

  
**Living Word**  
**Lutheran Church**  
LCMS



**November 2020 Newsletter**  
**"Communicating the Love of Jesus"**

**Sunday School: 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](mailto:pastor@livingwordlutheran.net)  
Website: [www.livingwordlutheran.net](http://www.livingwordlutheran.net)

## Question for Pastor...

"What can we do about the Christmas Program?"

This question came from our Sunday School team as they grapple with COVID restrictions, Sunday School classes and traditional events like the Christmas Program.

My answer was, "Maybe it's a good time to dust off the Live Nativity Program! We have the perfect location, and it would be outdoors."

(In the late 1990's when we were worshipping at Shepherd of the Hills in New London we held a "live nativity" in the backyard. We had donkeys, goats, llamas, etc... along with "angels" singing, a narrator, and the usual manger-scene people.)

In order to make the Live Nativity a reality this year, we will need lots of help and volunteers!

I envision this to be an intergenerational event, not limited to Sunday School students, so adults can be involved as shepherds and wise men, Mary and Joseph too. We will need some folks to plan and organize the event as well as people to bring animals, create a manger scene, and set up sound equipment.



It's already November, so we need to get the planning started soon. If you can help in any way, please talk to me or one of our Sunday School team members (Mona or Wendy). I'm excited to do a Live Nativity again - I believe this is going to be a great way we can bring the message of Christ's birth to our community!

Thanks for Asking,  
Pastor David

Send your questions to [pastor@livingwordlutheran.net](mailto:pastor@livingwordlutheran.net)



## Thanksgiving Eve Worship...

Wednesday, November 25 @ 7:00 p.m.



A special Thank-offering will be collected:

God commanded the Israelites to come to the temple once a year for a joyful celebration of the blessings God provided in the harvest. This harvest festival was called The Feast of Weeks.

*Then celebrate the Feast of Weeks to the Lord your God by giving a freewill offering in proportion to the blessings the Lord your God has given you. Deuteronomy 16:10*

With that in mind we will come together on Thanksgiving Eve for a special joyful celebration of the blessings God has provided us. We're each encouraged to bring a special freewill offering in proportion to how God has blessed us this past year.

Please pray about your Thank-offering proportion.. Use the special Thank-Offering envelope to make your Thank-Offering. (Your yearly Thank-Offerings can be given any Sunday, if you are not able to attend the Thanksgiving Eve service.)

*"But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand."*

King David in 1 Chronicles 29:14

## Pumpkin Pie Fellowship...



We traditionally serve pumpkin pie, or pumpkin dessert after the Thanksgiving Eve Worship, but **due to COVID restrictions we will not have pie fellowship this year.**

We will plan on it for next year!

Thanks!  
Bonnie

## Opportunities for Growth...

### THAT THE WORLD MAY KNOW

**Sunday Morning Study: "The Holy Land"**  
Sunday mornings @ 9:00  
Filmed on site in the Holy Land. Lessons from God's Word on living as a Christian in the midst of a non-Christian society."

Please join us for coffee and Growing in God's Word!

#### Wednesday Prayer Time

A special invitation to everyone to meet weekly in prayer Wednesdays at 6 p.m.

Prayer is a foundational part of our spiritual life both personally and as a congregation. We would love to have you join us.



Ephesians 6:12; 18

12 "For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms."

18 "And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people."

#### Wednesday Evening Women's Study @ 6:30 p.m.

We are finishing our study on "Heaven" by looking at the many visions of heaven recorded in the Bible. You can participate via Zoom if you are not able to attend in person. Just let Violet know you will be attending via Zoom.



#### Monthly Morning Women's Study:

November 11 @ 10:00 a.m.

We'll continue our study of Women of the Bible. All are welcome. We meet at church. Please call Leone if you need a ride. 320-354-4665. Hope to see you there.

#### Confirmation Class



- 6-7th Graders Meet from 6:00 - 7:15
- 8-9th Graders meet from 6:45 - 8:00
- Parents check the "Parent Helper" schedule for your dates to serve

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That for a day: Live as though it were your last day on Earth. Some day you will be right!

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#### Men's Study

Tuesdays @ 6:30 p.m.

Your faith in Him matters to God. In fact, God is most honored through your living, active, death-defying, out-of-the-box faith!



That being the case, He's committed to growing it. BIG.

Imagine how different your outlook on life would be if you had absolute confidence that God was with you?

Imagine how differently you would respond to difficulties, temptations, and even good things if you knew with certainty that God was in all of it and was planning to use it for good. In other words, imagine what it would be like to have BIG faith.

Please join us Tuesday evenings @ 6:30 to learn more about – five things God uses to grow BIG faith.

### Seen on Church Signboards...

**Don't Mask Your Love for Jesus,  
Come and Worship Him!  
(Even with your mask on)**

## Living Word Blog...

Check out our Living Word Blog for lots of fun thoughts, ideas, music videos and more. [www.livingwordlutheranlcms.blogspot.com](http://www.livingwordlutheranlcms.blogspot.com)





## The Link...

### October 2020 Updates

It's hard to believe that it is time to start planning for the holiday season at The Link! It is always a busy, but heartwarming time to see so many community members reach out to want to help those in need. If you are looking for ways to impact local families in need, please call The Link at 354-5555 for some ideas.

**20th Annual Community Thanksgiving Meal:** The Link will be taking requests for "Take and Bake" boxes of turkey and all the trimmings, including pie (which you will need to prepare)! Requests will be taken until 75 families have signed up and no later than November 13, whichever comes first. Delivery is available if needed and there is no cost for this meal. Pickup dates at The Link are Tuesday, November 24, from 9a.m.-3p.m. OR Wednesday November 25 from 2-5 p.m. This meal is sponsored by the Community Thanksgiving meal team along with Thrivent Financial. If you are interested in signing up, stop in at The Link or call 354-5555.

In September, **The Food Pantry** distributed 3,777 pounds of food, had 6 new families and served 46 kids, 81 adults and 20 seniors. The Link also served 10 families in Client Outreach to assist with everything from rent and utility assistance to medical bills and supplies.

**The Wildcat Backpack Program** will be delivering backpack bags to families this school year instead of sending them home from school. Because of the hybrid learning model and possibility of distant learning, we want to ensure a consistent routine and plan for the families that utilize the program. If you are looking for non-monetary ways to help, The Wildcat Backpack Program can always use extra non-perishable items including: mac-n-cheese, chef Boyardee meals, applesauce or other fruit pouches, single serve snack bags (chips, cheese its, pretzels, etc.), treats and juice boxes. The Link is also starting to look for volunteers to pack and deliver the backpacks. If you are interested in volunteering OR if you or someone you know would benefit from The Wildcat Backpack Program, call Ashley at 354-5555.

**Save the Date:** DECEMBER 14, 2020 for this year's Christmas Concert. This concert will be done differently than in the past, so stay tuned for more details.

**Winter apparel:** The Link has had a few requests for winter coats, hats, snow pants and gloves for kids. If you have anything you would like to donate, you can drop off at The Link Tuesdays and Thursdays 9-3, Wednesdays 1-5, Fridays 10-3 or Saturdays from 9-1.

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Hot for a day: Expecting the world to treat you fairly because you're a good person is a little like expecting the bull not to attack you because you're a vegetarian.

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As always, thank you for your continuous support. It does not go unnoticed! 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

[www.youarethelink.org](http://www.youarethelink.org) 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 [ashley@youarethelink.org](mailto:ashley@youarethelink.org)

for more information.

## A Thanksgiving Lesson...

Once upon a time, a turkey hatched in the dead of winter. He lived in a nice warm coop, had plentiful corn and seeds to eat, and spent much of his poult-hood playing with all of the other little turkeys.

When spring came, he and his friends ventured out into the yard and played some more; they continued to have corn and seeds to eat and shelter from the rain. The summer brought more of the same, along with nice people who regularly cleaned the coop, refilled the corn and seed stores after the turkeys gobbled it all up, and chased away scary critters like foxes and cats when they got too near.

The turkeys to one another. "Surely we have the best of all possible lives. We are fed and taken care of, and all we have to worry about is having fun. We deserve this life of comfort."

Summer faded and fall arrived, but still the turkeys lived the good life. When the weather got colder, the farmer turned on the heat in the coop, so the turkeys always had somewhere warm to return after playing in the yard. Of course, since it was cold, they went outside less and less, and they slowly got fatter and fatter.

Still, they said to one another, "We deserve this." and agreed that they would take it easy during the winter months so they could play hard again in the spring.

And then came Thanksgiving.

**The Moral of the Story:** When times are good, it's easy to get too comfortable and take everything for granted, only to be caught off guard when things change. Always be thankful for what you have today.

## Email Humor (sort of)...

While walking down the street one day, a Senator was tragically hit by a car and died. His soul arrives in heaven and is met by St. Peter at the entrance.

"Welcome to heaven," says St. Peter. "Before you settle in, it seems there is a problem. We seldom see a high official around these parts, you see, so we're not sure what to do with you."

"No problem, just let me in," says the Senator.

"Well, I'd like to, but I have orders from the higher ups. What we'll do is have you spend one day in hell and one in heaven. Then you can choose where to spend eternity."

"Really? I've made up my mind. I want to be in heaven," says the Senator.

"I'm sorry, but we have our rules."

And with that, St. Peter escorts him to the elevator and he goes down, down, down to hell. The doors open and he finds himself in the middle of a green golf course.

In the distance is a clubhouse and standing in front of it are all his friends and other politicians who had worked with him. Everyone is very happy and in evening dress. They run to greet him, shake his hand, and reminisce about the good times they had while getting rich at the expense of the people. They played a friendly game of golf and then dine on lobster, caviar and the finest champagne.

Also present is the devil, who really is a very friendly guy who is having a good time dancing and telling jokes.

They are all having such a good time that before the Senator realizes it, it is time to go. Everyone gives him a hearty farewell and waves while the elevator rises. The elevator goes up, up, up and the door reopens in heaven where St. Peter is waiting for him, "Now it's time to visit heaven..."

So, 24 hours passed with the Senator joining a group of contented souls moving from cloud to cloud, playing the harp and singing. They have a good time and before he realizes it, the 24 hours have gone by and St. Peter returns.

"Well, then, you've spent a day in hell and another in heaven. Now choose your eternity."

The Senator reflects for a minute, then he answers: "Well, I would

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That for a day: If everything goes perfectly, something's wrong.

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never have said it before, I mean heaven has been delightful, but I think I would be better off in hell." So St. Peter escorts him to the elevator and he goes down, down, down to hell...

Now the doors of the elevator open and he's in the middle of a barren land covered with waste and garbage. He sees all his friends, dressed in rags, picking up the trash and putting it in black bags as more trash falls to the ground. The devil comes over to him and puts his arm around his shoulders.

"I don't understand," stammers the Senator. "Yesterday I was here and there was a golf course and clubhouse, and we ate lobster and caviar, drank champagne, and danced and had a great time. Now there's just a wasteland full of garbage and my friends look miserable. What happened?"

The devil smiles at him and says, "Yesterday we were campaigning. Today, you voted."

## Communion Notes...

The Lord's Supper will be celebrated on the First and Third Sundays in November. (November 1st & 15th) as well as on Thanksgiving Eve (Nov 25th).

We have NEW Wine & Wafer Sealed Communion Packets. Since the COVID protocols were put into effect, we have been using pre-sealed packets of grape juice and a bread wafer. Pre-sealed packets that contain wine as well as a larger bread wafer have recently been made available. We were able to order some of these new wine/wafer packets and will begin using them in communion starting with the first Sunday in October.

We also now have available gluten-free bread wafers for those who have gluten-sensitive conditions. You will find these wafers in a separate cup in the communion tray.

### 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!)



## Email Wisdom...

### WISE COMMANDMENTS

- Thou shall not worry; for worry is the most unproductive of all human activities.
- Thou shall not be fearful; for most of the things we fear never come to pass.
- Thou shall not cross bridges before you come to them; for no one yet has succeeded in accomplishing this.
- Thou shall face each problem as it comes; you can only handle one at a time anyway.
- Thou shall not take problems to bed with you; for they make very poor bedfellows.
- Thou shall not try to relive yesterday for good or ill, it is forever gone; concentrate on what is happening in your life and be content now.
- Thou shall be a good listener; for only when you listen do you hear different ideas from your own. (It's hard to learn something new when you're always talking.)
- Thou shall not become "bogged down" by frustration; for 90% of it is rooted in self-pity and will only interfere with moving forward.
- Thou shall count thy blessings; never overlooking the small ones, for a lot of small blessings add up to a big one.



## 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. This past month we thanked God for:

- **Our Mexican Fiesta Dinner !**
- **Folks Who Plow Snow in October!**
- **Wally Abraham !**

Let Pastor know how you'd complete that sentence during November

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**That for a day: If you think there is good in everybody then you obviously haven't met everybody.**

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## Sunday School News



"There are many bad things happening in our world and it is our responsibility to teach our children.

**If we don't teach our children to follow Jesus, the world will teach them not to."**

Upcoming Lessons:

- November 1-" Moses and Miriam"- Showing thankfulness by singing songs of praise. Exodus 15:1-6, 19-21
- November 8-" Hannah was Thankful"- Giving up something, we can show thankfulness 1 Samuel 1:10-11, 20, 24-28 and 2:1-2
- November 15-" Paul was Thankful"- Children will learn we can be thankful no matter what! Philippians 1:1-21
- November 22-" True Thanksgiving"- Being Thankful for all the blessings given by God. 1 Thess. 5:18, 1 Timothy 6:17, Matt. 6:25-26
- November 29- "The Lord's Prayer"- Luke 11:1-4, Matthew 6:5-15

All children are encouraged to come to Sunday School. Teachers and kids are masked.

## Operation Christmas Child...

Dedication Sunday: November 15

The congregation and the children are invited to participate in "Operation Christmas Child". Brochures, boxes and labels are provided. **Deadline for the boxes to be brought back to church, will be Wed., November 18th.** If you need more info, go to

[www.samaritanspurse.org](http://www.samaritanspurse.org) Thank you for partnering with Samaritans Purse, as we share God's love with children around the world.



# November 2020 - Daily Readings

This Month 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.

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

Nov 1 Use today to worship & catch up on readings you missed

Nov 2 Deuteronomy 11 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Nov 3 Deuteronomy 28 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Nov 4 Joshua 3 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Nov 5 Joshua 5:13-6:27 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Nov 6 Joshua 24 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Nov 7 Judges 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Nov 8 This Week We Begin our "100 - or so - Key Chapters of the Bible" readings

Nov 9 Judges 6 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Nov 10 Ruth 1 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Nov 11 1 Samuel 1 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Nov 12 1 Samuel 8 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Nov 13 1 Samuel 16-17 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Nov 14 2 Samuel 11-12 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Nov 15 Use today to worship & catch up on readings you missed

Nov 16 1 Kings 3 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

Nov 17 1 Kings 8 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Nov 18 1 Kings 17-19 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Nov 19 2 Kings 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Nov 20 2 Kings 17 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Nov 21 2 Kings 25 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Nov 22 Use today to worship & catch up on readings you missed

Nov 23 1 Chronicles 29 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Nov 24 2 Chronicles 7 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Nov 25 Ezra 1 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Nov 26 Esther 3-4 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Nov 27 Job 38-41 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Nov 28 Job 42 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Nov 29 Use today to worship & catch up on readings you missed

Nov 30 Psalm 1 & 19 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Dec 1 Psalm 23 & 27 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Dec 2 Psalm 32 & 46 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



Dec 3 Psalm 51 & 91 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Dec 4 Psalm 100 & 127 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Dec 5 Psalm 139 & 145 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

# November 2020 - Living Word Lutheran - Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1 REFORMATION SUNDAY</b> 9:00 - SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00 - ADULT STUDY 10:00 - WORSHIP w/COMMUNION	<b>2</b>	<b>3 ELECTION DAY</b> 	<b>4</b> 6:00 - PRAYER TIME 6:00- 6-7th CONFIRMATION 6:00 - WOMEN'S STUDY 6:45- 8-9th CONFIRMATION	<b>5 MISSION Ministry</b> 5:30 - ELDERS' TEAM 6:30 - MISSION & MINISTRY TEAM	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 9:00 - SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00 - ADULT STUDY 10:00 - WORSHIP	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 6:30 MENS' STUDY	<b>11</b> 10:00 LWML & MONTHLY WOMEN'S STUDY 6:00 - PRAYER TIME 6:00 - 6-7th CONFIRMATION 6:30 - WOMEN'S STUDY 6:45 - 8-9th CONFIRMATION	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> WOMEN'S At Lake	<b>14</b> RETREAT Mille Lac
<b>15 SHOEBOX - DEDICATION SUNDAY</b> 9:00 - SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00 - ADULT STUDY 10:00 - WORSHIP w/COMMUNION	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 6:30 MENS' STUDY	<b>18 OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOX DEADLINE</b> 6:00 - PRAYER TIME 6:00 - 6-7th CONFIRMATION 6:30 - WOMEN'S STUDY 6:45- 8-9th CONFIRMATION	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <b>Lord's Supper Dates</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sunday, Nov 1st</li> <li>• Sunday, Nov 15th</li> <li>• Thanksgiving Eve, Nov 25th</li> </ul> </div>		<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 9:00 - SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00 - ADULT STUDY 10:00 - WORSHIP 11:30 - FALL VOTERS' ASSEMBLY	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 6:30 MENS' STUDY	<b>25</b> 7:00 THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP w/ Communion	<b>26 THANKSGIVING</b> 	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 9:00 - SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00 - ADULT STUDY 10:00 - WORSHIP	<b>30</b>	<b>Dec 1</b> 6:30 MENS' STUDY	<b>Dec 2</b> 6:00 - PRAYER TIME 6:00 - 6-7th CONFIRMATION 6:30 - WOMEN'S STUDY 6:45- 8-9th CONFIRMATION	<b>Dec 3</b>	<b>Dec 4</b>	<b>Dec 5</b>
				<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <b>Sign up to have this newsletter sent directly to you by e-mail. Send your email address to: <a href="mailto:newsletter@livingwordlutheran.net">newsletter@livingwordlutheran.net</a></b> </div>		



## 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

The Usher schedule is "on hold" until COVID restrictions are eased.

### Scripture Readers

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

### Elders

Nov 1, 8	Ed Vegdahl & Joe Johnson
Nov 15,22	Keith Hanson & Kevin Welsh
Nov 25, 29	Jason Miller & Ed Vegdahl

### Make A Meal Volunteers

November Linda Dilley

### Altar Guild

November Mona Hjelle

### Confirmation Parent Helper

Nov 4	Dahl
Nov 11	Foshaug
Nov 18	Meis
Nov 25	Miller

### Custodian

November	Volunteer needed
December	Volunteer needed

### Nursery

Nov 1	Pam Johnson
Nov 8	Violet Dauk
Nov 15	Mona Hjelle
Nov 22	Volunteer needed
Nov 29	Volunteer needed

### Accompanying Musicians

Nov 1	Sharon Willen
Nov 8	Pam Johnson
Nov 15	Scott Wachter
Nov 22	Carmen Macik
Thksgvg Eve	Available
Nov 29	Available

## LWML...



LWML will meet Wednesday, November 11, at 10:00 a.m. at church for a short business meeting, followed by a bible study entitled Women of the Bible. All women of the congregation are welcome.

### SHOES FOR MISSIONS (fundraiser for Lutheran Island Camp):

Shoe collection has been temporarily interrupted due to COVID. Collection will hopefully begin again this fall. Watch the Newsletter for a notice when collection begins again. Thank you to everyone who has donated shoes!

That for a day: It isn't the size of the tree that matters, it's the quality of the nuts that are on it.

# SOMEONE *you know*

Prayer for SOMEONE YOU KNOW who doesn't know Jesus as Savior,  
or who has drifted away from church:

Gracious Lord, use us to be a beacon of hope and love in our community. Give us opportunities to make a difference in the lives of our neighbors and friends. Give us the chance to share the hope which we have in You, so that someone we know may hear Your message of grace and forgiveness. In Jesus name we pray, Amen.

### How Your church can break the scarcity/survival mode:

*"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved." - Acts 2:42-47*

- Go to the schools, hospital, VFW, the mayor, Fire Department and the police and ask this question "How can our church best help out our community?" Listen to their answers and see how God can use you.
- When you help others, share with them the hope you have in Jesus Christ.

- Stop worrying about membership and filling board positions. Love your community and look for opportunities to share the hope you have in Jesus Christ. Let's see how the Holy Spirit works through your witness.

**WATCH THE VIDEO AT**  
[someoneyouknow.church](http://someoneyouknow.church)

## November Discipleship Verse...



*"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits,"*

Psalm 103:2

## 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
- November Newsletters
- October—December Portals of Prayer



### Sermons Now Available in Video on our Website

Find at [livingwordlutheran.net](http://livingwordlutheran.net). Sermons can be found in our recorded worship services at <http://livingwordlutheran.net/video.htm>

- 10/4/20 "The Bible: Our 'Owner's Manual' for Life"
- 10/11/20 "The Chapter that is Foundational for All We Believe."
- 10/18/20 "Joseph: A Great Example of What Forgiveness Is and Isn't"
- 10/25/20 "A HUGE Lesson from the Manna God Sent the Israelites"

### Still Available: Direct Deposit for Your Offerings

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

Our electronic giving program offers convenience for you and much-needed donation consistency for our congregation. If you are currently giving on a weekly basis, you will no longer need to write out 52 checks a year or prepare 52 envelopes. And, when travel, illness or other circumstances prevent you from attending services, this program will allow your weekly offerings to continue on an uninterrupted basis.

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

### 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, fellow-ship servers, etc...



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That for a day: Don't irritate old people. The older we get, the less "Life in prison" is a deterrent.

## Page 19 | Prayer...

### Remember to use "The Prayer Force"



Please continue to call, text (320-220-1816) or email ([pastor@livingwordlutheran.net](mailto: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 Wally Abraham
- Asking God to give Elaine His peace and comfort
- Asking God for His wisdom and guidance as we cast our votes.
- Asking God to protect all those who are harvesting and hunting.
- People you can invite to any of our studies or Thanksgiving Service
- Asking God to provide for the social needs of those in nursing homes.
- Asking God to replace fear with trust in Him
- God to show you opportunities to Share His Love in Practical Ways.
- 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)
- Protection from the deceitful messages Satan sends your way
- Great weather and safety during hunting and harvesting
- God's protection, guidance, wisdom & courage for gov't leaders
- Protection and boldness in witness for all persecuted Christians
- The ministry of the Jastrams in Japan

### 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/vy6cco6b>

## Election Reminders from God's Word ...

*With the election coming up, it's not always easy to figure out who to vote for. What does God's Word have to say about electing leaders?*

Jesus tells us in Matthew 22:15-22 "Give to Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's." Here Jesus sets down the principle that as Christians we have a duty to our government ("Caesar"). There are certain things we "owe" the officials who rule over us. Jesus gave this response to a specific question about taxes. So, yes, we owe our taxes to our government. That's how they pay for services provided to the citizens. But our obligation to our leaders doesn't stop there. We also owe...

Our prayers -

specifically for our leaders and for laws that will enable us to live "peaceful, quiet, godly and dignified lives" and enable us to share the truth of the message of salvation that comes through Jesus Christ alone. (1 Timothy 2:1-4)

Our respect, honor, and submission to their authority -and thus, our obedience to their laws. (Romans 13:1-7)

The one exception to the "obedience" responsibility is when our rulers would make laws that would *force* us to disobey God. In that case we must say along with Peter and the other apostles in Acts 5:29 "We must obey God rather than men." (And, of course, be willing to suffer the consequences of that civil disobedience.)

Since we are to pray for the ability to live "godly" lives, it logically follows that we should, in a nation that allows our participation in government, use our voice and our vote to do everything we can to see that "godly" laws are put into effect and that "ungodly" laws (those contrary to what God has told us) are done away with.

Faithful Christians voting for godly laws is definitely a way of following God's command to "Love your neighbor," since ungodly laws are by definition harmful to our neighbor.

It may be obvious, but the requirement to give our voice and our vote also requires us to take the time to educate ourselves about the positions of the individuals seeking office and the political parties they rep-



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That for a day: Cleaning is just putting stuff in less obvious places.

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resent.

I've found it interesting, enlightening - and in cases some 'scary'- to read the "action agendas" and "platforms" of the two largest political parties. I'd encourage each of you to read them as well. Here are the web links for both the major parties in Minnesota :

<https://mngop.com/action-center/>  
<https://www.dfl.org/about/documents/>

The Lutheran Voter Information Guide gives great questions to ask regarding the four areas our District advocates for on public policy matters:

1. Life Issues (e.g. abortion and assisted suicide)
2. Marriage and Sexuality
3. Religious Freedom
4. Parental Choice in Education

Copies are available at church or for download at:

<https://tinyurl.com/y5fl29nt>

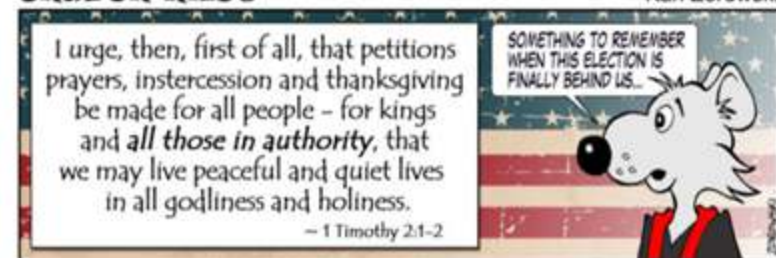
MN Family Council also has Voter Guides at [www.mnfamilyvoter.com](http://www.mnfamilyvoter.com)

**WE MUST REMEMBER** that voting won't convert hearts. Jesus didn't send his disciples out to "Take over governments" but rather to "Make disciples." Faithful followers of Jesus can never be *mandated* by governments, but can only be *cultivated* by the Holy Spirit through the sharing of the Gospel.

Finally, no matter which individuals and parties come into power we need to remember the message our government (at least for the time being) places on our currency: "In GOD we trust." No matter who wins, Jesus is still - and always will be - King of all kings. We know how the story of humanity ends: Jesus wins - and so do all who vote for Him with their trust!

## Church Mice

Karl Zorowski



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## Mark Your Calendar...

### Women's Retreat

November 13-15th.

If you had already registered and paid, be assured you are still registered.



Anyone else interested please contact Laurel, Ruth, Violet or Tammy M and please invite. It's a huge house and we still have room available. The home is situated on Mille Lacs Lake. Our Retreat theme is "Unfading Beauty"

The NEXT National Youth Gathering (2022 in Houston)



Youth Group Meets  
9:00 a.m. Sunday Morning  
(In person or via Zoom)

### Current Lesson:

"Living a Life of Love" 1 John 3

Helping us understand ...

- The love God has for us
- "Loving thy neighbor"
- The importance of keeping God's commands

### Mission & Ministry Team 2021 Planning Session

Thursday, November 5th at 6:30 p.m.

We will set out our Strategic Ministry Plan for the coming year and craft a budget proposal. We'll start by revisiting last year's plan, and make necessary revisions and adjustments. Then we will add new plans and goals for the coming year. The planning session is for all Mission and Ministry Team members. It would be helpful if each chairperson could meet with your team prior to our group planning meeting.

### Fall Voters' Assembly - November 22 after worship.

The purpose of the fall assembly is to approve both a 2021 budget and 2021 ministry goals. The Mission and Ministry Team will come up with a set of recommended goals and a proposed budget at their November 5, meeting.



Living Word Trap  
Shooting Cap orders should be arriving soon!



That for a day: A great many people confuse their lack of planning with an emergency.

## Just For Fun...

### Thanksgiving Word Search

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, "Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

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

### Word Bank

AUTUMN	FEAST	GOD	LEFTOVERS	PRAISE	TRADITION
BAKE	FELLOWSHIP	GRATITUDE	LOVE	PRAYERS	TURKEY
BLESSINGS	FRIENDS	GRAVY	NAP	PUMPKIN	WORSHIP
CHRIST	GATHERING	HARVEST	NOVEMBER	SHARING	YUM
CHRISTIAN	GIVING	JESUS	PARADE	TABLE	
CHURCH	GOBBLE	LAUGHTER	PIE	THURSDAY	

### Church Mice

Karl Zorowski



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## Opportunities to Serve...

### Help With Our Nursery

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

### 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 "click" 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 either November or December (or any month in 2021). Talk to our new Trustee, Steve Wulf, 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 November Make-a-Meal volunteer, Linda Dilley 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.

Please contact [pastor@livingwordlutheran.net](mailto:pastor@livingwordlutheran.net) with the address of someone you asked us to pray for who would be greatly encouraged by getting a card. We are currently in need of a volunteer to mail the cards. If you could help, talk to Pastor David



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That for a day: Life is like a helicopter. I don't know how to operate a helicopter.

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



Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of eligible [smile.amazon.com](https://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.



## It's Time to Start Planning for Re-starting Our After-Worship Fellowship...

We will need some folks who would like to plan and organize this Coffee/Etc... Fellowship. Please talk to Pastor David if you could like to help with this. Thanks!

## Story Behind The Song...

### Now Thank We All Our God

In our current situation of economic hardships and concerns about the pandemic of 2020, perhaps it's hard to think of giving thanks to God. However, one of our most beautiful and heartfelt Thanksgiving hymns was written in a time of indescribable hardship.

Martin Rinkart could tell us that our hardships are not nearly as insurmountable as we may believe.

Born to a poor coppersmith on April 23, 1586 in Eilenburg, Germany, Rinkart was determined to be a minister. He managed to scrape up enough money to put himself through the University of Leipzig, where he studied theology. After years of hard work, Rinkart was asked to return to his hometown as a Lutheran clergyman, where he soon became an archdeacon.

One year later, ignited by a religious conflict-turned-political feud, the Thirty Years' War exploded across Europe.

A walled city, Eilenburg quickly became a place of refuge for thousands of frightened and displaced Germans fleeing the devastating conflict. The sudden overcrowding caused widespread food shortages, and starving residents soon began fighting in the streets for dead cats and birds.

On top of the famine, densely-packed humanity and filth soon led to an outbreak of plague. Rinkart and the three other town pastors began officiating ten or more funerals a day-- each. One overwhelmed pastor eventually fled and two others died, leaving Rinkart the sole minister in the desperate and overpopulated city.

Alone, Rinkart was tasked with burying up to 50 people a day, including his own wife. By the end of the ordeal, he'd conducted nearly 4,500 funerals. The dead eventually became so numerous they had to be buried in mass trenches without services.

In the face of overwhelming pressure, constant risk and horrendous conditions, Rinkart never stopped ministering to the people of his city. He gave away nearly everything he owned to the poor and needy, though he could barely clothe and feed his own children. He mortgaged his own future income to provide for his family and his community.

At one point toward the end of the war, the Swedish army surrounded the city and demanded an enormous ransom from the impoverished and starving citizens. Knowing his people didn't have the money, Rinkart pleaded with the Swedes to lower the amount, only to be rejected.

It's reported that Rinkart returned to the city, fell on his knees and said, "Come, my children, we can find no hearing, no mercy with men, let us take refuge with God." He then began to pray so fervently that the Swedish general was moved to lower his price to less than five percent of the original sum.

After nearly thirty years of ceaseless struggles, it began to look like peace was within grasp. Wanting to give his children a song to sing to God in thanks at the dinner table, Rinkart sat down and composed what would become one of the most well known Thanksgiving hymns of all time-- "Now Thank We All Our God." In fact, it's been said that aside from Martin Luther's "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God," no other song is sung more often in Lutheran churches today than Rinkart's simple tune.

Tired and worn, Rinkart died in 1649, only a year after the war's end, leaving behind some of the simplest and sincere lyrics still being sung by choirs and congregations across the world:

*Now thank we all our God, with heart and hands and voices,  
Who wondrous things has done, in Whom this world rejoices;  
Who from our mothers' arms has blessed us on our way  
With countless gifts of love and still is ours today.*

*O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,  
With ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;  
And keep us in His grace, and guide us when perplexed;  
And free us from all ills, in this world and the next!*

*All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given;  
The Son and Him Who reigns with Them in highest Heaven;  
The one eternal God, whom Earth and Heaven adore;  
For thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.*

Editor's note: Listen to a beautiful acoustic version of this hymn at <https://youtu.be/Ecass2ZvN2c>

## The Back Pew - Jeff Larson

