

July 2020 Newsletter "Communicating the Love of Jesus"

Remember our Summer Hours: Worship Service: 9:00 a.m.

# Living Word Lutheran Church

PO Box 242, New London, MN 56273

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

Phone: 320-354-4637

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

# Question for Pastor...

"What is 'Apologetics'?"

I was asked this question a couple of times this past month. It's a term you may have heard a lot recently as something that's very important for Christians.

Unfortunately, it's a confusing term, because when we hear it we automatically think of another word we are familiar with: "apologize." Then we think "Why should I apologize for believing in Jesus? That makes no sense."

"Apologetics" is actually the opposite of "apologizing."

Apologetics is the practice of defending your faith in Jesus. Peter defines it well in 1 Peter 3:15 "Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have."

In our world today there are countless things people put their faith in.

Not only that, but "atheism" (the belief that there is no god) is becoming increasingly popular. As a result, the ability to "give reason for the hope we have" may be more important for Christians now than it ever has been.

Most of us have grown up knowing that, as Peter said in Acts 4:12, "Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven, given among men by which we must be saved." It's no longer enough to simply tell people- including our kids- that Jesus is the only way to eternal life. We need to be able to tell "why" Jesus is the only way.

Here's an example of "apologetics" that I used in a recent sermon: "Of all the things and people you can put your faith in, Jesus is the only one who dealt honestly with our sin problem. Others typically pretend that sin is something that doesn't exist or isn't that big of a deal. Or they teach that we can successfully cover it up by doing good things. Only Jesus treats sin as what it is, something that unless it is removed, will naturally keep us out of the presence of our sinless God for eternity."

I described it this way using some terms we are all too familiar with: "We deserve to be quarantined from our Sinless God for eternity, because every single one of us has tested positive for Sin! But Jesus, the very Son

# Page 3

of God, took our Sin-sickness on Himself - AND DIED as a result of itso that we could have the cure: Forgiveness. Forgiveness is the "antibody" that gets rid of the sin, so we no longer have to face being quarantined from our sinless God. Rather, we can look forward to spending eternity with Him!

Of course, this gift of God's Forgiveness is like any other gift, it needs to be opened in order for us to benefit from it. Faith in Jesus (the One who bought the gift) is what "opens" that gift, so we personally receive it!"

Thank God He loves you so much He would rather die than live quarantined from you forever!

> Thanks for Asking, Pastor David

Send your questions to pastor@livingwordlutheran.net



# Thank God For...

You've seen our sign board out by the road with the beginning of a sentence: "Thank God For..." Each week we'd like to change the ending of that sen-

tence to encourage people who drive past to remember that God is the giver of all good things - especially things we take for granted. This past month we thanked God for:

- Sunday Worship Inside Church 9:00 A.M.
- Jesus Dying to Set Us Free From Our Sin

Let Pastor know how you'd complete that sentence during July.

# Communion Notes...

The Lord's Supper will be celebrated on the First and Third Sundays in July. (July 5th & 19th)

### NEW 'SOCIAL DISTANCING' COMMUNION PROCEDURE:

Everyone will remain in their seat for communion. After consecrating the elements, Pastor and the Elders will distribute a sealed packet of both wafer and grape juice to each communicant. After everyone has received their packet, we will all open them and partake of communion at the same time. Pastor will then give the communion dismissal to everyone. (Please continue to pray for an end to the restrictions so we can come to the altar rail for the Lord's Supper again soon!)

# Congregational Outreach....

...AKA "Fun Stuff"

### STINGERS' GAME & PICNIC

Date: TBA

Picnic begins at 12:05 (Game @ 1:05)

Includes:

+ Reserved-Seat Game Ticket

+ All-you-can-eat Ballpark Buffet

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

### HEMKER ZOO- Freeport, MN

- Saturday, July 25
- Cost \$11.50



Bible

### REMINDER:

Worship time through Labor Day Weekend (Sept 6th) will remain at 9:00 a.m.

# Opportunities for Growth...

Wednesday Prayer Time-Will return in September

Wednesday Evening Women's Study: Is on "Summer Break"

Monthly Morning Women's Study: Is on "Summer Break"





Meets Wednesdays @ 6:00p.m July 8 (Study for Final Test) July 29 (Take Final Test)

Men's Group Study-Tuesdays @ 6:30

Tuesday Evenings @ 6:30 Who can you invite to join you



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You survived June. Welcome to

### Green Lake Cruise Photos... Page 5











Congratulations! day: 0

# Who Can You Invite?...

### **OUR "CHURCH REC" NIGHTS**

Wednesdays, July 8th & 22nd 6:30 - 7:30

The School isn't having "Community Rec" right now, so we decided to attempt to partially fill the void with what we are calling "Church Rec." The 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday evenings we will have all sorts of recreation activities for all ages. Volleyball, kickball, horseshoes, foosball, chalk drawings on the parking lot, bean bag toss, and whatever game you want to bring/play.

### MOVIE NIGHT - AFTER "CHURCH REC"

You can watch movies at church!

Marcia will be showing movies (with popcorn) starting at 7:45 on "Church Rec" Nights. The movie will be projected onto the front wall inside the building. Bring a blanket or lawn chair or just watch from a pew!

### **BIG KAHUNA???**

Marcia has arranged for us to have a Night at the Big Kahuna in Spicer. We need to have a minimum of 20 people attend, so please talk to or text Marcia (320) 220-0803 if you'd like to go to the Big Kahuna. We will go on a Monday evening and the cost will be \$22 for ages 9 and up. \$18 for ages 8 and under.

### TRAP SHOOTING

Every 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays in June, July & August 6:30 - 8:00 AND Saturday, August 1 @ 1:00 p.m.

# Veteran's-Build Applications Now Being Accepted

Habitat for Humanity of West Central Minnesota is seeking applicants for our upcoming Veteran's Build which will be designated for a local military individual or family. (We are seeking a veteran, active military member or surviving spouse.) Persons interested in Habitat's Home-ownership Program may apply now through August 14,



Applications can be picked up in the Habitat office located at: 2424 1st St S. in Willmar, (Office hours: Tues - Frid 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.)

Or we can mail you an application by calling 320-231-2704 or toll free

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# July "Movie Night" Movies...



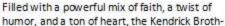
Join us on the the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays at 7:45 for Living Word Lutheran Movie Night.

July 8: "OVERCOMER"

Life changes overnight for coach John Harrison when his high school basketball team's state championship dreams are crushed under the weight

funexpected =

news. When the largest manufacturing plant in town suddenly shuts down and hundreds of families begin moving away, John must come to grips with the challenges facing his family and his team. Urged by the school's principal to fill-in and coach a sport he doesn't know or like, John is frustrated and questioning his worth... until he crosses paths with a student struggling with her own journey.



OVERCOMER

ers return with OVERCOMER, their newest feature following FACING THE GIANTS, FIREPROOF, COURAGEOUS, and the #1 box-office hit, WAR ROOM.

# soul surfer

### July 22: "SOUL SURFER"

Soul Surfer (2011) is the inspiring true story of teen surfer Bethany Hamilton, who lost her arm in a shark attack and courageously overcame all odds to become a champion again, through her sheer determination and unwavering faith. The film features an all-star cast, including Anna Sophia Robb and Helen Hunt, with Carrie Underwood in her film debut, and Dennis Quaid. In the wake of this life-changing event that took her arm and nearly her life, Bethany's feisty determination and steadfast beliefs spur her toward an ad-

venturous comeback that gives her the grit to turn her loss into a gift for others.

That for a day: I was what



# The Link...

### June 2020 Updates

In May, The Food Pantry welcomed 4 new families and distributed about 3,000 pounds of food. The

Link volunteers and staff rescued 1344 pounds of food from Cash Wise and ALDI and took in almost 800 pounds of food from donations. It was wonderful to see the rescued food go to good use and not be wasted and The Link is thankful for the opportunity to pick up from Cash Wise 1-2 times a week.

The Wildcat Backpack Program is officially done for the school year, but families are now participating in the Summer Pack Program. If you know any families that could benefit from getting a little extra during the tough summer months the kids aren't in school, have them contact us at The Link and we can get them signed up.

Senior Food Delivery- The Senior Food Delivery Program is getting busier as word spreads to seniors in need. There are many thankful seniors who have been isolated at home during the COVID crisis. Not only have they loved the groceries, but the visits as well. If you are interested in delivering or if you know a senior family (or a family that has a difficult time getting out and about), please call Ashley at 320-354-5555.

The Link's Client Outreach program served 8 families in the month of May from helping with medical bills and car repairs to utilities and rent. This has been a tough time for a lot of families and the help given alleviated a lot of the unneeded extra stress. So, THANK YOU to all of The Link's Donors for making it possible to help families in need.

RIBFEST POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE- A new date for Ribfest is being discussed and will be finalized soon. Stay tuned for more information.

COMMUNITY CLOSET AND REVIVE AND REDEEM ARE NOW OPEN FOR BUSINESS! After much consideration, The Community Goset and Revive and Redeem are now open Thursdays and Fridays from 10 -2 and Saturday's from 9-1. There are a few rules in place to keep shoppers safe. Masks are optional, the fitting room and bathrooms are closed for public use and there are 4-5 shoppers allowed in the store at one time.

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Donations for The Community Closet and Revive and Redeem are now being accepted as well. To ensure someone is available to take your items, please call ahead of time or bring donations in between 12-5pm on Wednesdays.

And remember.....

YOU are The Link.

### Tuesday's Table:

Tuesday's Table continues to be cancelled until further notice.

### Monthly Giving Opportunities:

The Link makes monthly giving a convenient option for our donors. You can set up online giving through The Link's website at <a href="https://www.youarethelink.org">www.youarethelink.org</a> or directly through your bank. If you would like to make a one time donation, you can send a check to P.O. Box 823, New London, MN 56273 or via Venmo @The-Link-1. Please contact Ashley at 320-354-5555 or email her at <a href="mailto:ashley@youarethelink.org">ashley@youarethelink.org</a> for more information.



# Spring Voters Assembly...

On June 28th after worship, these officers were elected to the following Mission and Ministry Team positions:

- Chairman- Brady Sharp
- Secretary Angie Jaspersen
- Trustee Steve Wulf
- Community Outreach Tammy Miller
- Education Youth Carmen & Mike Mack
- Elders' Team Keith Hanson, Jason Miller, Ed Vegdahl

Please thank them for their willingness to serve us, and thank God for them!

# Email Humor...

One Liner: I keep adjusting the brightness control on my TV, but it's still as stupid as ever!

Two dty boys were on their first camping trip. The mosquitoes were so fierce the boys had to hide under their blankets to keep from being devoured.



When they saw some lightning bugs, one boy said to the other: "We might as well give up, they're coming at us with flashlights!"

# Email Wisdom...

The following is an excerpt of "Reflections on Plagues from the Days of Moses" by Jews for Jesus Exec. Director David Brickner. You can read the full article at: <a href="https://iewsforjesus.org/publications/newsletter/newsletter-jun-2020/reflections-on-plagues-from-the-days-of-moses">https://iewsforjesus.org/publications/newsletter/newsletter-jun-2020/reflections-on-plagues-from-the-days-of-moses</a>

The last few months have changed our world. We will continue learning the lessons of COVID-19 for years to come, and the loss of life makes the lessons costly indeed. We should never minimize that loss. But neither should we minimize opportunities to see how God has used and can still use bad situations for good..

Moses led the children of Israel through numerous outbreaks, and the lessons are as relevant now as they were back then.

God can use plagues to get our attention

God's mandate to Moses at the burning bush was to go to Pharaoh and tell him, "Let my people go" (Exodus 5:1). He even gave Moses three signs that should have persuaded Pharaoh: his staff turned into a serpent, his hand became leprous then clean, and the Nile River water turned to blood when poured out on the ground. But Pharaoh would not relent. So, God sent plagues as further opportunities for Pharaoh to heed God.

Many of these plagues demonstrated God's power over Egypt's supposed gods. Egyptians worshiped Hapi as god of the Nile River and provider of the annual flooding that was essential for farming. At Moses' command, the Nile turned to blood. Ra, the Egyptian sun god, was supposedly the king of gods and the patron god of Pharaoh himself. At Moses' command, the sun was darkened. If only Pharaoh had listened Page 10

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to Moses and to the Lord as nine plagues were unleashed across the land. Sadly, it was the 10th plague, the death of all firstborn sons, that finally got his attention and persuaded him to let Israel go.

I will never forget that scene from the movie "The 10 Commandments," when Pharaoh, played by Yul Brynner, exclaims in amazement, "Moses' god is God."

I do not assume or even suggest that God brought about COVID-19, but we certainly have seen Him use this plague to get people's attention. Many individuals that our Jews for Jesus missionaries have been reaching out to for a long time – people who previously had no time or interest to hear – suddenly were eager to hear from us. Some even took this occasion to begin a walk of faith in Jesus.

God can use plagues to point to redemption

We see that dearly through Passover, but I am also thinking of the time when Israel rebelled against Moses and against the Lord and, "So the Lord sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and many of the people of Israel died" (Numbers 21:6).

How terrifying! But as a result, the people confessed their sin and asked Moses to intercede for them in prayer. As Moses prayed, God told him to replicate a fiery serpent out of bronze, lift it up on a pole, and tell the Israelites to look at it. Anyone who had been bitten could look up at the bronze serpent and live.

Yeshua (Jesus) points back to this event as a powerful picture of the redemption God offers: "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:14–15).

The bronze serpent is what some refer to as "a type" of Christ. Jesus was lifted up on that cruel cross; He took the plague of sin on Himself, "becoming sin" so that we can be forgiven and spend eternity with the Lord.

Many people were terrified of the coronavirus and asked us to pray for them. Our missionaries had so many opportunities to explain on the phone and online about the plague that kills not only the body but also the soul, and how God sent Yeshua to rescue and heal us.

This year's novel virus is a reminder of the not-so-novel virus of sin—and Yeshua's sacrificial cure. God can turn this historic event into a fresh opportunity to make His peace truly contagious through our gospel witness. What if COVID-19 became the catalyst for revival—a new and fruitful zeal for the Lord and His kingdom? That's my prayer for myself, for Jews for Jesus, and for all my brothers and sisters in Christ.

# July 2020 - Daily Readings

We begin with Galatians the book of "Freedom," We finish the month reading from NT books written to help us Persevere in the true faith against attacks from outside the Church as well as false teachings coming from inside the Church.

Pastor David makes audio recordings of each day's readings (and summarizes some main points at the end of each reading). You can find them on the Readings page on our website.

3	0 Galatians 2
1	Galatians 3
2	Galatians 4
3	Galatians5
4	Galatians 6
	Week of July 5
6	1 Peter 1
7	1 Peter 2
8	1 Peter 3
9	1 Peter 4
10	1 Peter 5
	Jude

If you prefer to listen to the recorded version of the daily readings, visit our website.

July 13	2 Peter 1
July 14	2 Peter 2
July 15	2 Peter 3
July 16	Habakkuk 1
July 17	Habakkuk 2
July 18	Habakkuk 3
	Week of July 19
July 20	Colossians 1
July 21	Colossians 2
July 22	Colossians 3 - 4
July 23	2 Timothy 1
July 24	2 Timothy 2
July 25	2 Timothy 3-4
	Week of July 26
July 27	Titus 1
July 28	Titus 2
July 29	Titus 3
July 30	Malachi 1
July 31	Malachi 2
Aug 2	Malachi 3-4

Go to http://www.livingwordlutheran.net/readings.htm

# July 2020 - Living Word Lutheran - Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
June 28  9:00 - WORSHIP  10:15 - SPRING VOTERS' ASSEMBLY  11:30 -BRUNCH CRUISE - GREEN LK	June 29	June 30 6:30 - MEN'S STUDY	1 6:00 - CONFIRMATION 6:30 - TRAP SHOOTING	2	3 Happy W.C.	4 INDEPENDENCE DAY
9:00 - WORSHIP WCOMMUNION HOLY COMMUNION	6	7 Mission Withistry 5:30 - ELDERS' TEAM 6:30 - MISSION & MINISTRY TEAM	8 REGUIGHT  6:00 - CONFIRMATION  6:30 - "CHURCH REC"  7:45 - MOVIE NIGHT: "Overcomer"	9		nper Dates , July 5th , July 19th
9:00 - WORSHIP	13	14	6:30 - TRAP SHOOTING	Sign up to have to you by e-mai newsletter	17 this newslette il. Send your em @livingwordlut	18 er sent directly ail address to: heran.net
9:00 - WORSHIP W COMMUNION  HOLY  COMMUNION	20	21	6:30 - "CHURCH REC" 7:45 - MOVIE NIGHT: "Soul Surfer"	23	24	25 10:00 - Trip to HEMKER ZOO In Freeport
26 9:00 - WORSHIP	27	28	6:00 - CONFIRMATION 6:30 - TRAP SHOOTING	30	31	Aug 1 1:00 - TRAP SHOOTING

# Upcoming Schedules...

### Fellowship Servers

We will not be having "Fellowship" after worship until the social distancing guidelines are relaxed. - Please pray for that to happen soon!

### Usher Schedule

July 5 Derek & Sarah Olson

July 12 Brent & Lance/Carson Sawatzky

July 19 Jason & Noah/Levi Miller

July 26 Brady & Andrew/Eli Sharp

Aug 2 Mark Fuglie & Tim Geer

Aug 9 Larry Levin & Carroll Sarsland

Aug 16 Wendy & Lonny Robbin

Aug 23 Duane Hansen & Chuck Weflen

Aug 30 Kevin Welsh & Volunteer needed

### **Elders**

July 5,12 Jason Miller & Ed Vegdahl
July 19,26 Joe Johnson & Keith Hanson
Aug 2,9 Kevin Welsh & Jason Miller
Aug 16.23.30 Ed Vegdahl & Joe Johnson

### Scripture Readers

July 12 Jason Miller

July 19 Mark Fuglie

July 26 Tammy Fuglie

Aug 2 Leone Quigley

Aug 9 Nykki Foshaug

# Many Thanks to ...

- Marcia Welsh for organizing our Green Lake Cruise!
- These Mission & Ministry Team members who completed their terms last month:

Jamie Iverson - Trustee

Ruth Vegdahl - Community Outreach Director

Lyndsay Ampe - Youth Director

If you have someone you'd like to thank, please email Scott at webmaster@livingwordlutheran.net.

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Aug 16 Ruth Vegdahl Aug 23 Mona Hjelle Aug 30 Sarah Olson	<u>Custodian</u> July Volunteer needed Aug Volunteer needed
Make A Meal Volunteers July Wendy Robbin August Pam Johnson	Altar Guild July Mona Hjelle August Nancy Jo Wendt
Nursery July 5 Pam Johnson July 12 Violet Dauk July 19 Mona Hjelle July 26 Volunteer needed	Accompanying Musicians July 5 Sharon Willen July 12 Scott Wachter July 19 Pam Johnson July 26 Carmen Macik
Aug 2 Pam Johnson Aug 9 Violet Dauk Aug 16 Mona Hjelle Aug 23 Volunteer needed Aug 30 Volunteer needed	Aug 2 Sharon Willen Aug 9 Scott Wachter Aug 16 Pam Johnson Aug 23 Carmen Macik Aug 30 Open

### Church mice

Karl Zorowski

MANY CHRISTIANS GROW UP GOING TO CHURCH, BUT NEVER GROW IN CHRIST. THEY KNOW HYMNS, BUT THEY DON'T KNOW HIM.



# Seen on Church Signboards...

Worrying Doesn't Take Away Tomorrow's Troubles -It Takes Away Today's Peace!

# July Discipleship Verse...

Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

Galatians 6:10

# Miscellaneous Notes...

### Food Pantry Reminder

2nd Sunday of each month, please remember to bring your donations for the Food Pantry. Place them in the purple container by the door at church. Thanks to everyone for donating!

### Check out our "Free Stuff" Table

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

- Read With Me Bibles for toddlers
- Today's Light Devotional Bible
- July Newsletters
- July—Sept Portals of Prayer



# SERMONS

### Sermons Now Available in Video on our Website

Find at <u>livngwordlutheran.net</u> Sermons can be found in our recorded worship services at

http://livingwordlutheran.net/video.htm

06-07-20 "Acts 2:42 - What we need to accomplish God's mission for us."

**06-14-20** "Looking for people to be part of a conspiracy" (not what you think)

06-21-20 "It may not be 'politically correct' but it is absolutely essential"

06-28-20 "The first thing to do in telling about Jesus is NOT to tell but ask."

### Still Available: Direct Deposit for Your Offerings

Living Word has the option of an electronic option for making regular offerings. Contributions can be debited automatically from your checking or savings account.

Our electronic giving program offers convenience for you and muchneeded donation consistency for our congregation.

If you are currently giving on a weekly basis, you will no longer need to write out 52 checks a year or prepare 52 envelopes. And, when travel, illness or other circumstances prevent you from attending services, this program will allow your weekly offerings to continue on an uninterrupted basis.

An authorization form and a "Frequently Asked Questions" flyer are available from the church office.

# Reminders of your scheduled day to serve will be coming to your phone soon.

Pam Johnson has graciously volunteered to give a call or send a text to help us all remember our scheduled dates to serve as ushers, acolytes, fellowship servers, etc...

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## Remember to use "The Prayer Force"



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

### And an Invitation to Join our "Prayer Force"

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

# Please Remember to Pray At 11:09 Every day

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

Remember to take a time-out and PRAY for...

- . Thanking God for freedom to live out our faith in our daily lives!
- Thanking God for all who have served and are serving to keep us free!
- Opportunities to Share the Love of Jesus in Practical Ways.
- God's power to put into practice lessons you learned during lockdown.
- Asking God for His power to bring healing to our nation in all ways!
- Asking God to humble you, seek Him and repent (2 Chronicles 7:14)
- · Asking God to provide for the social needs of those in nursing homes.
- Asking God to replace fear with trust in Him
- Protection from the deceitful messages Satan sends your way
- God's protection, guidance, wisdom & courage for gov't leaders
- Continued wisdom for guidance and decisions (BIG and small)
- Protection and boldness in witness for all persecuted Christians
- The ministry of the Jastrams in Japan

# Church Mice

Karl Zorowski



# First Communion

We thank God for these young people who participated in their...

### First Communion in June:

- Addison Arends-Schmidt
- Autumn Foshaug
- William Dahl
- Kala Miller
- Alex Meis
- Carson Sawatzky
- Jonah Sharp



# Living Word Blog...

Check out our Living Word Blog for lots of fun thoughts, ideas, music videos and more. www.livingwordluthereanlcms.blogspot.com



# LWML...



SHOES FOR MISSIONS (fundraiser for Lutheran Island Camp):

Thank you to all who have donated. This an ongoing mission project. Please bring shoes (in very good condition), in rubber banded pairs, to place in the bin, at church.

### Thank You from the Jastrams...

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



Read the latest newsletter at: https://tinyurl.com/y7h6tsmj

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Page 21 Just For Fun...



# Congratulations...

- Davis Rustad on your graduation from Willmar High School!
- James & Tayah Raddatz and Brekkyn the new addition to your family, Millie, born July 2!

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

# Email Inspiration...

A lecturer when explaining stress management to an audience, raised a glass of water and asked, "How heavy is this glass of water?"

Answers called out ranged from 20g to 500g.

The lecturer replied, "The absolute weight doesn't matter. It depends on how long you try to hold it. If I hold it for a minute, that's not a problem.

If I hold it for an hour, I'll have an ache in my right arm. If I hold it for a day, you'll have to call an ambulance

In each case, it's the same weight, but the longer I hold it, the heavier it becomes."

He continued, "And that's the way it is with stress. If we carry our burdens all the time, sooner or later, As the burden becomes increasingly heavy, We won't be able to carry on."

"As with the glass of water, You have to put it down for a while and rest before holding it again. When we're refreshed, we can carry on with the burden."

"So, before you return home tonight, put the burden of work down. Don't carry it home You can pick it up tomorrow."

"Whatever burdens you're carrying now, Let them down for a moment if you can.

So, my friend, Put down anything that may be a burden to you right now. Don't pick it up again until after you've rested a while."



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# Coming Soon to our Playground...







Donated by Susan Johnson in memory of her sister Lora.

# Mark Your Calendar...

### Rescheduled for November

Women's Retreat 2020:

"Unfading Beauty" Muskie Lodge, Mille Lacs Lake



The NEXT National Youth Gathering (2022 in Houston)







Another Chance to...

Order Your Living Word Trap Shooting Caps

Cost: \$15.00 Available in several color choices Sign up at church.

# Opportunities to Serve...

### Adopt-a-Highway

Wednesday, August 5 We will leave from church at 6:00 We need drivers and a minimum of 8 people in order to complete the deanup in an hour. Sign up at church.

### Help With Our Nursery

We need a couple more volunteers to help with our during-worship nursery (2-6 year olds). Please talk to Mona Hielle if you can help.

### Operate our PowerPoint display during worship:

In an effort to keep "touchable surfaces" to a minimum, we are projecting the order of worship - Scripture readings, songs, etc... onto the front wall instead of having them in a worship folder. We need some volunteers to "dick" from one screen to the next at the appropriate time during worship. Please talk to Pastor if you could do this one Sunday a month. Thanks!

### Operate our new Camcorder

to record parts of each worship service that we can later upload to our website. Talk to Pastor David if you can help out with this - at least one Sunday a month.

Pick Your Month for you (or your family) to be our Church Custodian: You can choose any month from July- December. Talk to Jamie Iverson to sign up or find out more details. Thanks!

### Make A Meal

One of the best (and simplest) ways to share Jesus' love is by making a meal for someone who is going through a tough time. Please call Pastor David or our July Make-a-Meal volunteer, Wendy Robbin, if



you know of someone who would appreciate a meal. Thanks!

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

someone who notifies the meal makers when a meal is needed and who also arranges for the meal to be delivered.

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

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

We'd like to send out a card or two each week to people we prayed for during worship. How you can help: Simply tell Pastor David when you feel that someone you asked us to pray for would be greatly encour-

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aged by getting a card. Then just call, email or text him with that person's address. It truly is a simple way to brighten the spirits of someone who's going though a tough time.

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

### Donate to Living Word when you order from Amazon

Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of eligible smile.amazon.com purchases to Living Word. Use this link to have your purchases



support Living Word: https://smile.amazon.com/ch/41-1513306 Our latest donation: Living Word Lutheran Church has been issued a \$40.36 donation from the AmazonSmile Foundation as a result of AmazonSmile program activity from Oct 1 - Dec 31, 2019.

### Remember the Teal's Rebate Program.

Teal's rebate in the amount of \$103.66 for 2019 was received and deposited into the building fund.



Thank you to all who gave your receipts. Keep them coming! Teal's Grocery gives a 1% rebate to

eligible organizations. There's a box under the mail boxes where you can put in your receipts.

# Story Behind The Song...

"Onward Christian Soldiers"

Not long ago when I was looking online for the lyrics to a song, and I came across an article titled something like, "Hymns We Need to Retire." Onward Christian Soldiers was listed first. I suppose this is part of the "Let's get rid of anything that might offend someone" attitude that is popular in some circles right now. From my perspective, it would be better to explain what the song is really about than to just toss it out on a false assumption. So here goes: (from "Amazing Grace - 365 Inspiring Hymn Stories")

The Christian life is often compared in Scripture to warfare - the struggle of sin against righteousness, of the "flesh" vs. the Spirit and of us against Satan and the spiritual forces of evil. Each follower of Christ is called to be a good "soldier." This involves motivation, training, discipline, good equipment and endurance.

This hymn text reminds us that the church universal, the "called out" body of believers from every age and culture is to be an aggressive.

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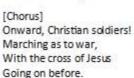
unified body. It must always be moving forward in its mission. We cannot allow ourselves to become stagnant and complacent with the status

The author of this text, Sabine Baring-Gould, a Church of England minister, has left this account regarding the writing of this hymn:

"It was written in very simple fashion, without thought of publication. Whit Monday is a great day for school festivals in Yorkshire, and one Whit Monday it was arranged that our school should join forces with that of a neighboring village. I wanted the children to sing while marching from one village to the other, but couldn't think of anything quite suitable, so I sat up at night resolved to write something myself. "Onward Christian Soldiers" was the result. It was written in great haste, likely in less than fifteen minutes."

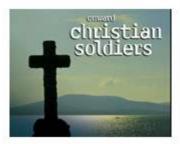
These words that were written hurriedly for marching school children became the text for a hymn that God ordained to inspire lives around the world, challenging Christians with their responsibility to be aggressive in advancing His cause both individually and with other member of the Church.

Onward, Christian soldiers! Marching as to war, With the cross of Jesus Going on before. Christ, the royal Master, Leads against the foe; Forward into battle. See his banners go!



At the sign of triumph Satan's host doth flee: On, then, Christian soldiers, On to victory. Hell's foundations quiver At the shout of praise; Brothers, lift your voices. Loud your anthems raise. (Chorus)

Like a mighty army Moves the Church of God:



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Brothers, we are treading Where the Saints have trod. We are not divided: All one body we: One in hope and doctrine, One in charity. (Chorus)

Onward, then, ye people; Join our happy throng. Blend with ours your voices In the triumph song: Glory, laud, and honor Unto Christ, the King. This through countless ages Men and angels sing. (Chorus)

Editor's note: There are many renditions online, but here is one sung by the incomparable Tennessee Ernie Ford: https://youtu.be/NcPyRMiJMGU

# The Back Pew - Jeff Larson

