)

Mark your calendars and start praying about friends you can invite. (Special "Friendship Sunday" invitations will be available.)

Ash Wednesday...

Traditional Service of Ashes

The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday. Ashes symbolize our frailty, our mortality, humiliation and need for repentance before God (people in ancient times showed their repentance by putting on sackcloth and ashes). Ashes also suggest a need for cleansing by the blood of Christ and renewal by His Holy Spirit.

During our Ash Wednesday service, ashes will be applied to the foreheads of all worshipers in the form of a small cross. Please join us for our special service,

Wednesday, February 6 @ 7:30pm. (No, that isn't a 'typo'. Lent starts THIS WEEK. Easter is on March 23 this year.)

Please note...

The ladies of the LWML are planning to have a Garage Sale on April 26th. Please keep this in mind as you clean closets the basement and garage!

The proceeds will go towards the new church. Let's make it a big event!



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Take Time For Lent...

LENT TAKES TIME.

Wednesday night services we're suppose to attend;
Daily Bible study; Holy Week services, non-stop church.

LENT TAKES TIME.

Sorry, we don't have time! Wish we did!
Up early, on the go all day long;
Trying to keep up with all the demands;
Dead tired when we finally get home;
Lent? Out of sync with our busy times!



LENT TAKES TIME.

Time out from the busyness;
Time out from trying to stay on top of things;
Time out from being schedule driven;
Time to deny yourself, take up the cross and follow Jesus!

HE TOOK TIME!

Jesus didn't say, "Gotta go";
Jesus didn't say, "Catch you later";
Jesus didn't say, "How long will it take?"

HE TOOK TIME!

For you He fasted 40 days in the wilderness;
For you He walked the land, preaching, teaching;
For you He spent long hours in prayer;
For you Jesus took time on the cross, a time of hell so you can have eternity in heaven;

"DENY YOURSELF AND FOLLOW ME!"

Jesus, help me surrender my schedule to You. Holy Spirit, give me the courage to leave some things undone. Father, make me out of sync with this world and in sync with Yours. Teach me to number my days and apply my heart to wisdom. For Jesus' sake. Amen.

Please take time for Lent

We offer special services each Wednesday evening during the 6 weeks of Lent. In those six weeks we will have messages and skits teaching us to pray as Jesus taught His disciples - from the "Lord's Prayer." From 6:30-7:30 prior to the worship service the women of the LWML will serve soup suppers (Worship will be more informal and will last 40 minutes or less). It will be time well spent.

Thanks, Pastor David

Practical Ways to Love...

From "501 Practical Ways to Love Your Wife and Kids" and
"501 Practical Ways to Love Your Husband and Kids"

(Both are in our library. Check them out for lots more great ideas!)

Ways to Show Your Spouse You Love Them:

Husbands:

- + Call your wife in the middle of the day to ask her out for dinner and a movie.
- + Bring home some flowers - not just on Valentine's Day
- + Think of how you've hurt your wife with your words: Ask for forgiveness
- + Serve your wife breakfast in bed - make her feel like "Queen for a Day"

Wives:

- + Sit next to your husband in the car or truck - like you did when you were dating. (If you have bucket seats, then sit next to him on the couch and watch a movie together.)
- + Thank your husband (in front of the kids if they live at home) for something he did today
- + Plan a vacation - where *he* wants to go.
- + Write "I love you" on a post-it note where he'll see it (or text message him).

Husbands & Wives together:

- + Write down three or four things you love about your spouse. Then take time to share those with each other.
- + Get out the wedding album or watch the video together

Ways to Show Your Kids You Love them:

- + Send them a text message thanking them for something they did or said.
- + Next time you go to the store, bring back a surprise (a favorite snack, maybe)
- + Read them a favorite story
- + Tell them a favorite memory from when they were younger.
- + Tell them you are sorry when you acted impatiently with them.
- + If they don't live at home, call them up - for no special reason, just to say "Hi."
- + Fix a meal with their favorite foods
- + Ask them to help you with an important project around the house



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Building Committee...

Next meeting: Wed. Feb. 13 (after Lenten worship)

What to bring:

Your ideas of 3 possible layouts of the building interior (these should be drawn "to scale" - graph paper helps with that.)

Building parameters: Max. 6400 sq. ft.

(e.g. 64'x100', 80'x80', 70'x90')

Plan for the parking to be on the west and south sides of the building.

Today's Light Bible Readings...

Last week in worship the story of **Mary and Martha** reminded us that the "one thing needful" (the most important thing we can do as disciples) is to sit at Jesus' feet and learn from Him. For us that means attending worship and reading God's Word.

If you haven't done so yet, make a commitment to imitate Mary... "Sit at Jesus' feet by attending worship each week and by taking home a Today's Light Bible and starting to read the daily readings in it.

If you've been like Martha - "distracted by many things" - and have gotten away from weekly worship and your daily readings... Today would be a great time to set aside the distractions and make time for the "one thing needful."

GOD WILL GREATLY BLESS YOU FOR DOING THE "ONE THING NEEDFUL"!

(See this month's Today's Light daily readings elsewhere in the newsletter. We also have cards with the February daily readings. You'll find them on the ushers table at church.)

February Discipleship Verse...

Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: "Love your neighbor as yourself."



Matthew 22:37-39

LWML News & Notes...

Our Lutheran Women's Missionary League group at Living Word has been very active. We encourage all women of our congregation to join us for service to our Lord, and good fun and fellowship. We meet the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 P.M. Normally we meet at church, however this month we will meet at Violet Dauk's home.



Some of the activities that we are planning are:

We are currently working on an updated church cookbook, and will be putting out a box for recipes, in the church.

- Layettes: We will be doing this as a mission project. We will be making layettes at Lu's home on March 12th.
- Church Directory: Will be working on an updated church directory.
- We decided to have soup suppers before each Lenten service.
- We are planning a Rummage/Bake Sale on April 26th in the gymnasium.
- Our Mother-Daughter luncheon will be on May 17th.
- We are also planning on attending the Women of Faith (similar to Promise Keepers).

These activities are only a part of what we have planned. Please come and join us!

THANK YOU



...to everyone who came and had fun at our Annual Whist Night. We've decided not to wait a year for the next Whist Night. Watch for another one to be scheduled in the spring or early summer.

Special thanks to Pastor Dave and Violet for hosting the event.

Secret Pauls...

Remember to send the person you pray for a card inviting them to the Secret Paul "Unveiling" on Friendship Sunday (Feb 10).

We also need a Secret Paul Coordinator for the coming year. (Thanks to Violet Dauk and Gwen Anfinson for getting the program running!)

Service Project...



February 15th - 17th
(And Not Just For the Guys This Time)

Early in January five guys from Living Word (Kevin Welsh, Bryson Wachter, Allan Fuglie, Anthony Dauk and Pastor) had an "eye-opening" experience in SE Minnesota helping rebuild some of the flooded out homes. Nearly half the homes in the town of Rushford are still uninhabited. The people receive little or no money to fix their flood-damaged homes. (As one person told us, "You have a tornado take your house - you get a brand new house. You have a flood - you file bankruptcy.") The family that owns the house we worked on has been living in a shed since August and had no hot water until January. That's not an isolated incident.

In our "quick fix" society we tend to think that everything gets fixed as soon as the media quits reporting about the disaster. Nothing could be further from the truth in this case.



We have scheduled another service project for the weekend of February 15-17. This project is open to guys and gals who want to share the love of Jesus in a very practical way and can travel to Rushford Friday evening, February 15. We'll put up some sheetrock, and do some painting and staining on Saturday and Sunday (after worshiping in Rushford) and return home Sunday night. If someone can't stay for both days, we'll have one vehicle return home Saturday evening.

We'll be staying at "Camp St. Mark's (The basement of St. Mark's Lutheran in Rushford has been converted into a dormitory for workers.) Church members provide three meals each day. All you need to bring is a sleeping bag, towel and overnight "stuff".

Confirmation Parents...

Please Note Our Schedule During Lent:
Classes begin at 6:30 sharp.

Students will have a chance to eat at the Lenten Soup Supper from 7:15 until the start of worship at 7:30. (You will not need to provide meals during Lent; the women of the LWML will be serving the soup suppers).

P.S. Our parent meeting will be THIS Wednesday (Feb. 6) @ 6:30.

More Opportunities to Grow...

Wednesday Bible Study

Wednesdays @ NOON

At Living Word

"God's Intent for the Church - And Your Part in His Plan" A Study of the Book of Ephesians



Tuesday Noon Bible Study

at Geneva Olson's in New London

What Does Life Sometimes Seem "Meaningless"?

A Study of the Book of Ecclesiastes

Sometimes feel like life has no meaning? You're not alone. "Meaningless" is a term used no less than 37 times in the book of Ecclesiastes.

Join us as we take a look at what caused King Solomon to feel that way. And what you can do when you feel the same.

Sunday Morning Adult Study

Creation: Foundation for All we believe

- Continues in February

We'll learn about evidence for the Biblical account of creation - thing you never hear in the media that seems bent on convincing us of evolution.

Some specific things we'll cover:

- Did dinosaurs and humans co-exist?
 - + What evidence is there for a young earth (not billions of years old)?
 - + Is it illegal for Creation to be taught in public school?
 - + What was the world like in pre-flood times?
 - + Did God put the Gospel message in the stars?
- Please join us at 9:15 for coffee, baked goods and our study.

Senior High Study

Every other Sunday evening at 6:00

Parenting Young Children

Sunday Mornings while the kids are in Sunday School
If you are a parent of a child of pre-school age through 4th grade we'd like to invite you to a special class that meets during the Sunday School hour (9:15 - 10:15).

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for shaking knees is to kneel on them.

Text Box

Thot for a day: The best cu

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A Reminder...

Raise Funds for Living Word when you Search the web

Living Word Lutheran Church is registered on GoodSearch, (as seen in OPRAH Magazine, ABC News, The New York Times, Wall Street Journal, USA Today, and Fortune.) And receives a direct donation every time someone uses GoodSearch to search the Internet.

GoodSearch.com is a search engine that donates ad revenue, about a penny per search, to the charity its users designate. Use it just like any search engine, and it's powered by Yahoo!, so you get the same great results.

Just go to www.goodsearch.com and enter Living Word Lutheran Church, New London, MN as the organization you want to support. It costs you nothing: But last year we received 1.3 cents for each web search that designated Living Word. (You only designate once - it's automatic after that)

Download the GoodSearch toolbar -
<http://www.goodsearch.com/toolbars.aspx>

THANKS TO THE FOLKS WHO SIGNED UP LAST MONTH. WE DOUBLED OUR SEARCHES FROM THE MONTH BEFORE !

Progressive Supper 2008...

The Progressive supper is always a fun event and great way to get to know some of the people in the church. We travel from home to home and eat one course of a meal at each place. Hosts are still needed for three of the four courses:

- 1) Appetizers @ 5:00 @ Fuglie's
- 2) Soup/Salad @ Dauk's
- 3) Main Course @ Church
- 4) Dessert @ Pam Johnson's



(Since we finish at Pam's, if you'd like to car-pool to all the locations, meet at Pam's at 4:45 and leave your car there.) Talk to Donna Peterson if you can attend.



THANK YOU

...to Jason Miller for hosting the youth ice fishing event