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PRAYER CHAIN

REQUESTS

Please call

Eleanor Galik

708-302-1686

for immediate prayers



Living Word Lutheran Church

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Orland Park, IL 60467

708-403-9673

livingwordorland.org
intouchlwlc@yahoo.com

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
Mon - Fri 9 am - 2 pm

** NEW SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:00 am Adult study
10:00 am Worship

IN TOUCH

with the ministry and people of Living Word

Volume 29, Issue 13

July, 2020

"History of Our Independence Day"

The Fourth of July—also known as Independence Day or July 4th—has been a federal holiday in the United States since 1941, but the tradition of Independence Day celebrations goes back to the 18th century and the American Revolution. On July 2nd, 1776, the Continental Congress voted in favor of independence, and two days later delegates from the 13 colonies adopted the Declaration of Independence, a historic document drafted by Thomas Jefferson. From 1776 to the present day, July 4th has been celebrated as the birth of American independence, with festivities ranging from fireworks, parades and concerts to more casual family gatherings and barbecues, not this year though.

A History of Independence Day

When the initial battles in the [Revolutionary War](#) broke out in April 1775, few colonists desired complete independence from Great Britain, and those who did were considered radical. By the middle of the following year, however, many more colonists had come to favor independence, thanks to growing hostility against Britain and the spread of revolutionary sentiments such as those expressed in the bestselling pamphlet "[Common Sense](#)," published by [Thomas Paine](#) in early 1776. On June 7, when the [Continental Congress](#) met at the [Pennsylvania](#) State House (later Independence Hall) in Philadelphia, the [Virginia](#) delegate Richard Henry Lee introduced a motion calling for the colonies' independence. Amid heated debate, Congress postponed the vote on Lee's resolution, but appointed a five-man committee—including [Thomas Jefferson](#) of Virginia, [John Adams](#) of [Massachusetts](#), Roger Sherman of [Connecticut](#), [Benjamin Franklin](#) of Pennsylvania and Robert R. Livingston of [New York](#)—to draft a formal statement justifying the break with Great Britain. Did you know? John Adams believed that July 2nd was the correct date on which to celebrate the birth of American independence, and would reportedly turn down invitations to appear at July 4th events in protest. Adams and Thomas Jefferson both died on July 4, 1826—the 50th anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence.

On July 2nd, the Continental Congress voted in favor of Lee's resolution for independence in a near-unanimous vote (the New York delegation abstained, but later voted affirmatively). On that day, John Adams wrote to his wife Abigail that July 2 "will be celebrated, by succeeding Generations, as the great anniversary Festival" and that the celebration should include "Pomp and Parade...Games, Sports, Guns, Bells, Bonfires and Illuminations from one End of this Continent to the other." On July 4th, the Continental Congress formally adopted the [Declaration of Independence](#), which had been written largely by Jefferson. Though the vote for actual independence took place on July 2nd, from then on the 4th became the day that was celebrated as the birth of American independence.

Early Fourth of July Celebrations

In the pre-Revolutionary years, colonists had held annual celebrations of the king's birthday, which traditionally included the ringing of bells, bonfires, processions and speechmaking. By contrast, during the summer of 1776 some

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"First Month of Worshipping Together Again"

As we are preparing for reconvening for worship, the following guidelines from the Illinois Department of Public Health and we encourage all our members to be aware of the risks and follow recommendations.

Know the systems:

Symptoms Clinical features are fever or signs/symptoms of lower respiratory illnesses. Symptoms may include:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- Human coronaviruses can sometimes cause lower-respiratory tract illnesses, such as pneumonia or bronchitis.

If you are experiencing any of these symptoms, we ask that you stay home and enjoy our online worship opportunity.

If you are attending worship, Please take your temperature before leaving home.

The following can help prevent the spread of coronaviruses and protect yourself and your fellow members from becoming infected:

- wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds;
- avoid touching eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands;
- avoid close contact with people who are sick.

In addition, we will be avoiding shaking hands as a social greeting

WORSHIP SERVICES has started fully since May 31st. WE ARE CHANGING THE START TIME FOR WORSHIP SERVICE TO 10:00 AM. ADULT BIBLE STUDY CLASS TIME WILL CHANGE TO 9:00 AM. We are keeping to the social distancing rules of 6' apart and will seat everyone accordingly. We are also practicing social distancing after worship service. We ask that you wear a face mask for your own safety as well as for the safety of your fellow members. We all need to be masked. However, Pastor Lee will not be wearing his face mask as he needs to lead the service, but will maintain social distancing and not be able to greet anyone. We leave it to your own discretion as to when you feel safe and comfortable enough to come back to worship at Living Word. As originally stated, communion Sunday will be the first and third Sundays of the month, so for July it will be on the 5th and 19th. We have the pre-packaged single serve communion cups of grape juice with the wafer for everyone. Even though we all have been anxiously waiting to be able to worship together, your safety and health are of the utmost importance to us. If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to call or email me, and we will do everything we can to take care of your concerns. Please note that the Adult Bible Study location has been moved to the sanctuary so everyone can be seated apart from one another.

"History of Our Independence Day"

Continued from page 1

colonists celebrated the birth of independence by holding mock funerals for King [George III](#) as a way of symbolizing the end of the monarchy's hold on America and the triumph of liberty. Festivities including concerts, bonfires, parades and the firing of cannons and muskets usually accompanied the first public readings of the Declaration of Independence, beginning immediately after its adoption. Philadelphia held the first annual commemoration of independence on July 4, 1777, while Congress was still occupied with the ongoing war. [George Washington](#) issued double rations of rum to all his soldiers to mark the anniversary of independence in 1778, and in 1781, several months before the key American victory at the [Battle of Yorktown](#), Massachusetts became the first state to make July 4th an official state holiday.


Two Presidents Died on the Same July 4: Coincidence or Something More?

After the Revolutionary War, Americans continued to commemorate Independence Day every year, in celebrations that allowed the new nation's emerging political leaders to address citizens and create a feeling of unity. By the last decade of the 18th century, the two major political parties—the [Federalist Party](#) and Democratic-Republicans—that had arisen began holding separate Fourth of July celebrations in many large cities.



July 2020



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 INDEPENDENCE DAY 
5 9:00 am Adult Bible Study 10:00 am Worship-Comm.	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 9:00 am Adult Bible Study 10:00 am Worship	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 9:00 am Adult Bible Study 10:00 am Worship-Comm.	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 9:00 am Adult Bible Study 10:00 am Worship	27	28	29	30	31	



July Celebrations



July 16 Mark Cygan
July 24 Bill Bonnar
July 29 Darlene Cygan
July 29 Joshua Regan
July 30 Ashley Regan



July 2 Bonnie Kurtzman
July 2 Gary Pote
July 4 Mitchell Gawlik
July 6 Lisa Regan
July 7 John Paul Lange
July 7 Scott Miklos
July 9 Jesse Meier
July 9 Margie Sefcik
July 17 Bob Gabrysiak
July 17 Jim McKinney
July 25 Nicki Gabrysiak
July 25 Henry Kalis
July 27 Kurt Meier

Anniversary



July 1 Bob & Karen Grossart
July 10 John & Jessica Lyons
July 23 Eric & Donna Hann

Stewardship Snapshot

June 28, 2020

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Financial Support

500.00 Aileen S. Andrew Foundation
 2,420.00 General Contributions
 2,920.00 Total Deposit

Living Word's budget calls for weekly offerings averaging \$3654 to fund our ministry. Regular, intentional and meaningful contributions from what the Lord provides you helps carry this out.

Church Contacts

Pastor Steven Lee

intouchlwlc@yahoo.com

Webmaster, Diana Motel

dianamotel@yahoo.com

Leadership Team

Rick Boehm - President

Jim Schultheiss - Vice President

Bobbi Pote - Treasurer

Diana Motel - Secretary

LIVING WORD ENDOWMENT FUND (as of 6/30/2020)

The current value of the fund is \$141,130.65 invested in Thrivent funds. Current market value exceeds cost of investments by \$19,088.27. Since inception (10/12/05), the Fund has earned interest and dividends totaling \$37,061.65. Of this, \$18,530.83 will return to Living Word for growth initiatives.

THIS REPRESENTS A GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING!

To Date:	Total contributions	\$84,980.73
	Market value over cost	19,088.27
	<u>Dividends and interest</u>	<u>37,061.65</u>
	Total market value	\$141,130.65

HOW THE ENDOWMENT FUND WORKS

Contributions treated as donation for tax purposes

Funds invested by Thrivent Financial

50% of interest and dividends available for church growth

Interested in estate planning? Call Tim Regan/Thrivent (708-326-4750)

If any questions, call Bob Grossart



Classes & Groups

ADULT SUNDAY FORUM will resume meeting again each Sunday with a new start time of **9:00 a.m.** Join us each week in our new location in the sanctuary, even though it might be a smaller group than usual, we still want to maintain safe social distancing.

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 # 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 9:30a.m. Sundays on 1580 AM



For Your Information ...

CARE GIVER NEEDED If you or you know of anyone who would be interested and is qualified to be a live-in care giver, please contact Cathy Baidis at 708-710-1141 as she is looking for someone to be with her mom.

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

TAX STATEMENTS for last year 2019 are still available as the deadline for filing your taxes is this month. To pick yours up, give me a call in the office or see me on Sunday to pick up yours. Also the first quarter statements for 2020 are now available as well. Please call or email the office if there are any discrepancies in your statements.

WE NEED MORE USHERS AND GREETERS! Now that we are getting back together again for worship we will be needing people to volunteer to be ushers or greeters. If you are not currently serving and would be willing to serve as you worship please inform the office or Bev at church. The monthly schedule usually only requires each person to serve once a month, maybe less if we can get enough people. Thank you in advance for your service, it is greatly appreciated.

ORLAND PARK POLICE would like to remind everyone to be safe and mindful of your surroundings. Always make sure you lock your car doors and never to leave your keys in the car. Criminals can access your garage door opener from your unlocked car and gain entry into your home that way. As always if you see something, say something and call 911. Never approach a dangerous situation. Any questions or other concerns regarding safety or the community can be directed to Deputy Chief Joseph Mitchell 708-349-4111.

CELEBRATION DINNER Now that we have started to gather for worship on a more regular basis, we will want to start looking forward to fellowship events and summertime fun. The idea is already being kicked around slightly. Of course our main goal is everyone's safety, but we just thought that it would be really nice to have something to get excited about and to be able to have plenty of time to start planning. Of course we want to have a dedication ceremony for our brand new floor to honor Ruth Grebik for her very generous bequest, in addition to a plaque in her honor, it was suggested that we should rename the fellowship hall to the Grebik hall in honor of Ed and Ruth. What a wonderful idea that was. In order to make it easy on everybody and to keep everyone safe, we most likely will have it catered. We will send more information out about what type of donations we should have or be able to accept, you know how hungry we all must be for not being able to have a grand spread all this while. LOL.

DEVOTIONAL PRAYER FOR THE WEEK ... I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. — Third Article of the Apostles' Creed.

Not only has God created us, and loved us so much that He gave His Son Jesus to die for our sins, but He also sends the Holy Spirit to enable us to believe that salvation through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus can be ours as a totally free gift, requiring no works of ours to earn it. In addition, the Holy Spirit calls and enables believers everywhere to be one in love for God, for each other, and for those who have not yet answered the Spirit's call. May each of us listen to and follow the Spirit's call on our lives today and every day.

NEW WEBSITE FEATURE There has been a new feature added to our website. You can now send in your offering using our giving page. You can make a one time offering or create an account to have offerings come out as often as you like. Thank you for your continued support.



Elim has been involved in supplying essential school supplies to **under-resourced children in the Chicagoland area** for the past five years through our *HOPE Packs* program. This program not only helps low income families and children, but it **also provides meaningful work for our adult participants with disabilities**. They too have been side-lined by this pandemic and are anxious to get back to work. In addition, the wide-spread unemployment in the communities we serve has only increased the demand for school supply assistance for this upcoming school year.

It is their goal and desire to help as many under-resourced families as we can and provide meaningful work for our adults. At this time they plan to build approximately 11,000 kits which will be distributed to the communities with the most significant need. To do so, they need the partnership of local churches like ours who also desire to make a life-changing difference for children and families in need.

Here is a link to short video that captures the community impact your church makes through HOPE Packs: [HOPE Packs Impact](#). Please prayerfully consider how our church can partner with Elim in this mission. Feel free to respond to this email or contact my colleague, Glenn Spoolstra, at 708-293-6510 with any questions you may have.

Here are a few FAQ's about the Hope Packs Program

What are HOPE Packs?

HOPE Packs are packs of school supplies provided to students to give them the tools they need to have a productive and successful school year. These packs include pencils, folders, notebooks, glue, markers, erasers, scissors, and more! They are carefully assembled by Elim's adults and distributed to schools and ministries in the Chicagoland area.

Who is impacted?

By supporting HOPE Packs, you are supporting two individuals: Our partnership blesses an Elim adult with meaningful work AND provides essential school supplies to a child not far from your own community. You make a life-long impact on both of their lives.

What happens with the HOPE Packs donations?

Donations received for HOPE Packs cover the funding needed for Elim's HOPE Packs participants to purchase the necessary school supplies, assemble them into boxes of HOPE Packs, and distribute them to local children in need.



Does Elim only provide HOPE Packs to schools?

While their annual HOPE Packs drives generally raise funds for School Supply Kits, they also build Food and Military HOPE Packs. For more information, contact Glenn Spoolstra, glenn.spoolstra@elimcs.org or 708-293-6510.

Who are their mission partners?

They are so grateful to be able to partner with such great organizations. Their mission partners are: [Chicagoland Prison Outreach](#), [Faith and Action](#), [Christ Cares](#), [Lampstand Ministries](#), [YMEN](#), [Restoration Ministries](#), [Roseland Christian Ministries](#), [Circle Urban Ministries](#), [Break Through Urban Ministries](#), [Resilient](#), and many suburban and Chicago Public Schools.

