

# All Saints Sunday

## IN TOUCH

with the ministry and people of Living Word

Volume 27, Issue 42

November 4, 2018

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**PRAYER CHAIN REQUESTS**

Please call  
Eleanor Galik  
708-302-1686



### What it means to be a Saint

Country singers, Tom T. Hall and George Jones, made famous a song that says "[Well, me and Jesus, we got our own thing going](#)." It's a catchy tune, but the underlying message sounds pretty close to something like: "Don't question me. Don't examine my life. Just affirm me the way I am and stay off my case." Now, to be honest, there is a part of everyone that likes that sentiment. Granted, it's the sinful, self-absorbed part of us. So, we have to get our thinking straight by remembering God doesn't call His children to live stand-alone, little lives unto ourselves. Rather, each follower of Christ is a part of something big and *ancient* called "the Church." If Jesus has something going on, it's with His church. He calls her His "bride" whom He loves ([Rev. 21:9, 22:17](#)). No right-thinking Christian says "Well, me and Jesus, we got our own thing going."

### So what is [All Saints Day](#) and how does it fit?

All Saints Day, also known as All Hallows' Day, or Halloween, is a Christian celebration in honor of all the saints from Christian history. In Western Christianity, it is observed on November 1st by the Roman Catholic Church, the Methodist Church, the Lutheran Church, and other Protestant denominations. The Eastern Orthodox Church and associated Eastern Catholic churches observe All Saints Day on the first Sunday following Pentecost which is usually in late May or early June.

The Christian festival of All Saints Day comes from a conviction that there is a spiritual connection between those in Heaven and those on Earth. In Catholic tradition, the holiday honors all those who have passed on to the Kingdom of Heaven. It is a national holiday in numerous historically Catholic countries. In Protestant traditions, All Saints Day relates to giving God earnest gratitude for the lives and deaths of his saints, remembering those who were well-known and not. Additionally, individuals throughout Christian history are celebrated, such as Peter the Apostle, Martin Luther, Charles Wesley, as well as people who have personally guided one to faith in Jesus, such as one's relative or friend.

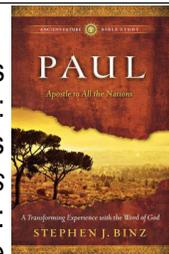
In addition to worship gatherings, "All Saints Day" annually reminds us of our connectedness as Christians. It's commemorated every November 1st. Perhaps, you were taught to think of saints as statues in a church building. But the Bible teaches something completely different. Who is a saint? *You are*. That is if you're a follower of Jesus. God calls a "saint" anyone who trusts in Christ alone for salvation. See [Romans 8:27](#), and [1Corinthians 1:2](#).

*"And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God." Romans 8:27*

*"To the church of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be his holy people, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ—their Lord and ours" 1 Corinthians 1:2*

### Classes & Groups

**POW (People of the Word) Bible Study** resumes on this Thursday, November 8th. The group meets Thursdays at 9:30 am. The current study is **“Paul, Apostle of All the Nations”**. Their schedule is as follows: Nov. 8: *Paul: Apostle to all nations*, Chap. 28-30. Then on November 15th they begin a new Christmas themed study — *“The Gospel of It’s A Wonderful Life”* with ‘*Be Good, Do Good.*’ Nov. 22: *The Gospel of It’s A Wonderful Life: A Bridge to God.* Nov. 29: *The Gospel of It’s A Wonderful Life: Wings and Prayers.* Dec. 6: *The Gospel of It’s A Wonderful Life: Ordinary Miracles.* After that POW will break for the holiday and resume study on Jan. 24, 2019. For more information, contact the office or Donna Wasilkoff; 708-949-9340.



**ADULT SUNDAY FORUM** meets each Sunday at **8:15 a.m.** Today we cover **Exodus 32.** Join us each week in the classroom next to the coat racks in the south wing. Next Sunday we’ll discuss **Proverbs 8.**

**THE WOMEN’S FELLOWSHIP STUDY** met on Saturday (27th). The study titled: *“Uninvited: Living Loved When You Feel Less Than, Left Out and Lonely”* will meet next on November 10th at church. Karen Lange has books. (\$8)

**CONFIRMATION STUDENTS** are continuing with their first unit of the new year entitled **The Life of Christ.** The class will not meet this week. Pastor Lange is working on class times for students who cannot make Wednesday evenings.

### Opportunities to Connect with God

**PUSH PRAYER** group gathers at church at **9:30 a.m.** this Tuesday, November 6th, to pray for our church, community and world. We welcome requests (text 708.307.9856) or join us for 30-40 minutes each week.



### RADIO & TV OPPORTUNITIES

- Worship Anew 8:00 a.m. Sunday - Comcast channel 184 (TLN) & 8 (SD) , WPWR channel 50  
AT&T U-verse channel 1008 (HD) & 8 (SD), Dish Network channel 8495  
10:30 a.m. Sunday - DIRECTV channel 377 (TCT)
- The Lutheran Hour 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sundays on 1230 AM; and 9:30 a.m. Sundays on 1580 AM

### For Your Information ...

**FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR** can be in memory of a special event, a person, or in thankfulness to God. Choose your date and place your order through a floral shop (Hearts & Flowers 708-532-2772). They supply a standard low, long arrangement (about \$25) and do other arrangements as well. You can make your own arrangement. Hearts & Flowers delivers.

### Community Notes ...

**JOB OPPORTUNITY** Immanuel Lutheran Church in Mokena has a vacancy for their Administrative Assistant. The position is 29 hours per week. Candidates should have an understanding of the Microsoft Office package. Please contact Jerry Vrshek at the church office (708) 479-5600 if you are interested in applying.

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**THE RECENT VANDALISM** that has been occurring here at Living Word reached a tipping point this past week as graffiti was once again spray painted on the front doors, a rock thrown to crack the plate glass and more graffiti and slurs spray painted on the siding in a couple of places. Thanks to our newly installed security cameras the police were able to get a good image of the person committing the crime and had someone in custody within 24 hours. The latest information is that this person admitted to all of the actions against the church building over the past 5-6 months and is being charged with 5 counts of hate crimes and one count of arson.

UPDATE: The person responsible was denied bond this past Tuesday, October 30th. His name is Luke Corrigan and he lives in the neighborhood. He didn’t target our church specifically, ours just happened to be the closest religious institution to his home. His stated motives were being “mad at God” and “being bored”. Please continue to pray for this young man. Over the next few weeks we will be working with our insurance company to see what the costs will be with regard to replacing the damaged portions of our building. Your prayers for the young man responsible would be a good thing.

**This Week at Living Word**

4 SUN	5 MON	6 TUES	7 WED	8 THURS	9 FRI	10 SAT
8:15 am Adult Study 9:15 am Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 10:30 am Fellowship		Election Day! (Polling place) 9 am NID Pastors-Homewood 9 am PUSH 7 pm Musical Practice	9 to Noon Preschool 7 pm Confirmation 7 pm AA Big Book Mtg	9 to Noon Preschool 9:30 am POW Bible Study 10 am Brookdale Worship	Backpack Delivery	8:30 am Men's Breakfast Fellowship 9:30 am Women's Bible Study

**ChoW THIS COMING WEEK is Proverbs 8** an example of wisdom literature that actually talks about 'wisdom'. God wants His people to know the wise paths they should take and then He wants us to walk in those paths. He does not hide those paths from us either but reveals them in His Word. This chapter gives some direction but it does so by personifying wisdom, as if it were a person who is standing in the shopping mall or on a street corner; shouting God's message or even holding a sign proclaiming it. The problem is we often don't recognize wisdom when it comes to us through other people. Sure we want to know and do the will of God and follow His plan for our lives. The reality is though that it would be far more helpful to do the will of God by following His purpose. A plan sounds like it has only one outcome, but a purpose does not call for specific circumstances but rather for us to reflect Jesus in our actions and words. Wisdom might not ask "What should I do -- A or B?" but instead would wonder "How can I reflect the wisdom, compassion and grace of Jesus in this situation?" Christian freedom means there could be several right answers to that question.



**OCTOBER MISSION OF THE MONTH** for Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch sold 21 bottles of honey and received \$71 in our door offering last week. Altogether a total of \$260. Will be forwarded to the Ranch to support their work with troubled youth from ages 10-18. Thank you for your support.

**THE NOVEMBER MISSION OF THE MONTH** will be Biblesticks for Troops. We do this mission every November in connection with observing Veterans Day and trying to be supportive of our current men and women in the Armed Forces. The Military BibleStick reaches service men and women, deployed in some of the most dangerous areas of the world, with God's Word in audio — It can go with them and sustain them in even the most difficult circumstances. It contains the entire Audio Drama New Testament and selected Psalms chosen specifically for "warriors," yet it's only about the size of a pack of chewing gum. Designed to military specifications it features a matte black finish and red-light-only operation — and runs on a single AAA battery! Each service member who receives a Military BibleStick also has the option to request a free Audio New Testament or Kids Bible for family back home — although they may be separated from loved ones, they know they are listening through the Word together. Military BibleSticks provide real hope for our heroes!

**FIREWOOD IS AVAILABLE** from a dead tree on the property. It is stacked by the trash dumpster and available on a first come-fire served basis. Please help yourself.

**A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** is scheduled for Sunday, November 18th, immediately after the worship service (beginning around 10:30). Besides dealing with the Grebik bequest other items on the agenda include acceptance of the preschool budget, an update from our Social Media staff person, further information on the concept of shared ministry and an update on our vandalism and ways we might respond to it with our building and our community involvement. We ask that you plan ahead to spend an hour after worship that day to help contribute to decisions being made.

**THE CHRISTMAS MUSICAL FOR THIS YEAR** begins practice this Tuesday, November 6th, at 7 pm. Practices will continue each Tuesday throughout November and into December with the musical presented on Sunday, December 23rd. A signup sheet to participate is on the table by the office.

**PASTOR LANGE AND KAREN** are on vacation in Florida this week and will be returning Tuesday, November 6th. In his absence Pastor John will be provide pastoral care and is leading our worship today on All Saints Sunday. You may call the church office if you are unable to reach Pastor John directly.

**QUITE A BIT OF INTEREST** from various news outlets and other agencies has been coming to our congregation over the past week as a result of the vandalism (charged as 'hate crimes') that we recently suffered. But in addition we have gotten an outpouring of support from pastors both in and out of our church body. The congregation at All Saints Lutheran here in Orland Park in particular made a wonderful gesture this past Tuesday as their pastor, Don Borling, stopped by to present us a check for \$1000. This is the amount of money we will have to pay as deductible on our insurance as we begin to make claims for repairs on some of the items damaged. This was an overwhelming gesture and a great witness to the compassion and kindness of fellow Christians.

# ALL SAINTS REMEMBRANCES

(November 1, 2017 to October 31, 2018)

## LIVING WORD'S FAMILY

**Bob Jones**—December 1, 2017

**Carol Petrak**—December 16, 2017

**Leona Johnson**—February 28, 2018

## LIVING WORD RELATIVES

**Mary Christ** — November 2017 (*Sanfratello Aunt*)

**Bill Skinner** — November 2017 (*Paul Motel's Grandfather*)

**Steve Stelmack** — January 2018 (*Joan Gabrielson's Father*)

**Don Lange** — January 22, 2018 (*Pastor Lange's Uncle*)

**Robert Vasta** — January 23, 2018 (*Vicki Vasta's Father-in-Law*)

**Sue Brabec** — February 8, 2018 (*Ken Marks Cousin*)

**Kathi Longaker** — February 8, 2018 (*Hostert Relative*)

**Ron Kurasz** — February 18, 2018 (*Jim McKinney relative*)

**Robert Noltin** — March 24, 2018 (*Ken Marks Cousin*)

**Pastor Chris Ongstad** — March 27, 2018 (*Lange family friend*)

**Geneva Abel** — June 2018 (*Jereme Goebel's Aunt*)

**Bill McKinney** — July 5, 2018 (*Jim McKinney's Uncle*)

**Dawn Noltin** — September 4, 2018 (*Ken Marks Cousin*)

**Bob Spoor** — October 4, 2018 (*Donna Wasilkoff's Step Father*)

**John "Jack" McNally** — October 28, 2018 (*Gertrude McNally's Husband*)

## ***For Christians, Voting is not an Option, It's a Divine Calling***

### **For Christians, Voting Is Not an Option. It Is a Divine Calling**

*By Voices Contributors David Closson and Patrina Mosley*

The midterm elections has Christians in churches throughout America once again considering what their faith teaches about cultural and political engagement, and how their beliefs should influence how they vote.

The gospel is a holistic message with implications for all areas of life, including how Christians are called to engage the political process.

This was a point understood by key figures in the twentieth century, including German pastor and theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer, who advocated for the church's active engagement in politics. Four years before he was executed by the Nazis, he wrote, "A theologically correct Christian proclamation is not enough; neither are general ethical principles. What is necessary is a concrete directive in the concrete situation."

During the civil rights movement of the 1960s, Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. founded the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) to activate the church in combating racial injustices that had long been ignored. It made no sense that those who professed belief in human dignity and equality should stay silent any longer. But many churches did, and King encountered much resistance from white churches who did not see systemic racial injustice as a matter that the church should get involved with.

To not repeat the failure of inaction by many white evangelical churches, the moral majority in the 1980s brought together a group of evangelicals from all denominations to confront the culture with God's Word and mobilize Christians to support likeminded candidates who would work to confront and undo cultural injustices.

As before, evangelicals are confronted with a moment of decision in 2018.

While some churches are still sitting silent on issues facing our culture, we believe the predominant question facing our churches today is not whether we should be involved in engaging the culture, but rather what does faithful Christian political engagement look like?

Today, Christians are inundated with resources on "how to think about (fill in the blank) as a Christian." However, many of the teachers producing these resources seem to look down on political activism that supports the very thing discussed in their "how a Christian should think about (fill in the blank)!" For them, political activism is somehow a bridge too far, and Christians who do this have stepped over the bounds into "idolatry."

Neither extreme—political withdrawal (while we wait for the perfect party or candidate) or idolatry of country—is acceptable. Both must be avoided.

In short, we need a model that is holistic and contextual.

It's not enough to train our members to be theological intellectuals yet leave them in the dark when it comes to putting their faith into action (James 2:7).

For example, how can we teach Christians to think rightly about human dignity and teach them to connect concepts such as "imago dei" with abortion but fail to train them on how to support candidates who would work to end the practice?

In the context of American politics, voting is a practical application of a biblical worldview. This is seen when our ability to participate in the democratic process is placed alongside Paul's teaching in Romans 13, where the apostle teaches that government is ordained by God to promote good and restrain evil. In America, because ultimate sovereignty resides with the people, voting is essentially the delegation of authority. For Christians, this means suffrage is inherently a matter of stewardship.

For Christians, applying our worldview in politics is a double-edged sword. We can meet the practical needs of people through our soup kitchens (poverty), pregnancy centers (life), the celebration of recoveries (pornography, drugs, addictions), and counseling (marriage, sexuality, family), while at the same time advocate for principles that foster an environment conducive for robust human flourishing. It's not an either/or scenario, but rather a both/and one. Our efforts to meet tangible needs can go together with political activism. The two can work together to display the glory and justice of God. Love for our neighbor requires nothing less—political activism is just a tool that puts that love into action.

Satan is out to steal, kill, and destroy and is using every tool and method to do it.

Therefore, we must use every resource at our disposal to impact our neighbors for the glory of God.

These midterm elections are full of candidates who will promote just or unjust policies. As citizens of heaven, how are we being faithful with the responsibilities and privileges God has given us in the city of man? Because of our unprecedented political freedom in America, Christians will be held to a high standard of accountability before God.

This is why we must engage the culture from a holistic biblical worldview.



## THE BACK PAGE



**BACKPACK MINISTRY** took a break this past week and will begin again this coming Friday as we begin a 2nd round by preparing 14 backpacks for 2nd graders. Kathy Miller has taken over leadership for this ministry this year, packing and delivering the backpacks. She can always use help though in packing or delivering the backpacks on Thursday or Friday. Please speak to her and get involved in this ministry. Here are donation suggestions:

- ✓ Individual apple sauce cups
- ✓ Individual fruit cups
- ✓ Granola bars and fruit bars
- ✓ Fun fruits
- ✓ Capri sun and other juice boxes
- ✓ Scalloped potatoes
- ✓ Rice-a-Roni (different flavors)
- ✓ Mac & cheese
- ✓ Noodles Alfredo (box)
- ✓ Other boxed snacks and meals



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livingwordorland.org  
intouchlwlc@yahoo.com

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**  
Mon - Fri 9 am - 3 pm

**SUNDAY SCHEDULE**  
8:15 am Adult study  
9:15 am Worship

**ANOTHER LEADERSHIP TRAINING CLASS** begins soon. We are looking for 4-6 people willing to commit to this process. Recruitment is taking place now. If you are approached please give consideration to this opportunity to serve and grow in your faith. If you want perspective speak to those who were part of the first group last year—Kristi Hartz, Jodi Kempke, Kathy Miller, Jim McKinney and Jim Schultheiss.

**BOB & KAREN JONES** committal will take place in mid-November. Christ Lutheran has kindly donated a plot in their cemetery and waived all costs other than paying for the digging of the opening. We are looking to gather that amount of money (approximately \$400) so we can complete our care for these fellow members. Both were cremated and their remains have been awaiting this time. If you would like to assist with this please make a special donation with a note for “Jones burial” and just place it in the offering plate or leave it in the office. Thank you!

### Stewardship Snapshot

October 28, 2018 56 W 47C

**Financial Support**  
100.00 Dakota Ranch  
2,462.00 General Fund  
\$2,562.00 Total Deposit

Living Word's recently passed budget calls for weekly offerings averaging \$3654 to carry out our ministry. Your regular, intentional and meaningful contributions from what the Lord gives you helps carry out this work.

**Church Contacts**  
**Pastor Steven Lange**  
sal.is4110@yahoo.com  
cell: 708-307-9856

**Webmaster, Diana Motel**  
dianamotel@yahoo.com

**Leadership Team**  
**Rick Boehm** - President  
**Bobbi Pote** - Treasurer  
**Bruno Kolb** - Member

<b>Worship Helpers Nov. 11</b>	
<b>9:15 am</b>	
<b>READER</b>	Alexis Gawlik
<b>GREETER</b>	Donna Wasilkoff
<b>USHERS</b>	Pam Hostert, Ken Marks
<b>ACOLYTE</b>	Isabella Huang
<b>MUSICIAN</b>	Anita Meier
<b>SINGER</b>	Jodi Kempke
<b>TECH BOOTH</b>	John Lyons/Vicki Vasta
<b>KIDS CHURCH</b>	Jessica Lyons & Diana Motel
<b>COMM. ASST.</b>	Dave Holloway
<b>ALTAR CARE</b>	Bobbi Pote, Pam Hostert

**Nov. 6**  
Max Miklos

**Anniversary**  
**Nov. 5**  
Mr. & Mrs. James Boehm