



# KEEP CALM AND REMEMBER PSALM 139

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## PRAYER CHAIN

### REQUESTS

Please call

Eleanor Galik

708-302-1686

for immediate prayers



Living in the Word...that the  
Word may live in others.

## Living Word Lutheran Church

16301 South Wolf Road  
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 30, Issue 3

January 17, 2021

*"The Background of Psalm 139"* by E.J. Young

[Psalm 139](#) is one of the grandest of all the Psalms, for it brings us face to face with the majesty and power of God. Immediately it exalts God as all knowing and omnipresent, and clearly shows that all of man's life is in God's hands.

The Psalm is a prayer and brings us right away to a contemplation of God's omniscience, particularly as this has to do with the Psalmist himself. This consideration of God's omniscience leads naturally to the contemplation of God's omnipresence. And at this point one of the principal exegetical questions involved in the study of this Psalm emerges. David asks "Whither shall I go from thy spirit? Or whither shall I flee from thy presence? (verse [7](#)) What is the reason for asking such a question? Is the Psalmist merely suggesting that it is impossible to flee from God? On this interpretation David is asserting the greatness of God and in a somewhat theoretical manner, declaring that there is no escape from Him. More likely, however, David speaks as a sinner, for later in the Psalm he appeals to God to search him and to see if there be any wicked way in him. As a sinner, David fears before God and seeks to escape His presence.

To escape from God, however, for whatever reason, is impossible, for not only is He omniscient, He is also omnipresent. From these thoughts David turns to reflect upon God's relationship to himself. From the very first, when he was but an embryo in the womb of his mother, God had been with David. Those therefore, who oppose so great a God are also David's enemies and he must hate them with a perfect hatred. He closes with an appeal to God to search him and to lead him in the way everlasting.

Whence come such sublime thoughts? What is their origin? For those who will not acknowledge that the Bible is a revelation from God such questions become truly embarrassing. It is our purpose in this paper to consider a fairly recent attempt to account for the origin of this Psalm. For some time attention has been called to supposed similarities between [Psalm 139](#) and certain of the Vedic hymns. Hints to this effect were early given by Max Müller and later direct attention was drawn to a supposed relationship. Perhaps the most exhaustive study of the subject has been made by Hildebrecht Hommel, son of the well known Dr. Fritz Hommel, in an article in the *Zeitschrift für die Alttestamentliche Wissenschaft*, Vol. 60, 1929, pp. 110-124, entitled "Das religionsgeschichtliche Problem des 139 Psalms."

## This Week at Living Word

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>17</b>  <b>9:00 am Adult Study</b>  <b>10:00 am Worship-COMM</b>	<b>18</b>  9:00-3:00 Nature Exploration Academy	<b>19</b> 9:00am - 12:00pm Preschool 9:00-3:00 Nature Exploration Academy <b>10:00 am PUSH</b>	<b>20</b>  9:00am - 12:00pm Preschool  9:00-3:00 Nature Exploration Academy	<b>21</b> 9:00am - 12:00pm Preschool  9:00-3:00 Nature Exploration Academy	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>

## This Week's Celebrations



**January 19** Dave Holloway



**January 22** Hank Kalis, Jr.

## Stewardship Snapshot

### Stewardship Snapshot for January 10th

**24 Worshipped**  
**15 Watched Online**  
**3 Watched DVD's**  
**42 Total**

#### Financial Support

4,580.00 General Fund  
 615.00 For Building Use from Nature Exploration Academy

**\$5,195.00 Total General Fund 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

### Church Contacts

**Pastor Steven Lee**

*intouchlwlc@yahoo.com*

**Ministry Support Coordinator, Diana Motel**

*dianamotel@yahoo.com*

#### Leadership Team

**Rick Boehm** - President

**Bobbi Pote** - Treasurer

**Diana Motel** - Secretary

#### Members at Large

**Jim McKinney**

**Pastor John Bucka**

**Donna Wasilkoff**

NATHANIEL'S THERE,  
JUST MINDING HIS  
OWN BUSINESS...



WWW.AGNUSDAY.ORG

AND THEN JESUS  
GETS ALL UP IN HIS  
BUSINESS!



YEP.



AND THAT'S WHEN  
THINGS GET DOWN  
TO BUSINESS.



JOHN 1:43-51

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## 01-17-21 Message Outline

### ***"Knowing God"***

Our Psalm says: *"You have searched me, Lord, and you know me."* God knows us. What about us? Do we just know *about* God, or do we *know* God? Today our Scriptures point the way to knowing God...

#### **1) If you want to know God... LISTEN to Him..**

<sup>4</sup> Then the Lord called Samuel. Samuel answered, "Here I am." <sup>5</sup> And he ran to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." But Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down." So he went and lay down. <sup>6</sup> Again the Lord called, "Samuel!" And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." "My son," Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down." <sup>7</sup> Now Samuel did not yet **know** the Lord: The word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. <sup>8</sup> A third time the Lord called, "Samuel!" And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." Then Eli realized that the Lord was calling the boy. <sup>9</sup> So Eli told Samuel, "Go and lie down, and if he calls you, say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. <sup>10</sup> The Lord came and stood there, calling as at the other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is **listening**." Samuel 3:2-10

#### **2) If you want to know God...HONOR Him.**

<sup>19</sup> Do you not **know** that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; <sup>20</sup> you were bought at a price. Therefore **honor** God with your bodies.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

#### **3) If you want to know God...BELIEVE Him.**

<sup>47</sup> When Jesus saw Nathanael approaching, he said of him, "Here truly is an Israelite in whom there is no deceit." <sup>48</sup> "How do you **know** me?" Nathanael asked. Jesus answered, "I saw you while you were still under the fig tree before Philip called you."

<sup>49</sup> Then Nathanael declared, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the king of Israel."

<sup>50</sup> Jesus said, "You **believe** because I told you I saw you under the fig tree. You will see greater things than that."

John 1:47-50

## Greetings and Updates From Warmer Climates

**ELEANOR GALIK** called the office this past week, she wanted me to say "hello" to everybody for her, and to let everyone know she was doing good. However it was rainy down in Florida the day she called, aww, isn't that too bad now. LOL!

**ETHEL HAMILL** called just last week and wanted to wish everyone a happy and healthy new year and wanted me to say "hello" to everyone that she knew, which I think is almost all of us. Her and Sharon are both doing fine and they have recently moved, but still in Tennessee. They miss us all, and are trying to find a suitable church, but we all know the rest doesn't compare to our gem of a church family.

**DONNA AND PETER WASILKOFF** are also in a much warmer and drier climate, they are settling into their new surroundings and basically can't wait till they come back to see everyone. They should be back in March.

## Updates From the Transition Team

**THE TRANSITION TEAM** is in the middle of doing their interviews to call a new pastor for our church. They already interviewed two pastors, Pastor Erb and Pastor Foley, both of whom they are very interested in. The third interview will be tomorrow evening with Pastor Allman. Thank you so much to Bob Grossart, Donna Wasilkoff, Lisa Regan, Diana Motel and Pastor John Bucka for all of their hard work and diligent commitment to seeing us through this time.

## Classes & Groups

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

**PUSH PRAYER** meets **every Tuesday at 10:00 a.m.** to pray for our church, community and world. We welcome requests (call 708.403.9673) 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 # 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



## GROWTH & OPPORTUNITIES...

**HELP US GROW OUR CHURCH** In these unprecedented times it is important to get back to the basics. Remember how lively and full our church was back in the '90's, or just a few years ago even, we are trying to get back to that status. Please don't forget about us at this time. We miss seeing you here at church and we would like to be able to have more regular attendance at service every Sunday. We have been worshipping together since May 31st and haven't had any issues with COVID or any other illnesses. The church gets cleaned weekly, and now since both preschool and the Nature Exploration Academy has started up again, it gets cleaned two to three times a week, plus we have been going thru a lot more disinfectant spray and wipes. Your safety and health are still the utmost important aspect, but at the same time, the future of our church is starting to depend on your help. Your offerings, and helpful talents have been so appreciated in the past, and we look forward to receiving those benefits again. The transition team has been back in full swing working on the call process, please be on the lookout for more information to come in the coming weeks and months.

**MORE BUILDING UPDATES!** A big thanks goes out to Jim McKinney, Ed Baidis, Bill and Abby Merchantz for painting the bathrooms recently. They did a great job and it looks great. They really needed a new paint job. Next step in the two bathrooms will be the new partitions among a few other minor updates. The conference room floor was also replaced with the laminate flooring that is throughout the other rooms. And last but most certainly not least, we have our new sign for the fellowship hall, a dedication ceremony will be planned for a later date for the Ed and Ruth Grebik Hall.

**A HUGE THANK YOU** to all that came on Tuesday to help carry in all of the new bathroom partitions. The truck driver delivered the pallet and since it wouldn't fit through the doors, the pallet was left on the sidewalk in front of the doors. Jim McKinney called his group of muscle men, and they came to our rescue.

**ALUMINUM CANS** are being collected again. Randy Hodo will be taking over this project and will be crushing and recycling the cans to help raise a little bit more cash for the church.

**PLEASE SEND** in any new contact information such as change of address and/or phone numbers via email or phone call. The new directory is about a third completed and just so you know, it will be a photo directory, so if you haven't done so yet please send me a recent photo. I will send particular requests to those that I still need something from. Thank you to all that have given me the information that was requested.



**OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2021** are available and on the table in the fellowship hall.

**JANUARY MISSION OF THE MONTH** will be the Military Bible Sticks. Please see the worship folder insert and/or the information on the table next to the office.

**2020 TAX STATEMENTS** are available for pick up, they are in the small box located on the table next to the office.

**NEW CHRISTMAS TREE!** Thanks to the networking and social media work from Diana Motel, we have a new 7.5 foot Christmas tree donated to us. However, it is not a pre-lit tree, so if you are looking to get rid of any of your clear light sets that are still working, please remember we could use them. Also, this is the perfect time to go shopping with all of the after Christmas sales going on.

