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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

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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**

**10:00 am Sunday School**

# IN TOUCH

with the ministry and people of Living Word

Volume 30, Issue 7

February 14, 2021

## "Transfiguration Sunday: A Voice from Heaven"

"Men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit" (2 Peter 1:21).

Philip Yancey told of an American musical team on a recent tour of the Middle East. The door opened for an engagement in Kabul, Afghanistan. Their leader strictly warned them not to stray from the prepared script. Dire consequences could follow. They sang folk tunes and songs about God's love. All was uneventful until one member of the team put down his guitar and began to improvise.

"I'd like to tell you about my best friend, a man named Jesus, and the difference He has made in my life." From the side of the stage, the team leader motioned wildly for him to stop. He gestured the cut-your-throat motions. The young man went on with his testimony.

Then the Minister of Cultural Affairs for Afghanistan stood and walked to the stage. "We have seen many American young people come through this country," he said. "Most of them come for drugs, and most look like hippies. We have not seen or heard from people like you. God's love is a message my country needs. How thrilled I am to hear you!"

Then he publicly invited the group to expand their tour to visit every college and faculty in the nation and to give this same message on Kabul Radio. The minister added, "I will make it happen." The response to the tour has been amazing. Afghan young people crowd around: "Tell me more about this Jesus—we know of Him from the Qur'an." Some asked to pray with the American teenagers. Many wanted to know how faith had changed them. (Philip Yancey, "A Living Stream in the Desert," *Christianity Today*. Nov. 2010, 30-35.)

Who says Jesus is the Christ? On what authority can we expect a rich welcome into His eternal kingdom? (2 Peter 1:11).

### The Voice of Eyewitnesses Say So (2 Peter 1:16; 1 John 1:1-3)

In contrast to those telling cleverly invented myths, Peter, James and John were eyewitnesses on the Mount of Transfiguration. They saw the glory of the Lord, and Peter now tells what they saw. That is the duty of a witness: We tell what we have seen.

### The Voice of God the Father Says So (2 Peter 1:17-18)

There are two occasions in the gospels when the voice of God the Father spoke from heaven to bear witness to the deity of the Son. These were at His baptism and transfiguration.

At His baptism, recorded in Mark 1:11, "A voice came from heaven: 'You are My Son, whom I love; with You I am well pleased.'" This was the voice of His Father. (Compare with Psalms 2:7 and Isaiah 42:1).

Our text today provides the second incident. It happened at His transfiguration (2 Peter 1:17-18, Matthew 17:1-9). The three disciples of the inner circle, Peter James and John, climbed the mountain with the Lord. "There He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became white as the light" (Matthew 17:2).

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## This Week At Living Word

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>14</b> 9:00 am Adult Study 10:00 am Worship Congregational Meeting Valentine's Day	<b>15</b> 9:00-3:00 Nature Exploration Academy	<b>16</b> 9:00am – 12:00pm Preschool Valentine's Day Party 9:00-3:00 Nature Exploration Academy 10:00 am PUSH	<b>17</b> 9:00am – 12:00pm Preschool 9:00-3:00 Nature Exploration Academy 5:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service	<b>18</b> 9:00am – 12:00pm Preschool 9:00-3:00 Nature Exploration Academy	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 9:00 am Adult Study 10:00 am Worship COMM Congregational Meeting	<b>22</b> 9:00-3:00 Nature Exploration Academy	<b>23</b> 9:00am – 12:00pm Preschool 9:00-3:00 Nature Exploration Academy 10:00 am PUSH	<b>24</b> 9:00am – 12:00pm Preschool 9:00-3:00 Nature Exploration Academy	<b>25</b> 9:00am – 12:00pm Preschool 9:00-3:00 Nature Exploration Academy	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>

## A Happy Home Recipe

4 cups of love                      5 spoons of hope  
 2 cups of loyalty                    2 spoons of tenderness  
 3 cups of forgiveness              4 quarts of faith  
 1 cup of friendship                 1 barrel of laughter

Take love and loyalty, mix it thoroughly with faith. Blend it with tenderness, kindness and understanding. Add friendship and hope, sprinkle abundantly with laughter. Bake it with sunshine. Serve daily with generous helpings.

I found this in an envelope of old photos when I was cleaning and thought it would be nice to share.

# This Week's Celebrations



**February 18** Matt Meier



*Happy Baptism  
Birthday!*

**February 15** Steve Rhoads

## Stewardship Snapshot

### Stewardship Snapshot for February 7th

**17** Worshipped, **16** Communed

**19** Watched Online

**2** Watched DVD's

**38** Total

#### Financial Support

2,770.00 General Fund

615.00 Nature Academy Building Use

218.00 Military Bible Sticks (Mission of the Month)

**3,603.00 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

### Church Contacts

**Pastor Steven Lee**

*intouchwlc@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

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## "Transfiguration Sunday: A Voice from Heaven"

### The Voice of Prophets in Scripture Say So (2 Peter 1:19-21)

In addition to the audible voice of God on the mountain, we have the written Word of God through His prophets. We do well to pay attention to their words. These men spoke about God and for God and "from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit" (v. 21).

Men still offer their chocolate-covered poison for doctrine. A family came to my door some time back with their propaganda. I saw them going door to door on our street and suspected their nefarious mission. I was not long at my door in bearing witness to Christ my Savior, God's Son. Their spokesperson said. "We believe in Christ the Son of God."

I responded: "Do you mean to tell me that you believe Jesus is the Son of God and God the Son? Their heads were all nodding affirmation until I reached that last term, "God, the Son." There their heads suddenly stopped nodding and shook negatively and emphatically side to side, saying, "No, not 'God, the Son!'" Either they are heretics or I am. I take my stand with those who witnessed His divine glory on the mountain.

## Mission of the Month Updates

**EASTER BASKET TIME!** Now that it is February, the mission of the month is the Village of Orland Park. Specifically making and putting together Easter baskets for the children of the under privilege and low income families of the Orland Park township. So when you are out shopping at the Dollar stores and see coloring books, play dough, crayons, stickers or anything like that, pickup a couple of items so we can make Easter baskets for the boys and girls of Orland Park Township. Joan Fraser and her daughter have been doing these for the community for several years now, and in talking with her one day, we thought it would be a terrific and cute group effort. Joan had dropped off about a dozen baskets, Kristi Hartz and her sister made and brought in so many cute stuffed rabbits and little toys for the baskets already, and we will be printing out the Jelly Bean prayer cards, for a more meaningful connection to Easter, and also to let everyone know that we are here, we will be including our Welcome Cards as well in their baskets. Please see the table for some of the baskets that Diana had already put together, as examples.



## 02-14-21 Message Outline

### “Perfect in Beauty”

Today our Psalm says, “From Zion, perfect in beauty, God shines forth.” God shines forth to us in Jesus Christ, who is perfect in beauty.

#### 1) Perfect in beauty, Christ shines behind **MOSES’** veil.

<sup>29</sup> When Moses came down from Mount Sinai with the two tablets of the covenant law in his hands, he was not aware that his face was radiant because he had spoken with the Lord. <sup>30</sup> When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, his face was radiant, and they were afraid to come near him. <sup>31</sup> But Moses called to them; so Aaron and all the leaders of the community came back to him, and he spoke to them.

<sup>32</sup> Afterward all the Israelites came near him, and he gave them all the commands the Lord had given him on Mount Sinai. <sup>33</sup> When Moses finished speaking to them, he put a veil over his face. Exodus 34:29-35

#### 2) Perfect in beauty, Christ shines past **MY** veil.

<sup>13</sup> We are not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face to prevent the Israelites from seeing the end of what was passing away...

<sup>16</sup> But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. <sup>17</sup> Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. <sup>18</sup> And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

2 Corinthians 3:13, 16-18

#### 3) Perfect in beauty, Christ shines through **MAN’S** veil.

<sup>2</sup> After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was transfigured before them. <sup>3</sup> His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them. <sup>4</sup> And there appeared before them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus. <sup>5</sup> Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.” <sup>6</sup> (He did not know what to say, they were so frightened.) <sup>7</sup> Then a cloud appeared and covered them, and a voice came from the cloud: “This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!” <sup>8</sup> Suddenly, when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus. <sup>9</sup> As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus gave them orders not to tell anyone what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

Mark 9:2-9

### 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



### Updates From the Transition Team

**THE TRANSITION TEAM** finished doing their interviews to call a new pastor for our church. They have interviewed all five pastors they were interested in, Pastor Erb, Pastor Foley and Pastor Allman, Pastor Jackson and Pastor Schulz. Thank you so much to Bob Grossart, Donna Wasilkoff, Lisa Regan, Diana Motel and Pastor John Bucka for all of their hard work and being able to find time in their busy schedules and standing diligent to their commitment of seeing us through this time. As I have highlighted on the next two week’s calendar on page 2, we are having a congregational meeting today, February 14th, after the service. The transition team will be presenting their results and their top picks to us and informing us more about the potential pastors, and then on next Sunday, February 21st, we will be able to vote on whom we will extend a call to.