

April 2017 Newsletter
"Communicating the Love of Jesus"
Worship Hours:
Christian Growth Hour: 9:00 a.m.
Worship Service: 10:00 a.m.

Living Word Lutheran Church

PO Box 242, New London, MN 56273

Located north of the New London Township Hall on Cty Rd 9 NE

Phone: 320-354-4637

Email: pastor@livingwordlutheran.net

Website: www.livingwordlutheran.net

What we aim to do:
Make disciples for Jesus - as we go, wherever we go.

What we aim to be:
A joyful, caring, Christ-centered family of God.

Question for Pastor...

Do our relatives who are in heaven watch over us ?

That's a great question and it came from one of our Sunday School students after we'd been talking about life in heaven.



I know I sometimes wonder if my father - a mechanic in his life on earth - pleads with God to put this reminder in my brain: "Righty-tighty; lefty-loosey" when I'm under a car 'playing' mechanic and (as invariably happens) turning a bolt/nut the wrong way. I picture dad reminding God, "Remember, that poor boy doesn't have a 'mechanical bone' in his body."

God's Word is clear about some really important things about heaven. We'll hear one of those things from Jesus in our upcoming Good Friday worship. He tells the repentant thief on the cross next to Him, "I tell you the truth, Today you will be with me in paradise." The spirits of those who die trusting in Jesus will immediately go to be with Him in heaven. Other passages assure us that our spirits will be reunited with our 'glorified, imperishable bodies' on the day Jesus returns to earth. That's a great comfort!

God's word also indicates that His powerful angels watch over us for the purpose of providing protection for us. It also teaches that our departed loved ones don't become angels. That's an idea that makes for interesting TV shows and greeting cards, but is contrary to the Bible. We were created human and will remain human for eternity. Angels were created as 'ministering spirits' and will also remain that for eternity.

On the other hand, some things are not so clear, like what the spirits of

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departed saints are able to do and know while in the presence of Jesus until He returns on that Last Day when He will create the new heaven and earth.

Hebrews 12:1 says, "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses ... let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us."

One interpretation of that passage is that those who have gone on before us in the faith are 'cheering us on' in our efforts to keep the faith. The implication is that God allows them at least glimpses of our lives and struggles on earth. Another interpretation of that passage is that these faithful departed are not 'witnesses' in the sense of watching us, but in the sense that their lives of faith serve as a witness / testimony to us. That interpretation suggests that our encouragement comes from the examples of 'keeping the faith' that our deceased loved ones set for us during the trials of their lives on earth.

Based on the context (particularly the content of Hebrews chapter 11), it seems to me that the second interpretation is likely the correct one - even though I like to imagine the first interpretation!

But there are indications (like in Revelation 6:9-10 and 8:3-4) that those who have died in the faith may be given glimpses of life on earth and are praying for us. Of those passages Martin Luther wrote "The angels in heaven pray for us, as does Christ himself. So do the saints on earth and perhaps also in heaven. It does not follow, though that we should invoke and adore the angels and saints." It is comforting to know they pray for us, but we must remember they can't answer our prayers - only God has the power to do that.

It's good to always keep in mind that heaven's main focus is Christ. Even if those in heaven see some of what happens here, they have no divine power to direct our lives. Only God has that, and He brings that powerful direction through His word and in answer to our prayers to Him.

The bottom line is that our real comfort comes, not from knowing that departed loved ones can see us, but rather from the fact that they can see Jesus. And maybe the best encouragement to 'keep the faith' comes from another fact: One day we will see Him... with them!

Thanks for asking
Pastor David

Send your questions to pastor@livingwordlutheran.net

Who Can You Invite?....

1. To the Easter Celebration for Kids - April 8 @ 10 am

Look for details on the Easter Celebration for Kids page.

2. Maundy Thursday Worship - April 13 @ 7 p

We'll look at what Jesus taught in the Upper Room "on the night He was betrayed." Then we'll share communion.

3. Good Friday - the Seven Last Words - April 14 - 7 pm

Easter is just another "feel-good" story without Good Friday.

We extinguish one candle for each of the seven last words Jesus spoke from the cross until all lights have been put out.

Join us to be reminded why we call such a dark day "Good."

4. Easter - We celebrate the Resurrection on April 16

- 6:33 a.m. Sunrise Worship - We begin outdoors watching the sun rise (6:33 is actual sunrise time), then move to the sanctuary to finish our celebration of the Greatest Event in History.
- 7:45 a.m. Easter Breakfast - served following Sunrise service
- 10:00 a.m. Communion Service - We again celebrate the Greatest Event in all of History at our regular worship time and share in communion as the Feast of Victory

Choir Notes...

Choir rehearses on April 30th.

Remember we sing the 1st Sunday of each month. All are welcome to join the choir. No auditions necessary



New Project Connect Booklet...

Comebacks:

How to get back up after life knocks you down

For those of us who have blown it or would like a 're-do,' comebacks are high on the agenda. Natural disasters, human crazies, financial perils, messed-up childhoods can all put us down on the mat - and keep us there if we let them. The good news is: getting knocked down doesn't have to mean getting knocked out. You can make a personal comeback. Grab this booklet and find out how God will get you 'back in the saddle.'



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Thot for a day: Enjoy the little things, for one day you may look back and realize they were the big things.

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Opportunities for Growth...

Daily Bible readings:

(See pages 10 & 11 in this Newsletter)

Sunday Morning Study - 9:00

We're digging deeper into some of our Key Chapter readings



Men's Study- Tuesdays @ 6:30

1 Peter: "Living in a world opposed to Christ and Christians"

Women's Study- Wednesdays @ 7:00 (after Lenten devotion)

Confirmation - Wednesdays @ 7:00 (after Lenten devotion)

3-6th Grade Group - still in need of adult leaders

H.S. Youth Study- Every other Sunday @ noon

Sunday School: 9:00 every Sunday morning

Possible New Daytime Study: Please talk to Pastor David if you would be interested in a morning or noon study during the week.

"What Does the LC-MS Believe?"

This serves as a Membership Course for those interested in finding out about membership at Living Word. Talk to Pastor for details. Thanks!

Living Word Directory...

NOW AVAILABLE Online.

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

April...

A Great Month To Use Our Make-A-Meal Program

One of the best (and simplest) ways to share Jesus' love is by making a meal for someone who is going through a tough time. Please use the Prayer and Care cards in the attendance pad at worship or call Pastor David or Meal Coordinator Linda Dilley if you know of someone who would appreciate a meal. Thanks! Our March Make-a-Meal volunteers are Linda Dilley & Violet Dauk

Get To Know Your...

...Elder's Team: This month we'll get to know Ed Vegdahl and Keith Hanson.



Ed Vegdahl

Family:

Edward is married to Ruth and they have 2 children (Sarah and Matthew) and 6 grandchildren. Sarah and her husband Sam Wellumson live in East Grand Forks with their four children. Matthew and his wife Lauren live in Savage with their two children.

Jobs / Career: Spent 6 years on active duty in the Air Force followed by 14 years in the reserves until retiring in 1995. I also spent 27 years with Control Data, Computing Devices, and General Dynamics (I didn't switch jobs the companies spun off or were acquired). I retired from General Dynamics in 2008. I then continued to work as a defense contractor until moving back to the New London / Spicer area in 2014. My current job is the hardest I've ever had: I am currently trying to keep my wife happy (full time).

What would you do if you didn't have to bring home a paycheck?

Spend a lot of time with my grandchildren and pursue my hobbies.

Hobbies / Favorite thing(s) to do:

Wood working, gardening, hunting and fishing.

Bible verse / passage God used in your life (and how did He use it)?

I am comforted in my assurance of salvation from John 3:16 where he assures me of God's love for me and states that through my belief in Jesus I have eternal life (present tense).

Your vision for Living Word: To continue to preach the truth about God's salvation while continuing to grow.

A Bible character that inspires you:

Thomas and his honesty. It is so real the way he stated that he needed to see the resurrected Jesus. To which Jesus provided his needs and removed his doubts.

Fun fact:

In my last two years in high school and my first year at Willmar State Junior College I worked as back up cook in a night club and then as the cook at the golf course in New London. I then transferred to Moorhead

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That for a day: Those with the best advice usually offer no advice.

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State College to pursue my dreams in Hotel/Motel & Restaurant Management. But God had different plans for my life. The year before I started going to Moorhead State, they offered a degree in Computer Science and I enrolled for those courses as well as my courses in Restaurant Management. After my first quarter, I found that computer science was what I was called to do. After my junior year I also joined the ROTC program across the river at NDSU. This caused me to spend an extra year at Moorhead State in which time I met the love of my life, and as you have heard it said 'the rest is history'.



Keith Hanson

Family: (including pets).

My wife Laurie and I have four children, four 'children-in-law', ten grandchildren. As for pets, we have lots of wildlife always showing up in our yard and on our deck.

Job/Career: I am a retired tire salesman.

What would you do if you didn't have to bring home a paycheck?

I am really blessed that I am retired and able to spend a lot of time with my wife, doing just as we please and spending lots of time with our children and grandchildren.

Hobbies / Favorite thing to do:

I love to spend time digging through re-purposing shops (and trying to get rid of the junk I've collected over the last 50 years).

Bible verse/ passage God used in your life (and how did He use it)?

"Teach your children in the way they should go, and they will not go from it." I kept coming back to this passage when I was helping Laurie raise our children. For example, when we would run into difficult times (like when they were teenagers) we'd pray and ask God to keep them on the right path.

Your vision for Living Word:

I see it continue to grow as God blesses the teaching of His true word to all the children and adults whose lives it touches every day.

A Bible character that inspires you:

Noah. His trust in God had to have been amazing to enable him to spend years building an ark while surrounded by people who likely poked lots of fun at him.

Fun fact:

I have been blessed to have had great-grandfathers on both sides of my family who started two different Lutheran churches in Minnesota.

Opportunities to Serve...

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

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

Help Out With the 3rd - 6th Grade Group

The kids are in need of an individual (or team of people) who can head up the 3-6th Graders' weekly group gathering. If you have a heart for helping kids have fun getting closer to Jesus and each other, please pray about this. Talk to Youth Team Director Lyndsay Ampe or Pastor David for more details. Thanks!

Be "Custodian of the Month"

You (or your whole family) can sign up to provide the necessary cleaning. A check-list of duties is posted by the mailboxes. Please consider being a part of this service. Talk to Trustee Jamie Iverson if you have questions or to volunteer yourself or your family. **Custodian still needed for April through December**

Read Scripture in Worship

Please talk to Pastor David if you can take a turn once every couple of months reading our New Testament and Old Testament Scriptures.

Serve After-Worship Fellowship Snack

We are looking for more folks to take a turn at serving snacks for fellowship time after worship.

Help With Our Nursery

We need a couple more volunteers to help with our during-worship nursery (2-4 year olds). Please talk to Mona Hjelle if you can help out.

Bring Food Shelf Items Every Second Sunday

The women of our LWML collect canned and dry goods the second Sunday of each month.

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. Last week we thanked God for **Spring!** Let Pastor know how you'd complete that sentence next week.



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That for a day: I was going to wear my camouflage shirt today, but I couldn't find it.

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Email Wisdom...

(From Mikey's Funnies)

- Words that soak into your ears are whispered...not yelled.
- Forgive your enemies; it messes up their heads.
- Do not corner something that you know is meaner than you.
- It don't take a very big person to carry a grudge.
- You can't unsay a cruel word.
- Every path has a few puddles.
- When you wallow with pigs, expect to get dirty.
- The best sermons are lived, not preached.
- Most of the stuff people worry about ain't never gonna happen anyway.
- Don't judge folks by their relatives.
- Remember that silence is sometimes the best answer.
- If you find yourself in a hole, the first thing to do is stop diggin'.
- The biggest troublemaker you'll probably ever have to deal with, watches you from the mirror every mornin'.
- Good judgment comes from experience, and a lotta that comes from bad judgment.
- Lettin' the cat outta the bag is a whole lot easier than puttin' it back in.
- If you get to thinkin' you're a person of some influence, try orderin' somebody else's dog around.

Please Remember to Pray At 11:09 Every day

(inspired by Luke 11:9: "So I say to you, Ask and it will be given to you; Seek and you will find; Knock and the door will be opened to you")

Remember to take a time-out to be "impudent" and PRAY for...

- Asking God to bring lots of kids to our Easter Celebration for Jesus
- Thanking God for all the kids in our church - and all we learn from them
- Thanking God for the Women's Retreat
- The God to bring lots of people to our Holy Week services
- Asking God to open hearts to the message of the Cross & Empty Tomb
- Thanking God for Spring and the new life reminding us of Jesus
- Protection and boldness in witness for all persecuted Christians
- The Spirit's guidance and angels protection for all our elected officials
- God to keep strengthening faith thru our daily Bible readings
- The mission and ministry of the Jastrams in Japan

April 2017 - Daily Devotionals

DAILY READING PROGRAM: We continue our '100 - or so - Key Chapters of the Bible' readings.

Just look for one main thing God has for you to learn in each reading, then write that down.

Apr 2 Use today to worship & catch up on readings you missed

Apr 3 1 Chronicles 29 _____

Apr 4 2 Chronicles 7 _____

Apr 5 Ezra 1 _____

Apr 6 Esther 3-4 _____

Apr 7 Job 38-41 _____

Apr 8 Job 42 _____

Apr 9 Use today to worship & catch up on readings you missed

Apr 10 John 1 _____

Apr 11 John 3 _____

Apr 12 John 11 _____

Apr 13 John 15 _____

Apr 14 John 17 _____

Apr 15 John 20 _____

Apr 16 Use today to celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ!

Apr 17 John 21 _____

Apr 18 Psalm 1 & 19 _____

Apr 19 Psalm 23 & 27 _____

Apr 20 Psalm 32 & 46 _____

Apr 21 Psalm 51 & 91 _____

Apr 22 Psalm 100 & 127 _____

Apr 23 Use today to worship & catch up on readings you missed

Apr 24 Psalm 139 & 145 _____

Apr 25 Proverbs 3 _____

Apr 26 Proverbs 31 _____

Apr 27 Ecclesiastes 3-4 _____

Apr 28 Isaiah 6 _____

Apr 29 Isaiah 52:13-53:12 _____

Apr 30 Use today to worship & catch up on readings you missed

May 1 Daniel 3 _____

May 2 Daniel 6 _____







May 3 Daniel 7 _____

May 4 Jonah 4 _____

May 5 Joel 2 _____

May 6 Haggai 1 _____

April 2017 - Living Word Church Calendar of Events

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|---|--|---|---|---|
| 2 9:00 ADULT STUDY - <i>Sunday School</i> 10:00 WORSHIP w/communion 11:15 Fellowship 11:30 Choir Practice noon Sunday School BOWLING | 3  | 4 6:00 LWML Packs College Care Pkgs 6:30 MEN'S STUDY 1 Peter | 5 5:30 SOUP SUPPER 6:30 LENT DEVOTION 7:00 -WOMEN'S STUDY 7:00 - CONFIRMATION | 6 | 7 Circuit Pastors @ Wood Lake | 8 10:00 EASTER CELEBRATION FOR KIDS |
| 9 PALM SUNDAY 9:00 ADULT STUDY - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 WORSHIP 11:15 Fellowship 11:30 Sunday School Mtg  | 10 | 11 | 12 10:00 LWML Planning | 13 MAUNDY  THURSDAY 7:00 MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP | 14  GOOD FRIDAY 7:00 GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP | 15 |
| 16 RESURRECTION SUNDAY 6:33 SONRISE WORSHIP 7:45 EASTER BREAKFAST 9:00 ADULT STUDY - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 EASTER WORSHIP w/communion | 17 | 18 5:30 ELDERS' TEAM 6:30 MEN'S STUDY: | 19 6:30 -WOMEN'S STUDY 6:30 - CONFIRMATION | 20 MISSION <i>Ministry</i> 6:30 MISSION & MINISTRY TEAM | 21 | 22 |
| 23 9:00 ADULT STUDY - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 WORSHIP w/ Emmett Hjelte baptism 11:15 Fellowship | 24  | 25 6:30 MEN'S STUDY: | 26 6:30 -WOMEN'S STUDY 6:30 - CONFIRMATION | 27 | 28  6:30 FFAA Night | 29 LWML Spring Rally @ Redeemer Willmar |
| 30 9:00 ADULT STUDY - SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 WORSHIP 11:15 Fellowship 11:30 CHOIR PRACTICE 11:30 Spring Voters Meeting 6:00 CARD FELLOWSHIP | May 1 | May 2 | May 3 6:30 -WOMEN'S STUDY 6:30 - CONFIRMATION | May 4 | May 5 | May 6 2:00 KNUTSON BABY SHOWER |

Sign up to have this newsletter sent directly to you by e-mail. Send your email address to:
newsletter@livingwordlutheran.net

Lord's Supper Dates

- Sunday, April 2nd
- Maundy Thursday—April 13th
- Sunday, April 16th

Upcoming Schedules...

Fellowship Servers

Apr 2 Violet Dauk / Laurel Iverson
 Apr 9 Linda Dilley / Bonnie Hansen
 Apr 16 Easter Breakfast
 Apr 23 Gwen Ruchti / Ruth Vegdahl
 Apr 30 Mike & Brooke Knutson
 May 7 Marcia Welsh / Pam Johnson
 May 14 Becky Sarsland / Mary Raddatz
 May 21 Nancy Jo Wendt & Tammy Fuglie
 May 28 Wendy Robbin / Alicia Sawatzky / Mary Lee Moore

Usher Schedule

Apr 2 Jason & Noah Miller
 Apr 9 Bo & George Arends-Schmidt
 Apr 16 Wendy & Lonny Robbin
 Apr 23 Brady & Andrew Sharp
 Apr 30 Linda Dilley & Davis Rustad
 May 7 Wally Abraham & Joe Johnson
 May 14 Mark Fuglie & Tim Geer
 May 21 Kevin Welsh & Jamie Iverson
 May 28 Duane Hansen & Chuck Weflen

Make A Meal Volunteers

Apr Linda Dilley & Violet Dauk
 May Bonnie Hansen

Altar Guild

Apr Nancy Jo Wendt
 May Mona Hjelle

Elders

Apr 2/9 Mark Fuglie & Jason Miller
 Apr 13 (Maundy Thursday) Kevin Welsh & Keith Hanson
 Apr 16/23 Ed Vegdahl & Mark Fuglie
 May 7/14 Jason Miller & Kevin Welsh
 May 21/28 Keith Hanson & Ed Vegdahl

Nursery (volunteers needed)

(Amanda Sharp - substitute helper)
 Apr 2 Carson Jaspersen & Ryland Engler
 Apr 9 Mona Hjelle & Lance Sawatzky
 Apr 16 Noah Miller & George Arends-Schmidt
 Apr 23 Davis Rustad & McCartney Knutson
 Apr 30 Andrew Sharp & Carson Jaspersen
 May 7 Ryland Engler & Mona Hjelle
 May 14 Lance Sawatzky & Noah Miller
 May 21 George Arends-Schmidt & Davis Rustad
 May 28 McCartney Knutson & Andrew Sharp

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That for a day: There are three ways to get something done: 1. Do it yourself 2. Hire someone 3. Forbid your kids to do it

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Accompanying Musicians

Apr 2 Pam Johnson
 Apr 8 Scott Wachter
 Apr 13 MT
 Apr 14 GF Sharon Willen
 Apr 16 Scott Wachter & Sharon Willen
 Apr 23 Scott Wachter
 Apr 30 Scott Wachter
 May 7 Sharon Willen
 May 14 Scott Wachter
 May 21 Pam Johnson
 May 28 Scott Wachter

Acolyte (little brothers & sisters can help)

Apr 2 Carson Jaspersen
 Apr 9 Noah Miller
 Apr 16 Davis Rustad
 Apr 23 Lance Sawatzky
 Apr 30 Andrew Sharp
 May 7 Gage Dahl
 May 14 Levi Miller
 May 21 Eli Sharp
 May 28 Alison Sarsland

Custodian

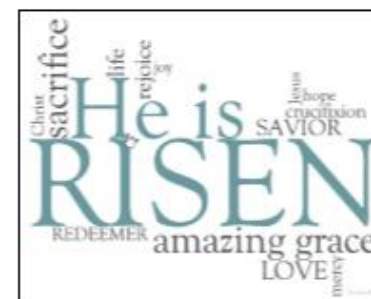
April Custodian needed
 May Custodian needed

Scripture Readers

Apr 2 Nykki Foshaug
 Apr 9 Mona Hjelle
 Apr 16 Kevin Welsh
 Apr 23 Ruth Vegdahl
 Apr 30 Laurel Iverson
 May 7 Tammy Wachter
 May 14 Wendy Robbin
 May 21 Linda Dilley
 May 28 Jason Miller

Confirmation Parent Helper

Apr 5 Arends-Schmidts
 Apr 8 Jaspersens
 Apr 13 Knutsons
 Apr 19 Millers
 Apr 26 Rustads
 May 3 Sawatzkys
 May 16 Sharps



April Discipleship Verse...



In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.
 1 Peter 1:3

Mark Your Calendars...

FFAA Night: Friday, March 31st
Recent FFAA Nights have included...

- + Court Whist cards (Dec)
- + Video and board games (Jan)
- + Bingo (Feb)

What will we think of next?! Come and find out on April 28th

Wednesday Lenten Devotions

April 5 is our final Wednesday Lenten Soup / Sandwich / Devotion.

We've looked at biblical examples of repentance. E.g. King David, King Manasseh, Kings Hezekiah & Josiah, Tax Collectors, Levi & Zacchaeus.

The final Wednesday devotion will focus on a very unexpected person. Join us this week to find out who it is!

- Supper served from 5:30 - 6:20
- The devotion from 6:30 - 7:00
- Classes and studies begin at 7:00

A HUGE 'Thank You' to all the folks who have provided soup/sandwiches!

Spring Voters' Assembly- April 30

Our Spring Voters' Assembly will be held after worship on April 30. The business of the Spring Assembly will be to elect officers to these positions:

Vice Chair
Director of Education - Sunday School
Congregational Outreach Director
Elders (2)
Treasurer

Miscellaneous Notes...

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 Bibles
- April Living Word newsletters
- April daily Bible readings
- April-June Portals of Prayer - daily devotionals
- Family Devotion Books
- Christian Magazines



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That for a day: You can't win them all, but you sure can lose them all.

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Spring: A Great Time for Direct Deposit Your Offerings

Bad winter weather may keep you away, but direct-deposit can ensure your offerings are still supporting our mission while you are away. Thrivent Financial sponsors Simply Giving, a direct-deposit program that you can set up to have offerings automatically transferred from your bank account to the Living Word's general fund. Please see Jason Miller for more details.



Sermons Now Available in Audio on our Website

<http://livingwordlutheran.net/sermons.htm>

(Or just click on "New Sermons Online" at the bottom of the livingwordlutheran.net home page)

Sermons from this past month:

- Feb 26 - "The real purpose for those 'Mountaintop Experiences.'"
- Mar 12 - "What's up with all these '40-day' things (like Lent)?"
- Mar 19 - "When God's Plans Make No Sense"
- Mar 26 - "Opposition is never fun, but here's why it is good."

Offering Envelopes Now Available for Those Who Want

In response to some requests, we now have offering envelopes available for those who want to use them. They are on the table by the mailbox. Please write down the identifying number of the box you picked up. You can begin using them right away.



NEW: Elders Available for Prayer After Worship

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

Easter Lilies Welcome

If you would like to provide Easter Lilies to decorate the sanctuary for Easter, just bring them to church. Thanks!



NEW 2017 Lutheran Island Camp brochures available

All Parents of students received one in your mailbox. Extras are available on the "Free Stuff" table. Scholarships are available to help with the cost. Just ask.

LWML News...

Help Us Pack College Student 'Care Packages'

The women of our LWML will be packing Spring packages for four college students April 4th. Bring items college students would like to receive. We will be meeting at 6:00 PM at church. This is so much fun to know that these college kids are hearing from their church family and get fun stuff too. Come and share in this special mission.

April 12th, 10:00 AM. Meet at church for LWML planning meeting. We will be finishing cleaning kitchen cupboards. Also come with ideas for the Mother-Daughter banquet. Can you believe it, soon it will be time to start getting pies made for the Music Feast. All women are welcome to attend. Come for a light lunch, prayer, and fellowship.

The LWML Zone Spring Rally is Saturday, April 29th.

Meeting will be at Redeemer Lutheran @ Willmar. Registration will start @ 11:30 AM. A noon luncheon will be served. Program starts @ 1:00PM. Watch for special flyer and items to bring to support Hope Pregnancy of Willmar. Call Leone 354-4665 if you want to attend and for rides.

LWML Has Started a 'Tough Times' Fund

If you know someone who is going through some temporary financial difficulty and would be blessed to get a gas card or grocery card to use for these expenses, please talk to Pastor David. If you would like to donate to the fund, please talk to LWML treasurer, Nancy Jo Wendt. Thanks!

We Prayed For You...

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

In 2016 we started a new prayer ministry where we send out a card or two each week to people we prayed for during worship. Nancy Jo Wendt is our card sender.

How you can help: Simply tell Nancy when you feel that someone you asked us to pray for would be greatly encouraged by getting a card. Then just call, email or text Nancy with that person's address. It truly is a simple way to brighten the spirits of someone who's going through a tough time.



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That for a day: They begin the evening news with 'Good Evening,' then proceed to tell you why it isn't.

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APRIL NEWS



Chasity Ommott, Director of Outreach & Volunteer Engagement • 320.354.5555 • outreach@youarethelink.org



Open House:

The Link and the Community Closet will be hosting an open house event to welcome the community on Friday, April 21st, 12pm-6pm and Saturday, April 22nd, 9am-1pm. Tour the facility, enjoy refreshments, drop off food, household items, clothing and or monetary donations!

RibFest Teams Needed:

Do you like impressing your guests in the summer with your delicious ribs? Do you receive a lot of compliments about your grilling abilities? Are you competitive? If you answered yes to any of those questions, then we need you! The Link is looking for rib teams to compete in this year's RibFest on Sunday, June 11th. This event is one of our biggest fundraisers of the year. Please contact Steve Maher at 320.905.1759.

Double Your Gift—Double Your Impact:

The Link currently has a matching grant from the Otto Bremer Trust. Donations to support The Link will be matched until we reach \$10,000. Donations can be sent to or dropped off at: The Link, PO Box 823, 206 Main St. North, New London, MN 56273 or donate online at youarethelink.org

Just the Basics:

The "Just the Basics" Distribution Event is still in need of congregations, community service organizations, businesses and community members to purchase and collect household and hygiene items. The distribution will be on Saturday, April 29th, 9am-10:30am at Cross Roads Community Church. Items still needed: tooth paste, feminine hygiene, spray cleaners, body soap and disinfectant wipes. Please contact Chasity or check our website at youarethelink.org if you are interested in making a donation, collecting an item or volunteering.

Our mission: Creating a community where neighbors share the love of God through service to each other.



"Just the Basics" Distribution Event 2016

Household Exchange & Food

Pantry Hours:

Monday: 9am-3pm
Tuesday: 12pm-6pm
Thursday: 9am-3pm

The Link Food Pantry:

Received 730 pounds of food donations in February!

Donations Needed:

Bread, cereal, canned fruits and vegetables, noodles and sauce, peanut butter, jelly, tuna; please contact Chasity at 354.5555 or stop in during hours of operation to make a donation of food.

Closed:

The Link will be closed on April 17th in observance of the Easter Monday Holiday.

Tuesday's Table

April 4th: NO Tuesday's Table at Our Lady of the Lakes Catholic Church

April 11th: Evangelical Covenant Church

April 18th: Faith Lutheran Church

April 25th: Peace Lutheran Church

Food, Friends, Fellowship.

Sunday School News...

Class: 9:00 - 9:50

April Curriculum: "A Love that Never Dies"

April 2 - "The Biggest Love of All" John 15:13

April 9 - "Jesus Lives" John 20:1-18

April 16 - EASTER SUNDAY - GROUP SUNDAY SCHOOL

NEW CURRICULUM "COOKING WITH JESUS"

April 23- S'mores - "Jesus Heals a Paralyzed Man" Luke 5:17-26

April 30- Popcorn - "A Blind Beggar Receives His Sight" Luke 18:35-43

May 7 - Trail Mix - "Temptation of Jesus" Luke 4:1-13

** SUNDAY SCHOOL FOOD PANTRY RESULTS **

We collected 117 Pounds for month of March !
(Our goal was 100 pounds)

Thank You to EVERYONE who brought food this past month !

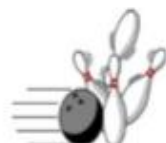
SUNDAY SCHOOL OUTING: APRIL 2

BOWLING at Alley on Ash (New London)

A free event for Sunday School students,
family & friends.

2 games of bowling, shoes, pizza & pop.

Please sign up in back of church. Thanks!



Email Inspiration...

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. Proverbs 3:5

In order to learn the mind of God, we have to face up to a sobering fact: Our own understanding is fundamentally flawed. The human mind is never dependable, and it cannot be given free reign to choose its own direction. Why? Because our knowledge is limited and our motives are not pure. In our original (sinful) condition, we do not desire above all else to glorify God at any cost. Even when we've come into a relationship with Him, our motives can be awfully mixed. We want His glory, but we want to seek our own good - in our own way - as well. We cannot be wise in this world without realizing we need the wisdom of Another. Desperately!

Think about it. Would you prefer to depend on the logic of a finite mind tainted with sinful motives? Or on the vast, intellectual resources of the Omniscient - the One who knows the fabric of our souls

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Thot for a day: Dear God: I have a problem. It's me.

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and holds the future in His hands? The answer ought to be clear. Yet, at a practical level, we are often ambivalent about the choice. In principle, we want God's wisdom. In practice, we follow our own.

We must continually make a conscious decision to forsake our own understanding and lean on God's. Crises confront us all the time. Use them as opportunities to drink in the wisdom of the Source of all wisdom.

Are you faced with a choice today? Make up your mind not to act until you have sought God's wisdom... diligently, persistently and patiently. Ask Him for it. Follow it, no matter how hard it is. Let His mind become yours.

From Walk with God by Chris Tiegreen

Easter Celebration for Kids

Ages 3 through Grade 5

Saturday, April 8th

10:00 am

At Living Word Lutheran Church

Easter Egg Hunt (weather permitting)

Games & Prizes

Crafts, Singing

Story Time, and more...

FREE

Pre-registration is encouraged.

Please call 354-4637 or Mona at 212-0069

Come Join Us!

Bring
a
Friend



E-mail Humor....

After a worship service at First Baptist Church in Newcastle, Kentucky, a mother with a fidgety seven-year-old boy told me how she finally got her son to sit still and be quiet.

About halfway through the sermon, she leaned over and whispered, "If you don't be quiet, Pastor Charlton is going to lose his place and will have to start his sermon all over again!" It worked

Story Behind The Song...

Glorious Day

The song "Glorious Day (Living He Loved Me)" - made famous by the contemporary Christian band Casting Crowns - is one of my favorites. The verses actually describe five different "glorious" days:

- Verse 1) The day Jesus was born - Christmas Day
- Verse 2) The day Jesus died - Good Friday
- Verse 3) The Resurrection & Ascension and
- Verse 4) The day Jesus returns.

The story behind the song as told by Michael Bleeker:

Easter was approaching, and I was having a difficult time finding good Easter songs to sing. As a worship pastor, that can be very disheartening. So I did what any God-fearing worship pastor would do: I Googled "Easter Worship Songs." I browsed around trying to find the right song when my eye caught the word "Hymnal."

I walked over to my stack of hymnals and pulled out the 1939 copy of "The Hymns of Praise- Numbers One and Two Combined" from a church in Kenosha, Wisconsin (I don't know how it got to my bookshelf). I flipped through the yellowed pages and found "One Day." As I carefully pulled back page 172, I read:

*Living, He loved me; dying He saved me;
Buried, He carried my sins far away;
Rising, He justified freely forever;
One day He's coming - oh glorious day!*

I'm grateful for the Presbyterian evangelist Rev. John Wilbur Chapman and his hymn from the late 1800s. From combining his words with a melody the Lord gave me in five minutes, came "Glorious Day." I pray that it be used to teach the gospel and stir the affections of others for Jesus Christ. - Michael Bleeker (© 2012 The Village Church)

One day when heaven is filled with His praises
One day when sin was as black as could be
Jesus came forth to be born of a virgin
Dwelt among men my example is He
Word became flesh and the light shined among us His glory revealed

Chorus: Living He loved me, Dying he saved me
Buried He carried my sins far away
Rising He justified freely forever
One day He's coming, oh glorious day, oh glorious day

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That for a day: After all is said and done, too often a lot more is said than done.

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One day they led him up Calvary's mountain
One day they nailed Him to die on a tree
Suffering anguish despised and rejected
Bearing our sins my Redeemer is He
Hands that healed nations, stretched out on a tree,
and took the nails for me

One day the grave could conceal him no longer
One day the stone rolled away from the door
Then he arose over death he had conquered
Now has ascended my Lord ever more
Death could not hold Him the grave could not keep Him
From rising again (rising again)

One day the trumpet will sound for His coming
One day the skies with his glory will shine
Wonderful day my beloved ones bringing
My savior Jesus is mine

Editor's note: Watch a live "unplugged" version by Casting Crowns at <https://youtu.be/lqA8z9ppmcI>

