



September 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...

"Can you do a Bible Study on the book of Revelation?"

Revelation (there's no "s" at the end of it) is not only the last book in the Bible, it's also the one that I get the most requests to study - and it's not even close.



It's been a few years since I've led a study on this book, so the short answer is: "Sure. Why not."

I'll tackle the study on Sunday mornings with the challenge of not getting so focused on the "trees" that we miss the "forest." Not getting so caught up trying to figure out the identity of, for example, the beasts, that we miss the main purpose God gave the "revelation" to the Apostle John in the first place: To encourage Christians to hang onto their faith in tough times.

Not long ago, one of the questions I tackled in this space was "Is the Bible literal or figurative?" My answer was, "Yes, and Yes." We interpret individual passages the way the author intended them. If the intent was literal, then we interpret it as literal. If the intent was figurative, then that's how we interpret it. One huge challenge in interpreting the book of Revelation is that much of the book of Revelation is figurative. It is FULL of symbolism.

Every day in life we see symbols that we have to interpret. For example, when you see a 8-sided red sign or an upside down yellow triangle at an intersection, you don't think, "Hmmm, that's cool, they're teaching geometry class as I drive." You interpret them, not literally as geometrical shapes, you interpret them figuratively as "signs" telling you to STOP or YIELD.

You'd get into big trouble if you interpreted those octagons and triangles as merely geometric shapes. It's the same with the book of Revelation. We get into big trouble when we interpret the many symbols in book literally instead of as signs that represent something.

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So, please join us Sunday mornings at 9:00 for coffee as we attempt to unpack the meaning of the many signs that are designed to encourage us. (The study will start on September 14.)

Thanks for asking Pastor David

Send your questions to pastor@livingwordlutheran.net

Sunday September 7



+ Sunday School Classes Resume!

9:00 a.m.

+ Sunday Morning Bible Study Resumes!

9:00 a.m.

+ Worship returns to Fall/Winter/Spring Schedule! 10:00 a.m.

+ Grandparents' Day Potluck!

Following Worship

+ Outing at Willmar Indoor Golf (W.I.G.)

1:00

Communion Notes...

The Lord's Supper will be celebrated in August on the normal First and Third Sundays (September 7th and September 21st)



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, September 11th @ 6:30 p.m. Elders' Team @ 5:30 prior to MMT



Who Can You Invite?...

...to Rally Sunday (Sept 7)?

- Talk to God about them.
- Then talk to them about joining you.

(Make sure to tell them you can pick them up!)
And don't forget, worship goes back to 10:00 that day.

Chili Cookoff...



SAVE THE DATE!

2026 Chili Cook Off is scheduled for January 17th.

Block Party Thanks...

Many thanks to all who assisted in any way to make this year's community block party a success! So many people showed up to help I cannot even begin to list, but many thanks!

We had about 100 people attending with approximately 20 outside of our congregation. Many times I heard how wonderful the

people are here. What a huge compliment to be Jesus's hands and feet.

Jennifer Marie (who provided our music) also noted what a wonderful friendly congregation we are. Sadly, our food truck was MIA. Next time we will have a better backup plan for that.

PHOTOS ON PAGES 6 & 7...

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Upcoming Fellowship Outings...



Celebrate Birthdays

We will celebrate September birthdays on Tuesday, September 23rd @ 11:00 at Spicer Legion

September Fellowship Outing

Thursday, September 25th @ 6:00 at the Handle Bar in Atwater



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.

Invite a friend to come along on this Journey! Questions? Talk to Violet or Tammy M

Fall/Winter/Spring Worship Time:

10:00 a.m.



Resumes Rally Sunday, September 7

(9:00 a.m. Worship ends August 31)

Thot for a day:

Block Party 2025... Page 6

Opportunities for Growth...



Sunday Morning Bible Study Beginning on Sept 7th @ 9:00)



Men's Study
Starting Tuesday, September 7th at 6:30 p.m.
(pre-study meat at 6:15)



Monthly Morning Women's Study:

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

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 grab some meals from the freezer at church and take them to someone who's going through a tough time.

National Youth Gathering News...

THANK YOU! To Everyone Who Helped Make This Possible

AND, Please Continue to Pray for God to Continue the Work He Began at the Gathering!



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usually reveals that the best time to buy anything

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A careful study is last year.

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Living Word's 2025 Goals Update...

Continue the Make A Meal program.

We made more meals in July

- Continue the monthly Fellowship outings: Birthdays and Supper Tuesday, September 23rd and Thursday, September 25th
- Continue the Birthday Card/Anniversary ministry
 Ongoing
- Challenge every member to bring a guest this year
 Be praying about who you can invite to join you
- 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....)

Currently looking for a coordinator

 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
 Held on January 18th
- Host a Block Party or Community Festival in the Spring Coming 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

Starts up again in September

 Keep the church yard looking nice and continue to de-clutter the storage areas inside.

Ongoing

Remember to wear your Living Word Apparel...









August Fellowship Events..



Fellowship at Tequila Town...



Please join us for our September fellowship events listed on page 5.

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A Minute for Parents...

Helping Kids Cope With Back To School

It's that time of year again. Parents are often relieved to return to a routine with consistent coverage for their kids, and some children are eager to reunite with friends. However, not everyone shares this enthusiasm. Both parents and children can experience the "Back to School Scaries."

What Are the Back to School Scaries?

The "Back to School Scaries" refer to the apprehensions, fears, and anxieties that arise when returning to school after a break. Similar to the "Sunday Scaries" some experience before the workweek. Children may express reluctance about returning to school. They might whine, complain, or come up with excuses to stay home and continue enjoying the "Summer Life." As the school year approaches, some children may even complain of stomachaches. These feelings might manifest as defiance, tantrums, whining, increased conflicts with siblings or peers, or physical illness.

Why Don't They Want to Go Back?

Sometimes, the reason is simple: the summer was just too much fun, and they don't want it to end. Parents can relate to enjoying a slower pace and not being bossed around by the clock. Other times, it's the fear of the unknown—wondering who their teacher will be, what friends they'll have, or recalling a negative experience from the previous year, like bullying or academic struggles. Whatever the reason, their feelings are valid.

What Can Parents and Caregivers Do?

Validate and Listen: Don't dismiss their concerns or try to convince them it's not a big deal. To them, it's very real. When you validate their feelings, you help them feel seen and can guide them into problemsolving mode.

Problem-Solve: Ask them what they need and plan for how they'll cope if they feel scared or anxious. Give them alternative thoughts to focus on, strategies to self-soothe, and identify who they can go to at school if they feel overwhelmed.

Encourage Them: Remind them of a time when they felt a similar way and came through it okay. Share your own experiences of overcoming fear and emphasize that these feelings are temporary. The first few days might be uncomfortable, but once they settle into a routine, meet new people, and problem-solve, they'll likely feel better.

Practice: Have a practice run of the morning routine. Plan out outfits and lunches, and visit the school to reacquaint them with the environment.

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Confirmation News...

This fall our 6th and 7th graders start a new Confirmation group.

- Parents' Meeting -Wednesday, September 3 @ 6:00
- 6-7th Confirmation class starts up Sept. 10 @ 6:00 (Pastor will have pizza available at 5:45)



LWMLMeeting & Women's Study:

NEXT MEETING & BIBLE STUDY: September 10 @ 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.





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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!!!

Some pertinent figures (as of August 15):

"Challenge" Money Raised: \$65,000 (of \$70,000 needed)

Money in CDs and Building Account: \$120,000

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

Thank You...

- To ALL who served in some way to make VBS a Great success!
 Meal makers, meal servers, those who donated food items, all
 my helpers in presenting the lesson, in crafts, music, games, play ground helpers and especially to the parents/grandparents who
 brought their children! It was a great 4 days with all the kids and
 several new faces who we got to know!
- Special Thanks to Mona Hjelle for organizing our VBS!
- Thank you to all who brought school supplies for Orphan Grain Train! Thank you for making a difference in a child's life! For many it will mean they will be able to attend school! And for sharing the love of Jesus to many!

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

Smoke-Detector Battery Outreach...

We Have LOTS of Batteries left from Our Annual Smoke-Detector Battery Giveaway Please take some from the "Free Stuff" Table for your family and friends!



Email Wisdom...

From God's Book of "Practical Wisdom for Everyday" (Proverbs)

- Two things I ask of you, LORD; Do not refuse me before I die: Keep falsehood and lies far from me; Give me neither poverty nor riches, but give me only my daily bread. Otherwise, I may have too much and disown you and say, "Who is the LORD?" Or I may become poor and steal and so dishonor the name oof my God. Proverbs 30:7-9
- "The leech has two daughters: Give and Give." Proverbs 30:15
- If you have been foolish, exalting yourself, Or if you have been devising evil, Put your hand to your mouth.

Proverbs 30:32

- Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy. Proverbs 31:8-9
- Charm is deceitful and beauty is fleeting. But a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.

Proverbs 31:30

- . The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, But fools despise wisdom and instruction. Proverbs 1:7
- Listen, my son, to your father's instruction And do not forsake your mother's teaching. They are a garland to grace your head And a chain to adorn your neck. Proverbs 1:8-9



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News from The Link...



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Linking People. Building Community. **AUGUST**

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

The Food Pantry



Household Exchange

families provided with

household needs including. but not limited to: clothing dishes furniture

Client Services & Outreach



provided with financial support to families facing hardships, such as: job loss, chronic illness, homelessness & increased cost of living. This support includes, but is not limited to: medical bills, prescription costs, utility bills, rent/mortgage payments and other

referrals given

13 families provided with budgeting support

advocacy support

families provided with ¶¶ families provided with networking support

Tuesday's Table

568

individuals served a free community meal with

Tuesday's Table

Wildcat Backpacks



Sponsor a child for the 25-26 school year

students currently enrolled from the NL-S Schools to receive food for the weekend.

Foster Stitches

children in foster care provided with clothing

School Supplies

72 students provided with school supplies

"Tuesday: Our Lady of the Lakes 2nd Tuesday: Evangelical Covenant 3rd Tuesday: Faith Lutheran 4th Tuesday: Peace Lutheran 5th Tuesday, Crossroads Community

Tuesday's Table Schedule:

How can you help?

- . Donate unexpired food items to The Food Pantry OR organize a food drive:
- talking to your friends and family and sharing on social media;
- . Invite The Link's staff to attend a business or church meeting, book club or any other group events to help spread awareness of The Link's programs;
- . Pray for The Link & the community

- . Help us spread awareness about The Link's by
- · Volunteer at The thrift store or in the food pantry:

Volunteer Hours

- 405
- hours donated by generous community members to keep The Link's programs running smoothly



Current Needs

- · Household essentials (i.e. dishes, towels, sheets, small furniture items, etc.:
- . Donations for the Thrift Store
- . Gently used clothing of any size: . Unexpired food for The Food Pantry
- · Winter gear
- · Sponsors for the Wildcat Backpack Program OR a food truck:
- · Monetary donations to a program of your choice OR to The Link's general fund.

For more information on The Link's programs OR to make a monetary donation, please scan the QR code or visit www.youarethelink.org

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!!!! YOU are The Link!!!





320-354-5465



September 2025 - Daily Readings

This month we begin a new devotion focus: Who are the Gospel writers -

Matthew, Mark, Luke and John? We find out more about them, the things about Jesus they emphasized - as well as things they included in their gospel that you won't find anywhere else.

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 AUGUST 31

Sept 3	Michal - 2 Samuel 6
Sept 3	Mephibposheth - 2 Samuel 9
Sept 4	Nathan - 2 Samuel 12
Sept 5	Jedediah - 2 Samuel 16
	WEEK OF SEPT 7 - Getting to know Matthew and his Gospel
Sept 8	Matthew9:9-13, Mark 2:14
Sept 9	Matthew1:1-17
Sept 10	Matthew 1:18-25
Sept 11	Matthew2:1-12
Sept 12	Matthew 7:28, 11:1, 13:53, 19:1, 26:1
	WEEK OF SEPT 14 - Unique narratives from Matthew
Sept 15	Matthew 5 - 7

Recordings of the Daily Readings can also be found on our website at: https://www.livingwordlutheran.net/devotions.htm

Sept 16	Matthew13
Sept 17	Matthew 25:31-46
Sept 18	Matthew 27:45-65
Sept 19	Matthew28:16-20
	WEEK OF SEPT 21 - Getting to know MARK and his Gospel
Sept 22	Acts 12:12, 25
Sept 23	Mark 14:51
Sept 24	Acts 13:5,13
Sept 25	Acts 15:36-39
Sept 26	2 Timothy 4:11
	WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 28 - Unique Narratives from Mark
Sept 29	Mark, 1:16, 16:7, 1 Peter 5:13
Sept 30	Mark 1:1-8
Oct 1	Mark 1:21-28
Oct 2	Mark 9:14-29
Oct 3	Mark 16:8, 9-20

September 2025 - Living Word Lutheran - Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9:00 - WORSHIP 10:15 - FELLOWSHIP	1 LABOR DAY	2 11:00 -SEPT BIRTHDAYS at Muddy Cow 6:30 - MEN'S STUDY	PARENT MEETINGS 6:00 - Confirmation Parents 7:00 - All Youth Parents	4	5	7:00 YOUTH DECORATE for GRANDPARENTS DAY
7 RALLY SUNDAY And Grandparents' Day 9:00 - SUNDAY SCHOOL - ADULT STUDY 10:00 - WORSHIP 11:15 - RALLY-DAY POTLUCK 1:00 - OUTING at W.I.G.	8	9 6:30 - MEN'S STUDY	10 10:00 - LWML & WOMEN'S STUDY 6:00 - CONFIRMATION 7:00 - YOUTH GROUP	MISSION Winistry 5:30 - ELDERS' TEAM 6:30 - MISSION & MINISTRY TEAM	12	13
9:00 - SUNDAY SCHOOL - ADULT STUDY 10:00 - WORSHIP 11:15 - FELLOWSHIP	15	6:30 - MEN'S STUDY	17 6:00 - CONFIRMATION 7:00 - YOUTH GROUP	Sunda	's Supper ,, Septem ,, Septem	ber 7th
9:00 - SUNDAY SCHOOL - ADULT STUDY 10:00 - WORSHIP 11:15 - FELLOWSHIP	22	23 6:30 - MEN'S STUDY	6:00 - CONFIRMATION 7:00 - YOUTH GROUP	25	26	27
28 9:00 - SUNDAY SCHOOL - ADULT STUDY 10:00 - WORSHIP 11:15 - FELLOWSHIP	29	30 6:30 - MEN'S STUDY	Oct 1 6:00 - CONFIRMATION 7:00 - YOUTH GROUP	Oct 2	Oct 3	Oct 4

Upcoming Schedules...

After-Worship Fellowship

We will have coffee / water and cookies at 10:15 after worship .Please join us when you can! ...and, if you can, please sign up to serve coffee and goodies some Sunday.



Usher Schedule

Sept 7 Jim & Torasie Larsen Sept 14 Jason & Levi Miller

Sett 21 Pam Johnson & Linda Vanmeter Sept 28 Larry Levin & Gerry Butler

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

Sept 7, 14 Duane & Kevin Sept 21,28 Dan & Scott

Custodian

September Mary Lee & Linda Dilley

Children's Church

Parents can take children to the Pre-School room as needed

Altar Guild

September Mona Hjelle

Accompanying Musicians

 Sept 7
 Sharon Willen

 Sept 14
 Scott Wachter

 Sept 21
 Sharon Willen

 Sept 28
 Scott Wachter



Seen on Church Signboards...

Living without God is like trying to dribble a football!

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Page 21 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 August we thanked God for...

- Our First Annual Block Party
- Vacation Bible School
- Long Weekends!

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



September Discipleship Verse...

But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Isaiah 40:31

Note: This is the fourth of six straight months where we use a confirmation verse as our Discipleship Verse. This month's verse is Ella Knutson's confirmation verse.



Youth Group Calendar...

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SEPTEMBER 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
ALEX	1	2 Fergus Falls Schools start - pray for Kjirsten! KMS Schools start - pray for Carson!	5 6pm Confirmation Parent Meeting 7pm Youth Group Parent Meeting	4	5	6 6pm Maverick City Music Concert 7pm Decorate Grandparent Parking Space @church!
Rally Sunday! Grandparents Day! 10am Church 'otluck after service 1-3 WIGs Social	S HAPPY	9 Birthday Lunch Celebration	10 6pm Confirmation 7pm Youth Group RSVP Reality Conf.	7am The Well Breakfast	12	13
10am Church	15 6:45 Youth Leaders online meeting 7:00 Aduit Youth Group Leadership online meeting	16	17 6pm Confirmation 7pm Youth Group	18 Congregation Supper	19	20
STRING AND 10am Church	22	23	24 6pm Confirmation 7pm Youth Group	7am The Well Breakfast	26	27
28 HAPPI BIRTHDAN 10am Church	29	30				AUTH MG

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



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Sep. 3 - Youth are welcome to join the meeting as well, not required

Sep. 6 - Students are encouraged to invite their Grandparents to charch on Sunday, Sept. 7. They may "reserve" a parking space by decorating one for them on Sat., Sept. 6. If your youth doesn't have a Grandparent available that day, they could designate an Honorary Grandparent (someone else from the charch).

Sept. 7 - WIGs event - must RSVP to Marcia by August 31" and pay \$16 each. Happy Birthday, Alex!

Sept. 8 - Happy Birthday, Troy!

Sept. 9 - Birthday Lunch Celebration - the entire congregation is invited out to lunch, whether it's your birthday or not. Lunch expense is on you. The location vary from month to month. RSVP with Marcia so she can reserve enough tables.

Sept. 10 - Youth Group's focus will be fun preparation. We will have a short devotional and prep for the year - bookmarks, journals, Bible shortcus, etc. All youth/chaperones interested in the Reality Conference must RSVP to Becky by Sept. 10th. Info. here: https://www.realityapologetics.com/mc/

Sept. 11 - The Well youth breakfast served at Peace Lutheran Church, free for all local youth

Sept. 15 - 6:45 online meeting for youth leaders (Sunshine, Patriot); 7:00 online meeting for the adult leadership committee

Sept. 17 - Youth Group will have a tremendous guest leader -Violet Dauk! She is planning to do something creative with the theme "You are God's Masterpiece". Should be awesome!

Sept. 18 - All ages are welcome to the Congregation Supper. The location varies from month to month. The expense is yours. Please RSVP with Marcia so she can reserve space.

Sept. 21 - Happy Birthday, Ella!

Sept. 24 - Youth Group will start a service project of creating a quilt - Cassie is leading this project.

Sept. 25 - 7am The Well breakfast at Peace Lutheran for youth

Sept. 28 - Happy Birthday, Autumn!

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

Thank You from the Jastrams...

Our hearts are full of gratitude to you, our dear readers, for your prayers and support of LCMS mission work here in Japan. Thank you so much! Dan & Joan Jastram

Read the current newsletter at:

https://tinyurl.com/m97pxrfp

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
- September Newsletters
- July-September Portals of Prayer
- Smoke Detector batteries

Recorded videos of Sermons

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

https://www.voutube.com/@newlondonlivingword8097/streams We're really sorry! Our Livestream didn't work for July 6th or 13th. We changed internet providers, and the Livestream worked on the 20th and 27th - and, God willing, in the future! Thanks for your patience!

June 20 "What Jesus' first 'Miraculous Catch of Fish' was all about." June 27 "Who gets to decide what is a spiritual "weed" (i.e. sin)?

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.

Offering Envelopes

Offering Envelopes Are Available for 2025—If you like to use dated envelopes for your offerings, we have them available. Just pick up a box of envelopes from under the mailboxes. Write down the # of the box you picked up. Thanks!

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

- For God to continue giving comfort and peace to those grieving.
- Thanking God for a great Block Party last month
- Thanking God for a great turnout for Vacation Bible School
- God to continue to work through what we learned at VBS
- People you can invite to any of our upcoming studies or events
- For a great turnout for Rally Sunday & the start of Sunday School
- For the Holy Spirit to help kids who don't know Jesus to discover Him as their Lord and Savior through Sunday School
- For the Holy Spirit to work through the teachers of our classes
- The Holy Spirit to bring growth through our Confirmation dass
- Asking God for continued good weather for the harvesting season.
- 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're looking for a few more people who have a passion for praying!!! We meet a few minutes after church to pray with and for each other.

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A Minute for Couples...

(from the Prepare-Enrich blog)
5 Areas Practice Pays Off In Marriage

What things could you use some practice in? Maybe you're picking up a new hobby or want to develop a particular skill for your job. Perhaps you're giving a speech at your best friend's wedding or you're trying



your best friend's wedding or you're trying to perfect that special family recipe before the next big gathering. Whatever the case, practice typically leads to some degree of improvement, whether it's immediate or more incremental.

What about in your marriage? "Practice" might seem odd in this context. Maybe you think about "working" on or prioritizing your marriage, but where does practice come in? Well, there are actually several areas in which practice pays off. Let's dive into some.

1. Showing affection

Expressing affection – physically and verbally – comes more naturally for some people than others. It can also vary depending on the phase or season of your relationship. It might seem strange to think that you need to practice things like hugging or telling your spouse you love them. However, it's surprisingly easy to fall out of practice at these things. Unfortunately, the longer you let these seemingly small habits fall by the wayside, the more awkward or uncomfortable it can feel to pick them back up. If you tend to be a less affectionate person by nature or you feel this part of your relationship beginning to fade, be intentional about doing it more. Go in for a kiss when you'd typically let the moment pass, give a loving squeeze as you cross paths around the house, or cuddle up next to each other on the couch instead of on opposite ends. Tell your spouse you love them or give them a meaningful compliment when they least expect it. You'd be surprised how natural it starts to feel once again.

2. Apologizing

Why are those two little words so hard? Saying you're sorry, particularly for the bigger things, requires self-awareness, emotional intelligence, and the ability to take responsibility for situations in which you could have been a better spouse. Frankly, it's not easy for most people! And that's where practice can help. It doesn't mean you should start over-apologizing to the point that it becomes meaningless. Instead, practice offering timely, genuine apologies for missteps that you typically wouldn't call yourself on. For example, if you respond

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Someone

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with you.

If you're l argue with more harshly to your spouse than you intended, take the opportunity to say you're sorry instead of just assuming it'll blow over. When you practice making amends without excuses in lower-stakes situations, it becomes that much easier during the bigger conflicts.

3. Bringing up a tough topic

Sometimes you know there's an issue to address, but you refrain from bringing it up. Maybe you feel uncomfortable, anxious, or even scared to broach the subject. Will it stir up a fight? Will it uncover other issues? Will your spouse be angry or hurt? So you keep quiet, hoping it will resolve itself, which of course rarely happens. Instead, resentment builds, and the issue grows even bigger. Learning to be assertive and push through those feelings of discomfort to face an issue head on is a challenge for many individuals and couples alike. But once you start doing it more, the easier it becomes, setting a positive precedent for future conflicts in your marriage.

4. Truly listening

On the flip side of assertively bringing up an issue is listening to it—without interruption, judgement, or getting defensive. It seems simple enough—you just have to bite your tongue until your spouse is done talking, right? But it's more than that. Instead of just waiting for your turn to speak (and mentally formulating your response as you wait), focus on really hearing and understanding the heart and emotion behind what they're saying. Active listening, in which you reflect back to you spouse what you're hearing from them, is one of the hallmark skills of good communication. The great thing is you can practice this all the time, not just during conflict.

5. Expressing appreciation

In your mind, there's probably no doubt that you appreciate your spouse – who they are and all that they bring to your marriage. But do they know that? Do you make a habit of expressing your gratitude and appreciation for them, or does it come far and few between? If it's the latter, make a point to show your appreciation a few times each day. Maybe you notice how well they handled one of the kids' meltdowns, and you praise them in the moment. Or perhaps you've noticed how they take on so much of themental load day to day, and you let them know you see and appreciate it. It's yet another case in which the more you do it, the easier it becomes.

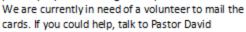
With practice, there's often a component of repetition. It builds a sense of muscle memory that enables you to do things without even having to think about it. Surprisingly, you can apply this in your marriage as well! While you might think that practicing your way to a stronger marriage isn't realistic, these examples hopefully make you think otherwise.

That for a day: Survival tip:)

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.





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!)

Remember the Teal's Rebate Program.

Teal's Grocery gives a 1% rebate to eligible organizations. There's a teal-colored box on the back-wall table where you can put in your receipts.



Custodian Volunteers Needed.

For any month after September...

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.

Do You Have a Calculator That Prints?...

We need one to tally our Teals receipts. (We also need someone to take over the task of collecting the receipts and making a spreadsheet to turn in to Teals.)



Please see Marcia if you can help with either of these. Thanks!

E-Mail Humor...

A woman went to traffic violation court for speeding, lost the argument - as always happens - and paid the fine.

The police clerk issued her a receipt for her payment of fine. The lady annoyed at her defeat in the court asked him curtly, "What am I supposed to do with this?"

"Hang onto it, ma'am." the clerk advised politely. "After you've collected three of them, you get a bicycle!"

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Email Inspiration...

Hands Of The Master

Wishing to encourage her young son's progress on the piano, a mother took her boy to a Paderewski concert. After they were seated, the mother spotted an old friend in the audience and walked down the aisle to greet her. Seizing the opportunity to explore the wonders of the concert hall, the little boy rose and eventually explored his way through a door marked "NO ADMITTANCE." When the house lights dimmed and the concert was about to begin, the mother returned to her seat and discovered that the child was missing.

Suddenly, the curtains parted and spotlights focused on the impressive Steinway on stage. In horror, the mother saw her little boy sitting at the keyboard, innocently picking out "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star." At that moment, the great piano master made his entrance, quickly moved to the piano, and whispered in the boy's ear, "Don't quit." Keep playing." Then, leaning over, Paderewski reached down with his left hand and began filling in a bass part. Soon his right arm reached around to the other side of the child, and he added a running obbligato. Together, the old master and the young novice transformed what could have been a frightening situation into a wonderfully creative experience. The audience was so mesmerized that they couldn't recall what else the great master played. Only the classic, "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star."

Perhaps that's the way it is with God. What we can accomplish on our own is hardly noteworthy. We try our best, but the results aren't always graceful flowing music. However, with the hand of the Master, our life's work can truly be beautiful. The next time you set out to accomplish great feats, listen carefully. You may hear the voice of the Master, whispering in your ear, "Don't quit." "Keep playing." May you feel His arms around you and know that His hands are there, helping you turn your feeble attempts into true masterpieces. Remember, God doesn't seem to call the equipped, rather. He equips the 'called.' Life is more accurately measured by the lives you touch than by the things you acquire.

"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-

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Monthly Music Videos...

More great new music from the month of August:

- "Hated" is the latest song from Zack Williams... https://youtu.be/tqxLvV2inOE
- I really like the new song from NeedToBreathe called "Momma Loves Me"... https://youtu.be/O0rloN6Yj00
- Pat Barrett just released a great new song, "I've Got A Fire" in a video featuring his dad... https://youtu.be/zll8zN_2jN4
- Forrest Frank continues as a prolific hit maker with the release of "Selah"... https://youtu.be/fXFnSpIOHPo
- Forrest has also collaborated with Crowder on "The Rock" while Crowder was in the hospital with a broken leg... https://youtu.be/7Erj_sSe2hg
- A super collaboration of Elevation Worship, Phil Wickham, and Brandon Lake produced a great song, "So So Good"... https://youtu.be/RCTAn4IVbPY
- "Doesn't He" is the latest from Chris Tomlin... https://youtu.be/c57Ah9wQ9tU
- "Borrow Mine" is new from Leanna Crawford... https://youtu.be/Nza2jlhcVGA
- Blanca and Ryan Ellis have released a great new song, "I'm Yours"... https://youtu.be/LL935baYhKU
- "Still Pretty Good" is a new song from Cory Ashbury... https://youtu.be/E-vefN_x3Fk
- "Life In Me" is a great song, just released by Tasha Layton with Rachael Lampa... https://youtu.be/qi38cS3dhis
- "Heaven Whispers" is new from Dave Donatelli... https://youtu.be/hz4rds6F5nw
- Joshiah Queen has a new album and another new song, "Watch Your Mouth"... https://youtu.be/INVqKwzW7cc
- The latest song from Ellie Holcomb is "Give Me Your Hand"... https://youtu.be/ozi5-4OC4H4
- "I Know" is new from Linc Worship... https://youtu.be/sZiitCFiDdU
- We Are Messengers released a heartfelt song about daughters, "Losing You"... https://youtu.be/yWgczbaz-r8

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- "Today" is new from the German group, Good Weather Forecast... https://youtu.be/uo6K0AfWMb8
- Jesus Culture has released "Send the Fire"... https://youtu.be/zcI4HKaTg7c
- "There is a Fire" is a new release from Jeff Deyo... https://youtu.be/4W_gt1kti4Y
- A newcomer, Mary Lou Lackey, released "Thrill Of It"... https://youtu.be/IU-bHESKtDI
- Finally, Ryan Stevenson released 2 great new songs...
 "Again"... https://youtu.be/gKRz-DQF4Rc
 "Vapor"... https://youtu.be/gKRz-DQF4Rc

Story Behind The Song...

One of the most wonderful things about being a follower of Christ is the peace that attends even when life is difficult. "Great Is Thy Faithfulness", a testament to God's unchanging nature, was written by a man who suffered prolonged trials in life, yet chose to see God's faithfulness through it all. This hymn, deeply rooted in Scripture, continues to inspire and bless those who sing it.

Thomas Chisholm, who sometimes described himself as "just an old shoe," was born in a Kentucky log cabin in 1866. He was converted when he was 27, became a pastor at 36, but had to retire one year later due to poor health.

In 1903, Thomas started a family by marrying the love of his life: Catherine Vandervere. It seemed to Thomas that his path in life was now set, that he would be a minister for the remainder of his days, but the following years showed him otherwise.

Thomas experienced a decline in health during his time as a minister, and in 1909, those health issues forced him to leave his congregation. In the years that followed, financial issues arose as well from numerous hospital bills. Many people would have become bitter with God during a time of health and financial crisis, but Thomas became quite the opposite.

Yes, hewas no longer a minister but now had more time to focus on writing hymns. Yes, he had health problems but also had loving support from his wife and two daughters. Yes, he faced financial struggles but found a job selling life insurance, allowing him to keep up with the bills.

No matter the struggle, Thomas always chose to see God's faithfulness.

Back in 1923, at the "beyond his prime" age of 57, Thomas Chisholm sent a few of his poems to William Runyan at the Hope Publishing Company. One of them was "Great is Thy Faithfulness", based on Lamentations 3:22-23.

Once Runyan found the tune, "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" as a hymn was born. It was an instant favorite amongst Moody Bible Institute staff and students, quickly becoming the college's unofficial hymn.

Past the college, the hymn took a bit longer to reach great heights, that is until a certain man by the name of Billy Graham heard it and began using it in his crusades during the 1950's. What began as a simple poem from a simple man was suddenly reaching the ears of millions, and has continued to do so each year since.

During the rest of his life, Chisholm spent many years residing in New Jersey, working as a life insurance agent to support himself and his family. Despite having an office job, he continued to express his love for God through poetry and wrote poems throughout his life. Many of these poems became published hymns that have further spread the message of God's faithfulness. He died in 1960 at the age of 93. During his life he wrote over 1200 poems, most of which no one will ever hear.

"It is of the LORD's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness." Lamentations 3:22-23 KJV

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father.
There is no shadow of turning with thee.
Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not.
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

Chorus:

Great is thy faithfulness!
Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see.
All I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest, sun, moon, and stars in their courses above, join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

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Chorus

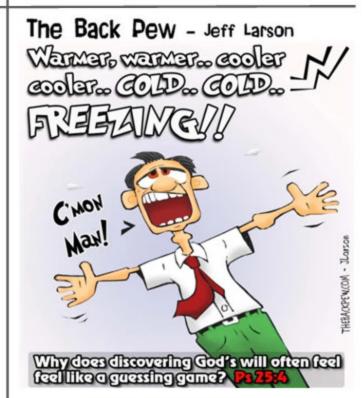
Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide, strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow; blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Chorus

There are many great performances of this hymn, such as the version by Anthem Lights... https://youtu.be/fLWAI6KRISQ
or this version by Veritas... https://youtu.be/N2i7 X8RQis and this version by Stephen McWhirter...

https://youtu.be/shJc-OR4RSU

One of my favorites is probably Carrie Underwood with CeCe Winans... https://youtu.be/NT0HcAr9ael



...or like Minnesota weather!