

Living Word
Lutheran Church
LCMS

When Jesus spoke again
to the people, he said,
“I am the light of the world.
Whoever follows me will
never walk in darkness, but
will have the light of life.”

John 8:12



November 2025 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
Website: www.livingwordlutheran.net

Questions for Pastor...

"Outside of the Gospels, what is your favorite book in the Bible?"

That's a tough question, because the answer is going to vary depending on the day.

I like the book of Philippians, because it is short, easy to read and is a book that highlights "Joy." (And makes it very clear that "joy" is not dependent on the circumstances you find yourself in. Joy is a choice!)

I also like the book of James, because it is filled with practical wisdom for everyday life - very similar to another favorite, the book of Proverbs, only a lot shorter. (If you are starting to get the idea that my attention span is limited, you would be correct!)

The book of Acts is definitely a favorite - even though it's not short! It's an amazing narrative of the power the Holy Spirit has for us to be bold witnesses for Jesus.

I really like the book of Esther in the Old Testament, because it is such a vivid reminder of how God purposefully puts us in situations "for such a time as this." Plus, it is a great example of why revenge is always best left in God's hands.

But on this particular day, my answer to the question above was, "The book of Romans." There's a passage toward the end of Romans that reads, "For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope." (Romans 15:4) You could easily substitute "the book of Romans" for "the past," in that passage.

With that in mind, I decided it would be a great time to go through the book of Romans for our Daily Devotions this month. You will learn (or be reminded of) lots of ways that your faith in Jesus gives you hope - no matter what situation you find yourself in.

Thanks for asking
Pastor David

Send your questions to pastor@livingwordlutheran.net

Page 3

Simple Ways to Give Your Spiritual Life a Lift...

Read the many passages that give us hope in the Book of Romans (Or listen to Pastor read the passages that show us the unique contributions to our faith in Romans. He will text or email you a link to each day's recording)

You'll find the readings listed on our Daily Readings page



Pastor Appreciation 2025



Communion Notes...

The Lord's Supper will be celebrated in August on the normal First and Third Sundays (**November 2nd & 16th**), as well as Thanksgiving Eve (**Nov 26th**).



Reminders:

- Wine - is in the two outer rings of the individual-cup tray
Grape Juice - is in the inner ring of the individual-cup tray
- **Gluten-free bread wafers are available** for those who have gluten-sensitive conditions. You will find these wafers in a separate cup in the communion tray.
- Those who are not comfortable coming to the altar should inform an Elder or Usher, and communion will be brought to you in your pew.

Mark Your Calendar...

Mission & Ministry Team

Thursday, November 13th @ 6:30 p.m.
Elders' Team @ 5:30 prior to MMT

This month we finalize the 2026 Goals and Budget
we will present to the Voters on Nov. 16

Fall Voters' Assembly

Sunday, November 16th
After Worship
We approve goals and budget for 2026

Building Committee Meeting

Tuesday, November 18th @ 5:30



Women's Retreat...

November 14-16, 2025
At Green Lake Bible Camp

"The Truth that sets you Free"

Is God's Word still relevant today?

Come along with us as we journey through the Bible, learning God's Commandments, His truths and how Satan tries to distract us from the truth. Come and surrender your weekend and let us grow together!

The cost will be \$130.00 for 2-night's stay at the Medayto Lodge (GL Bible Camp - Spicer) and the Teachings, some crafts and a whole lotta fun with our fellow Sisters.

Register by November 1st.

Check's payable to Living Word. You can give to Violet or Tammy M.



Chili Cookoff...



SAVE THE DATE!
2026 Chili Cook Off
is scheduled for
January 17th.

Page 4

Thot for a day: I didn't fight my way to the top of the food chain to be a vegetarian.

Page 5

Upcoming Fellowship Outings...



Celebrate Birthdays

We will celebrate November birthdays on
Tuesday, November 18th @ 11:00
at Golden Palace in Willmar

November Fellowship Outing

Thursday, November 16th @ 6:00
at Jim & Naomi Stinson's
730 Park Island Dr SW, Hutchinson, MN

Please remember to sign up if you can attend, as Marcia will need to make reservations. Thanks!

Confirmation News...

- 6-7th Confirmation classes:
6:00 p.m. Each Wednesday
(except Thanksgiving Eve)



Help Decorate...

...for ADVENT & CHRISTMAS:

Saturday, November 29th, at 10:00 a.m.

Everyone is invited to church, to decorate for Christmas.
After this we will have a potluck meal. Please bring a dish to pass.

Make-A-Meal Program...

One of the best (and simplest) ways to share Jesus' love is by taking a meal for someone who is going through a tough time.

Please join us as we
make a new batch of
meals:

**Saturday, November
15 @ 10:00 a.m.**



Thanksgiving Eve Worship...

Wednesday,
November 26

@ 6:30 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-Offering 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

(and other desserts)

After Thanksgiving Eve Worship

We are serving pie (pumpkin, etc.) and other desserts after the Thanksgiving Eve service.

A sign-up sheet will be posted for those who wish to help serve, or bring a pie or dessert.

Thanks!



Page 6

That for a day: I won't insult your intelligence by suggesting that you really believe what you just said.

Page 7



Lutheran Women's Missionary League

LWML Meeting & Women's Study:

NEXT MEETING & BIBLE STUDY: November 12th @ 10:00 a.m.

SHOES FOR MISSIONS:

A huge thank you to all who have donated! This is an on-going fund-raiser for Lutheran Island Camp. Please continue to bring your good used shoes, slippers, or boots to church. Collection tote is in the entry of the church.



LWML REGIONAL RALLY — SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2025

The LWML REGIONAL RALLY --- LAKE LAND 2 REGION (Wheaton Zone, Appleton Zone, Montevideo Zone) was on SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26th, and was very well attended. It was at the Veteran's Home in Montevideo. The speaker was Mary Scott, Parish nurse for Minnesota North LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD. She gave information on the importance of having a Living Will Advanced Directive.

Thank you to all who donated for the ingathering to the VA Home in Montevideo!

Email Humor...

ONE OF THE REASONS WHY JESUS NEEDED TO BE ALONE TO PRAY



Opportunities for Growth...



Sunday Morning Bible Study

The Book of Revelation
Every Sunday @ 9:00
Please join us for coffee and God's Word



Men's Study

Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.
(pre-study meet at 6:15)



Monthly Morning Women's Study:

Next study: Wednesday, Nov 12 @ 10:00 a.m.
All women are invited!

Congratulations...

Milo Welsh Stern, baptized into the family of God, November 2nd!
(grandson of Kevin & Marcia Welsh)

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



"It says on your résumé that you were
created in God's image. Very impressive."

Page 8

That for a day: If stupidity got us into this mess, why can't it get us out?

Page 9

Living Word's 2025 Goals Update...

- Continue the Make A Meal program.
We make more meals Saturday, Nov 15th @ 10:00
- Continue the monthly Fellowship outings: Birthdays and Supper
November 1st 6th, and 18th
- Continue the Birthday Card/Anniversary ministry
Ongoing
- Challenge every member to bring a guest this year
Be praying about who you can invite on Thanksgiving Eve
- Create a Visitors Table (Coffee, giveaways along with church and prayer ministry info)
Check out our new "Visitors (and members) Coffee Cart"
- Initiate the "Prayer D-Fence" Program
(Adults "adopting" a kid to pray for, send cards etc...)
We'll kick this off after Christmas!
- Start a Prayer Ministry - with people praying for/with others after the Sunday Service
Began in January
- A Concert!! **Was held at our Block Party on August 9th**
- Chili Cook-Off **Next Cook-Off is January 17th**
- Host a Block Party or Community Festival in the Spring
Held on August 9th
- Focus on the National Youth Gathering event for youth
7 youth attended the Gathering in July
- Coordinating with Redeemer, Willmar and St. John, Atwater to host joint youth events **Ongoing**
- Continue weekly Youth Gatherings
Every Wednesday @ 7:00
- Keep the church yard looking nice and continue to de-clutter the storage areas inside.
Ongoing

Remember to wear your Living Word Apparel...



A Thanksgiving Story...

Sandra felt as low as the heels of her shoes as she pushed against a November gust and the florist shop door.

Her life had been easy, like a spring breeze. Then in the fourth month of her second pregnancy, a minor automobile accident stole that from her.

During this Thanksgiving week she would have delivered a son. She grieved over her loss. As if that weren't enough, her husband's company threatened a transfer. Then her sister, whose holiday visit she coveted, called saying she could not come for the holiday.

Then Sandra's friend infuriated her by suggesting her grief was a God-given path to maturity that would allow her to empathize with others who suffer. She has no idea what I'm feeling, thought Sandra with a shudder.

Thanksgiving? Thankful for what? She wondered. For a careless driver whose truck was hardly scratched when he rear-ended her? For an airbag that saved her life but took that of her child?

"Good afternoon, can I help you?" The shop clerk's approach startled her.

"I...I need an arrangement," stammered Sandra.

"For Thanksgiving? Do you want beautiful but ordinary, or would you like to challenge the day with a customer favorite I call the Thanksgiving Special?" asked the shop clerk.

"I'm convinced that flowers tell stories," she continued. "Are you looking for something that conveys 'gratitude' this Thanksgiving?"

"Not exactly!" Sandra blurted out. "In the last five months, everything that could go wrong has gone wrong."

Sandra regretted her outburst, and was surprised when the shop clerk said, "I have the perfect arrangement for you."

Just then the shop door's small bell rang, and the shop clerk said, "Hi, Barbara...let me get your order." She politely excused herself and walked toward a small workroom, then quickly reappeared, carrying an arrangement of greenery, bows, and long-stemmed thorny roses, except the ends of the rose stems were neatly snipped: there were no flowers. "Want this in a box?" asked the clerk.

Sandra watched for the customer's response. Was this a joke? Who would want rose stems with no flowers! She waited for laughter, but neither woman laughed.

"Yes, please," Barbara, replied with an appreciative smile. "You'd think after three years of getting the special, I wouldn't be so moved

Page 10

Thot for a day: Asked to write a composition entitled, "What I'm thankful for on Thanksgiving," little Johnny wrote, "I'm thankful that I'm not a turkey."

Page 11

by its significance, but I can feel it right here, all over again," she said as she gently tapped her chest. And she left with her order.

"Uh," stammered Sandra, "that lady just left with, uh...she just left with no flowers!"

"Right," said the clerk, "I cut off the flowers. That's the Special. I call it the Thanksgiving Thorns Bouquet."

"Oh, come on, you can't tell me someone is willing to pay for that!" exclaimed Sandra.

"Barbara came into the shop three years ago, feeling much like you feel today," explained the clerk. "She thought she had very little to be thankful for. She had lost her father to cancer, the family business was failing, her son was into drugs, and she was facing major surgery."

"That same year I had lost my husband," continued the clerk, "and for the first time in my life, had just spent the holidays alone. I had no children, no husband, no family nearby, and too great a debt to allow any travel."

"So what did you do?" asked Sandra.

"I learned to be thankful for thorns," answered the clerk quietly. "I've always thanked God for the good things in my life and never questioned the good things that happened to me, but when bad stuff hit, did I ever ask questions! It took time for me to learn that dark times are important. I have always enjoyed the 'flowers' of life, but it took thorns to show me the beauty of God's comfort. You know, the Bible says that God comforts us when we're afflicted, and from His consolation we learn to comfort others."

Sandra sucked in her breath as she thought about the very thing her friend had tried to tell her. "I guess the truth is I don't want comfort. I've lost a baby and I'm angry with God."

Just then someone else walked in the shop. "Hey, Phil!" shouted the clerk to the balding, rotund man.

"My wife sent me in to get our usual Thanksgiving Special....12 thorny, long-stemmed stems!" laughed Phil as the clerk handed him a tissue-wrapped arrangement from the refrigerator.

"Those are for your wife?" asked Sandra incredulously. "Do you mind me asking why she wants something that looks like that?"

"No...I'm glad you asked," Phil replied. "Four years ago my wife and I nearly divorced. After forty years, we were in a real mess, but with the Lord's grace and guidance, we slogged through problem after problem. He rescued our marriage. Jenny here (the clerk) told me she kept a vase of rose stems to remind her of what she learned from 'thorny' times, and that was good enough for me. I took home some of those stems. My wife and I decided to label each one for a specific

"problem" and give thanks for what that problem taught us."

As Phil paid the clerk, he said to Sandra, "I highly recommend the Special!"

"I don't know if I can be thankful for the thorns in my life," Sandra said. "It's all too...fresh."

"Well," the clerk replied carefully, "my experience has shown me that thorns make roses more precious. We treasure God's providential care more during trouble than at any other time. Remember, it was a crown of thorns that Jesus wore so we might know His love. Don't resent the thorns."

Tears rolled down Sandra's cheeks. For the first time since the accident, she loosened her grip on resentment. "I'll take those twelve long-stemmed thorns, please," she managed to choke out.

"I hoped you would," said the clerk gently. "I'll have them ready in a minute."

"Thank you. What do I owe you?"

"Nothing, nothing but a promise to allow God to heal your heart. The first year's arrangement is always on me." The clerk smiled and handed a card to Sandra. "I'll attach this card to your arrangement, but maybe you would like to read it first."

It read: "My God, I have never thanked You for my thorns. I have thanked You a thousand times for my roses, but never once for my thorns. Teach me the glory of the cross I bear; teach me the value of my thorns. Show me that I have climbed closer to You along the path of pain. Show me that, through my tears, the colors of Your rainbow look much more brilliant."

Praise Him for your roses; thank him for your thorns!

Join Us Sunday
Mornings for...



Page 12

That for a day: Apparently the toilets on display at Home Depot are not for actual use.

Page 13

Opportunities to Serve...

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.

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



Help Record our Worship Services...

that we livestream and later upload our YouTube channel (New London Living Word). Talk to Pastor David if you can help out with this - just one Sunday a month. (Hint: It's really not difficult - even Pastor figured it out!)



Teal's Rebate Program...

...has been discontinued. Thanks to everyone who saved receipts.

Custodian Volunteers Needed.

For any month in 2025 or 2026

Pick Your Month for you (or your family) to be our Church Custodian.

We are still in need of volunteers. Talk to our Trustee, Lonnie Robbin, to sign up or find out more details.



Building Committee Update...

Check out the new computerized drawings on the table by the entry door at church.



The Committee is in the process of planning for raising funds.

We've had a generous challenge:

As soon as we raise and additional \$70,000 the "challenger" will donate \$100,000 !!!

"Challenge" Money Raised: 100 % !!!!

Money in CDs and Building Account: \$150,000

A HUGE "Thank You" to everyone who has made a pledge !!!

The BUILDING TEAM will meet Tuesday, November 18 @ 5:30 to begin putting together some specific plans!

November 2025 - Daily Readings

The book of Romans is chock-full of important truths to guide us through all sorts of situations of life. This month's devotions take us through this key book in God's Word

Pastor records the readings (along with devotions based on the readings).

To receive these audio recordings daily, just email him: pastor@livingwordlutheran.net.

NOTE: Email or text Pastor with questions you have on something you read.

WEEK OF NOVEMBER 2

Nov 3 Romans 1:5 _____

Nov 4 Romans 1:17-18 _____

Nov 5 Romans 1:20 _____

Nov 6 Romans 2:1 _____

Nov 7 Romans 2:1, 3:10-20 _____

WEEK OF NOVEMBER 9 -

Nov 10 Romans 3:22-28 _____

Nov 11 Romans 5:1 _____

Nov 12 Romans 5:6-11 _____

Nov 13 Romans 6:15 _____

Nov 14 Romans 7:7-25 _____

WEEK OF NOVEMBER 16 -

Nov 17 Romans 8:1,15-17 _____

Recordings of the Daily Readings can also be found on our website at:

<https://www.livingwordlutheran.net/devotions.htm>

Nov 18 Romans 8:21 _____

Nov 19 Romans 8:26-27 _____

Nov 20 Romans 8:28 _____

Nov 21 Romans 8:29 _____

WEEK OF NOVEMBER 23 -

Nov 24 Romans 8:31-32 _____

Nov 25 Romans 8:35-39 _____

Nov 26 Romans 10:9-10,17 _____

Nov 27 Romans 12:1 _____

Nov 28 Romans 12:2 _____

WEEK OF - NOVEMBER 30

Dec 1 Romans 12:3-8 _____

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Dec 2 Romans 12:9-21 _____

Dec 3 Romans 14: _____

Dec 4 Romans 15:3 _____

Dec 5 Romans 15:13 _____

November 2025 - Living Word Lutheran - Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 STANDARD TIME RETURNS 9:00 - SUNDAY SCHOOL - ADULT STUDY 10:00 - WORSHIP w/communion 11:15 - FELLOWSHIP	3	4 6:30 - MEN'S STUDY	5 6:00 - CONFIRMATION 7:00 - YOUTH GROUP	6 6:00 - FELLOWSHIP OUTING @ STINSONS' in HUTCH	7	8
9 9:00 - SUNDAY SCHOOL - ADULT STUDY 10:00 - WORSHIP 11:15 - FELLOWSHIP	10	11 6:30 - MEN'S STUDY	12 10:00 - LWML & WOMEN'S STUDY 6:00 - CONFIRMATION 7:00 - YOUTH GROUP	13 <i>MISSION Ministry</i> 5:30 - ELDERS' TEAM 6:30 - MISSION & MINISTRY TEAM	14 WOMEN'S RETREAT	15 10:00 MEAL MAKING WOMEN'S RETREAT
16 SHOE-BOX DEDICATION 9:00 - SUNDAY SCHOOL - ADULT STUDY 10:00 - WORSHIP w/communion 11:15 - VOTERS' ASSEMBLY & FELLOWSHIP	17	18 11:00 - CELEBRATE NOV & DEC B-DAYS At Golden Palace 5:30 - BUILDING TEAM 6:30 - MEN'S STUDY	19 6:00 - CONFIRMATION 7:00 - YOUTH GROUP	20 Lord's Supper Dates • Sunday, November 2nd • Sunday, November 16th • Thanksgiving Ee, November 26th	21	22
23 9:00 - SUNDAY SCHOOL - ADULT STUDY 10:00 - WORSHIP 11:15 - FELLOWSHIP	24	25 6:30 - MEN'S STUDY	26 THANKSGIVING EVE 6:30 - THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE w/communion 7:30 - PIE FELLOWSHIP	27 	28	29 10:00 DECORATE CHURCH for ADVENT & CHRISTMAS
30 9:00 - SUNDAY SCHOOL - ADULT STUDY 10:00 - WORSHIP 11:15 - FELLOWSHIP	Dec 1	Dec 2	Dec 3	Dec 4	Dec 5	Dec 6

Upcoming Schedules...

After-Worship Fellowship

We will have coffee / water and cookies at 11:15 after worship .Please join us when you can! ...and, if you can, please sign up to serve coffee and goodies some Sunday.



Usher Schedule

Nov 2	Jim & Torasie Larson
Nov 9	Jason & Levi Miller
Nov 16	Pam Johnson & Linda Van Meter
Nov 23	Larry Levin & Gerry Butler
Thanksgiving Eve	
Nov 30	

USHERS NEEDED

We are still in need of more ushers to help collect offering. Please sign up at church if you could take a turn. Thanks!

Elders

Nov 2 and 9	Dan & Steve
Nov 16, 23 and 26	Kevin & Duane

Custodian

November	Available
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PowerPoint Clicker Operator

Nov 2	Open
Nov 9	Elsa
Nov 16	Open
Nov 23 or 30	Drew

Altar Guild

November	Mona Hjelle
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Accompanying Musicians

Nov 2	Sharon Willen
Nov 9	Scott Wachter
Nov 16	Sharon Willen
Nov 23	Scott Wachter
Thanksgiving Eve	
Nov 30	



Page 18

Thot for a day: Ever get the feeling your stuff strutted off without you?

Page 19

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.

In October we thanked God for...

- Summer in October
- M.E.A.

Let Pastor know how you'd complete that sentence in November.



Smoke-Detector Battery Outreach...



We have extra's from our Annual Smoke-Detector Battery Giveaway

Please take home some for yourself - and your neighbors!

Seen on Church Signboards...

**IT'S NOT HAPPY PEOPLE
WHO ARE THANKFUL ...**

**IT'S THANKFUL PEOPLE
WHO ARE HAPPY !!!**

November Discipleship Verse...

"I Am the Light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but have the Light of Life." John 8:12

Note: This is the sixth of six Discipleship Verses that were verses our spring Confirmands chose as their Confirmation Verse. This month's verse is Evelyn Wright's.

Email Wisdom...

From God's Book of
"Practical Wisdom for Every-
day" (Proverbs)

- Where there is strife, there is pride, but wisdom is found in those who take advice.
Proverbs 13:10
- Whoever scorns instruction will pay for it, but whoever respects a command is rewarded.
Proverbs 13:13
- Walk with the wise and become wise, for a companion of fools suffers harm.
Proverbs 13:20
- The wise fear the Lord and shun evil, but a fool is hotheaded and yet feels secure.
Proverbs 14:16
- It is a sin to despise one's neighbor, but blessed is the one who is kind to the needy.
Proverbs 14:21
- A heart at peace gives life to the body, but envy rots the bones.
Proverbs 14:30
- Whoever oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker, but whoever is kind to the needy honors God.
Proverbs 14:31
- A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.
Proverbs 15:1
- Better a little with the fear of the Lord than great wealth with turmoil.
Proverbs 15:16
- A hot-tempered person stirs up conflict, but the one who is patient calms a quarrel.
Proverbs 15:18
- All a person's ways seem pure to them, but motives are weighed by the Lord.
Proverbs 16:2
- Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and he will establish your plans.
Proverbs 16:3



Page 20

Thot for a day: I childproofed m y house, but they're still getting in.

Page 21

Operation Christmas Child...

Operation Christmas Child DEDICATION SUNDAY

November 16th !

The congregation and the children are invited to participate in "Operation Christmas Child". Dedication Sunday for this mission will be Sunday, November 16, with brochures, boxes and labels provided. **Deadline for the boxes to be brought back to church, will be Wednesday, November 19th.**

If you need more info, go to www.samaritanaspurse.org. Thank you for partnering with Samaritans Purse, as we share God's love with children around the world.



Thank You...

- A HUGE "Thank You" for your generous gifts and encouraging words on Pastor (and Wife) Appreciation Sunday! We are so grateful for your partnership in the Gospel!

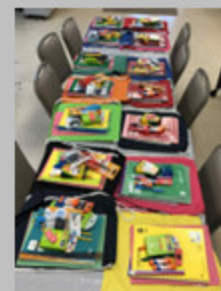
Pastor David & Violet

- Thanks you to all who helped the past summer in keeping the church grounds looking great.

- A special thanks to all who contributed to our mission project for VBS for Orphan Grain Train. 14 School Kits were put together.

If you have someone you'd like to thank, please email

webmaster@livingwordlutheran.net



"Participate" in Worship from home...

If you can't be here in person: Watch on our YouTube channel with Sunday services being livestreamed at

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCG9eU-VvIJEU22yCYxbhwjg/featured>

NOVEMBER 2025

Check out our website for links to the monthly newsletters, streaming church services, daily devotions, and more!



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 10am Church	3	4	5 6pm Confirmation 7pm Youth Group	6	7 Reality Conference - Apologetics Eden Prairie, MN	8
9 10am Church	10	11 Birthday Lunch Celebration	12 6pm Confirmation 7pm Youth Group	13 7am The Well Breakfast	14	15
16 10am Church	17 6:45 Youth Leaders online meeting 7:00 Adult Youth Group Leadership online meeting	18	19 6pm Confirmation 7pm Youth Group	20 Congregation Supper	21	22
23 10am Church	24	25	26 No Youth Group - Enjoy your turkey!	27	28	29
30 10am Church						

notes

Nov. 5 - Youth Group: Bible Study

Nov. 7-8 - Reality Conference in Eden Prairie, RSVP by Sept. 10 to Becky, info: <https://www.realityapologetics.com/mn/>

Nov. 11 - Birthday Lunch, RSVP to Marcia, location varies each month, expense on your own, open to all ages

Nov. 12 - Youth Group: Fall Festival? or other fellowship activity

Nov. 13 - The Well breakfast club at Peace Lutheran, free for all area youth

Nov. 17 - 6:45 online youth leaders meeting, 7pm online adult leadership meeting

Nov. 19 - Youth Group: Bible Study

Nov. 20 - Congregation Supper, location varies each month, RSVP to Marcia, open to all ages, expense is your own

Nov. 26 - NO youth group - enjoy your family time!

If you would join our parent group, you would have access to our communications. Feel free to use any photos or dates from that group.

Click here: https://groupme.com/join_group/101771809/iJuNXP4k

Youth Group
Pumpkin Carving...



A Minute for Couples...

(from the Prepare-Enrich blog)

Handling Hot Topics in Social Settings

Imagine you and your spouse are out celebrating a friend's birthday. You're chatting away catching up with another couple, and they ask you if you're going on any vacations this year. You immediately tense up. They wouldn't know this, but this has been a sore spot in your marriage for the last couple of months. Your spouse shoots you a look; you shoot them one back.

Have you been in this situation before? A major point of contention between you and your spouse comes up in front of others. Maybe it's something you've been arguing about, like in the example. Or it could be an elephant in the room that you haven't discussed yet. Either way, you're caught off-guard and put on the spot. Maybe there's awkward silence, or you can feel your emotions start to bubble up. How do you respond? Here are a few tips for handling hot topics in social settings.

1. Maintain boundaries.

The topic might be tied to very private or personal details. If you don't typically share this information with others, this is not the time to start. Uphold the privacy boundaries of your marriage – don't divulge details you haven't okayed with your spouse. Similarly, if you have thoughts or opinions on the matter that you haven't shared with your spouse yet, be empathetic if you decide to do so. It doesn't always feel great when your spouse opens up with a third party present before they've shared those same sentiments with you (sometimes this can cause conflict in its own right!)

2. Be respectful.

Let's say the question raised is actually a major issue in your relationship. It might be tempting to throw your spouse under the bus in order to gain an unbiased perspective or even just to see if the person's opinion on the matter aligns with your own. Although it might feel satisfying in the moment, this can be a major blow to your connection as a couple and the sense of loyalty and emotional safety you have with one another. Respect your marriage by keeping the issue between you and your spouse.

3. Give a vague answer if you need to.

The people around you might be waiting for an answer, but you don't have to give one if you're not comfortable doing so. Be gracious, but clear, if it's something you'd rather not discuss in front of everyone. You might say something like, "We're actually still trying to figure that



Page 24

That for a day: An Illinois man is suing Smart Water for not making him smart. I think I will formally declare my lawsuit against Thin Mints.

Page 25

out, we'll get back to you!" Inject some humor to keep things light, but

4. Debrief later.

You might be eager to discuss the moment with your spouse, or you might secretly hope you both forget about it. Either way, most of the time you'll benefit from a private debrief afterwards. It can be an opportunity to either reopen the conversation or finally address it if you haven't yet. It's also a chance to talk about the way you both handled the situation in the moment. How were you each affected? Is there anything that could have been handled better, and if so, how? How can you be supportive of each other in similar circumstances in the future?

Chances are, you and your spouse will experience this situation at some point, if you haven't already. You can't determine when or if it will happen, but you can take control of how you respond to it. Will it be an uncomfortable public argument you wish you could take back, or an emotional fight when you get home? Or will it be an opportunity to cement your teammate status, strengthen your connection, and maybe even laugh at the moment in hindsight? You decide!

Email Inspiration...

From Mikey's Funnies

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 ranging from 2 to 5 pounds.

The lecturer replied, "The absolute weight doesn't matter. It depends on how long you try to hold it."

He continued, "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."

"And that's the way it is with stress management. 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."

So...

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Philipians 4:6-7

Miscellaneous Notes...

Food Pantry Reminder

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



Check out our "Free Stuff" Table

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

- Kid's books
- November Newsletters
- October-December Portals of Prayer
- Smoke Detector batteries

Recorded videos of Semons

Sermons can be found in on our Living Word YouTube channel (New London Living Word) at

<https://www.youtube.com/@newlondonlivingword8097/streams>

Oct 5 "Why did Jesus have to do the miracle in Mark 8 twice?

Oct 12 Attitudes Jesus teaches us in the words of the Lord's Prayer:
"Father."

Oct 19 Attitudes Jesus teaches us in the words of the Lord's Prayer:
"Holy [hallowed] be Your name."

Oct 26 Attitudes Jesus teaches us in the words of the Lord's Prayer:
"Your kingdom come."

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.

Page 26

That for a day: It's crazy how the trees all change color at the same time each year. The process must be "automated".

Page 27

Prayer...



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 HUGE 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 to PRAY for things like... these VBS Prayers:

- Thanking God for the amazing Fall weather and colors
- Thanking God for helping us meet our initial Building fundraising goal!
- People you can invite to Thanksgiving Eve worship or any of our fellowship activities
- Safety during hunting and harvesting
- Thanking God for all Veterans and those who currently serve
- An "Attitude of Gratitude" everyday - not just on Thanksgiving Day
- Safe travels over the Thanksgiving holiday
- Asking God to open people's eyes to see that Jesus is what they need
- For God to continue giving comfort and peace to those grieving.
- Asking God's guidance for our MMT as they plan for a new year
- Asking God for courage to follow where He guides
- For all those who are home-bound or in nursing facilities
- Continued wisdom for guidance and decisions (BIG and small)
- Thanking God that His Word is Truth amidst the lies of the world.
- Protection from the deceitful messages Satan sends your way
- Asking God for faith to stand for His Truth like Daniel's 3 friends !
- Asking God to humble you, seek Him and repent (2 Chronicles 7:14)
- God's protection, wisdom & courage for government leaders
- The ministry of the Jastrams in Japan

After-Worship Prayer Ministry

We have people who will pray with you or for you after Sunday service. They gather for prayer near the piano, just meet them there.

Also, we're always looking for a few more people who have a passion for praying!!!

Monthly Music Videos...

New Christmas music is already starting to show up, but we'll hold that till next month. Here is some great new music from the month of October...

- I'm sure you've already heard this one since it is already the most added song on Christian radio, but for King & Country with Taylor Hill just released their first original song in 2 1/2 years, "World On Fire" ... <https://youtu.be/Dnfbpu7ISGU>
- I don't usually feature rap music here, but "What If I Told You" by Phil Wickham also features a clip from Billy Graham... https://youtu.be/tOGf_zWoBwM
- "Don't Let The Darkness" is a great new song from We The Kingdom... <https://youtu.be/D9quJsYLuTQ>
- Jamie MacDonald released a new song called "You Can't Take My Song" ... <https://youtu.be/Sib6Mm2UVkY>
- "Coming Out Of Babylon" is by Robert Peterson and The Crusade (a rock band from St Paul, MN)... <https://youtu.be/p-kFbisM2BM>
- The Band Reeves (brothers Jeremy & Cody) just released a new song called "Jesus Won't" ... <https://youtu.be/m1XR6ty5BML>
- From her new album, *Stars*, Anne Wilson released "Carry Me" ... <https://youtu.be/PSHG4iIHHAJ>
- New artist, Canaan Baca has released "More Like Jesus" ... <https://youtu.be/g807Remhvtc>
- Country music artist, Drew Parker is turning to Christian music with "Blame Jesus" ... <https://youtu.be/gwSn3YhYAFc>
- "This House Won't Fall" is a new release from Emerson Day... <https://youtu.be/wMo4ljEgTMs>
- "Already On The Way" is the latest from Seph Schlueter with Benjamin Williams Hastings... <https://youtu.be/Ndf4sBIL8I>
- Forrest Frank and Josiah Queen have released a new song, "Jesus Is Coming Back Soon" ... <https://youtu.be/A42LnRppG1c>
- Dove Awards new artist of the year, Leanna Crawford released "Beginning Of Your Grace" ... <https://youtu.be/llaXJ5ouWG4>
- Patrick Mayberry with Katie Torwalt released a new song, "God Is Faithful" ... https://youtu.be/GNcYT_F2lQw
- Matthew West has a new song called, "Be Close" ... <https://youtu.be/V63Wgg-vtiI>

Page 28

That for a day: Middle age is when you still believe you'll feel better in the morning.

Page 29

- I like this new song from Maverick City Music "Diamond" ... <https://youtu.be/SrQizsQumAo>
- The latest song from Kristian Stanfill is "Say It That Way" ... https://youtu.be/sMu1it_oEBo
- New sister rock duo, The Band JAREN, has a new song called "Poetic" ... https://youtu.be/VKZYvPjr3_Y
- Consumed By Fire released a new song, "Higher Places" ... <https://youtu.be/HqZ0FPE8pg4>

BONUS VIDEO: For a couple hours of great entertainment and music watch the recent 2025 Annual Dove Awards Show at <https://youtu.be/CPrCn9eF6JQ>

Story Behind The Song...

With the upcoming celebration of Thanksgiving, people in churches, schools, and other events will sing the traditional harvest song, "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come," by Henry Alford (1810-1871).

Alford was born into a long line of Anglican clergymen in London, England, on Oct. 7, 1810. He was nurtured by Christian parents and was raised early by his father and later by his uncle, Rev. Samuel Alford, due to his mother's death during his birth. Their example guided him into a personal commitment to Jesus Christ.

Upon graduation from Trinity College, Cambridge, he began his public ministry in London as theologian, poet and musician. The statement of faith written in his Bible when he was a young man of sixteen was joyfully fulfilled during his life of service.

On November 18, 1827, sixteen-year-old Henry Alford wrote in his Bible: "I do this day, as in the presence of God and my own soul, renew my covenant with God and solemnly determine henceforth to become His, and to do His work as far as in me lies." The rest of his life, this serious and holy young man showed that he meant what he said.

At college, he chummed with the noblest men of his day, among them Alfred Lord Tennyson. One of the dears said, "I really think he was morally the bravest man I ever knew. His perfect purity of mind and singleness of purpose seemed to give him a confidence and unobtrusive self-respect which never failed him." Rejecting participation in the sins that were so common among young men at Cambridge, he became an outstanding scholar. It did not go to his head. For example, he wrote in his journal, "I went up to town and received the Holy Orders

of a Priest; may I be a temple of chastity and holiness, fit and clean to receive so great a guest; and, on so great a commission as I have now received, O my beloved Redeemer, my dear Brother and Master, hear my prayer."

For eighteen years, Alford worked as a vicar to the small parish of Wymeswold. It had been neglected and he rebuilt it, visiting every soul in his keeping. One of his major undertakings was a series of Sunday afternoon sermons in which he taught through books of the Bible, explaining their meaning. He had a knack for explaining things in a way the simple people could understand.

After many years of hard work, chiefly at Wymeswold, he accepted a position at Canterbury Cathedral that allowed him more time to write. At Canterbury, he began a series of Sunday afternoon services as he had done at Wymeswold. Again these attracted large crowds. His preaching was evangelical. Formal church leaders considered him a bit radical but his good humor and friendliness won their affection.

Henry died rather unexpectedly in 1871.

Come Ye Thankful People Come was written to celebrate the beautiful days of harvest festival in the English countryside in 1844 and published it under the heading, "After Harvest."

Come, ye thankful people, come,
Raise the song of harvest home;
All is safely gathered in,
Ere the winter storms begin;
God our Maker doth provide
For our wants to be supplied;
Come to God's own temple, come,
Raise the song of harvest home.

All the world is God's own field,
Fruit unto His praise to yield;
Wheat and tares together sown,
Unto joy or sorrow grown;
First the blade, and then the ear,
Then the full corn shall appear:
Lord of harvest, grant that we
Wholesome grain and pure may be.

For the Lord our God shall come,
And shall take His harvest home;
From His field shall in that day
All offenses purge away;
Give His angels charge at last

Page 30

Thot for a day: Background and circumstances may influence who we are, but we are responsible for who we become.

Page 31

In the fire the tares to cast;
But the fruitful ears to store
In His garner evermore.

Even so, Lord, quickly come,
Bring Thy final harvest home;
Gather Thou Thy people in,
Free from sorrow, free from sin,
There, forever purified,
In Thy garner to abide;
Come, with all Thine angels come,
Raise the glorious harvest home.

The classic hymn... <https://youtu.be/msOzJ6DY7EA>

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson

