



IN TOUCH

with the ministry and people of Living Word

Volume 30, Issue 11

March 21, 2021

"The New Covenant"

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Jesus shatters any absolute dissociation of commandments and love.

He says, "If you *love* me, you will keep my *commandments*. . . . Whoever has my *commandments* and keeps them, he it is who *loves* me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father" (John 14:15, 21). "If you keep my *commandments*, you will abide in my *love*, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love" (John 15:10).

Thinking in terms of commandments and obedience did not stop Jesus from enjoying the love of his Father. And he expects that our thinking of him as one who *commands* will not jeopardize our love relationship with him either.

This is crucial to realize because the new covenant relationship that we have with God through Jesus Christ is not a covenant without commandments. The basic difference between the old covenant offered by God through the Mosaic law and the new covenant offered by God through Christ is not that one had commandments and the other doesn't.

The key differences are that (1) the Messiah, Jesus, has come and shed the blood of the new covenant (Matthew 26:28; Hebrews 10:29) so that henceforth he is the Mediator of a new covenant, so that all saving, covenant-keeping faith is conscious faith in him; (2) the old covenant has therefore become "obsolete" (Hebrews 8:13) and does not govern the new-covenant people of God (2 Corinthians 3:7-18; Romans 7:4, 6; Galatians 3:19); and (3) the promised new heart and the enabling power of the Holy Spirit have been given through faith.

In the old covenant, the gracious enabling power to obey God was not poured out as fully as it is since Jesus. "To this day the Lord has not given you a heart to understand or eyes to see or ears to hear" (Deuteronomy 29:4). What's new about the new covenant is not that there are no commandments, but that God's promise has come true! "I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts" (Jeremiah 31:33). "I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes" (Ezekiel 36:27).

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
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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

This Week at Living Word

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
21 9:00 am Adult Study 10:00 am Worship-COMM	22 9:00-3:00 Nature Exploration Academy	23 9:00am – 12:00pm Preschool 9:00-3:00 Nature Exploration Academy 10:00 am PUSH 6:30 Meeting with Pastor Erb	24 9:00am – 12:00pm Preschool 9:00-3:00 Nature Exploration Academy	25 9:00am – 12:00pm Preschool 9:00-3:00 Nature Exploration Academy	26	27

Celebrations



Happy Baptism Birthday!

March 22 David Merchantz



Anniversary

March 25 Donna & Peter Wasilkoff
March 28 Pat & Dale Johnson

Stewardship Snapshot

March 14th

14 Worshipped
18 Watched Online
2 Watched DVD's
34 Total

Financial Support

1,195.00 General Fund 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
intouchlwc@yahoo.com

Ministry Support Coordinator, Diana Motel
dianamotel@yahoo.com

<u>Leadership Team</u>	<u>Members at Large</u>
Rick Boehm - President	Jim McKinney
Bobbi Pote - Treasurer	Pastor John Bucka
Diana Motel - Secretary	Donna Wasilkoff

Living Word News

CHURCH COUNCIL BOARD has openings and opportunities for you to join. Please see Diana, Jim or Rick if interested. We need your help to keep our church running smoothly and to have different input from time to time. Make your ideas heard and flourish with our church family.

CALL COMMITTEE has scheduled a meeting to take place here at church to meet Pastor Erb in person upon his request. The meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 23rd at 6:30 pm. Pastor Erb had expressed an interest in seeing the church and meeting with the church council. We must keep praying for God's blessings and guidance for Pastor Erb and his family. It would truly be great if this was meant to be.

GIVING PAGE is on our website. It is safe and secure and your donations will be included on your monthly statements. However if you still choose to send in your donations via the mail, as soon as I receive your offering I will shoot you a quick email stating that it was received.

SPRING CLEAN-UP DAY will be coming up very shortly. There are many projects that need to be taken care of around our church, if you can volunteer a couple of hours or more, it would be greatly appreciated.

LILY ORDER FORMS are due by March 28th, each lily is \$9.00 this year.

Nature Exploration Academy

PASTOR LEE in class on Wednesday mornings teaching the students from the Nature Exploration Academy the importance of God and His divine, naturally revealed law, as a basis for our own law. They are studying the basic legal foundation for America thru practical exercises. They're having fun creating and starting their own "country" with the 3 branches of government and the consequences when anyone violates those laws.

March Mission of the Month

VOICE OF CARE is an organization of Lutherans supported and serviced by the Missouri Synod of the nurturing of the ministry for people with disabilities. Dennis Pieper who leads this ministry was our guest speaker a couple of years ago, and this ministry is our mission of the month for March. Their mission is to equip the local church to embrace, empower and engage people who experience disabilities and their families in their discipleship walk with Christ. Ministry by and with people with disabilities.



Easter Events

LIVING WORD
LUTHERAN CHURCH
ORLAND PARK, IL

EASTER EGG HUNT

Sunday, March, 28th at 11:30 am.

Must register as space is limited at
<https://livingwordorland.org/welcome/easter-egg-hunt-march-282021/>

This event is broken down into 3 sections 1-5-year-olds, 6-9-year-olds, and 10-13-year-olds.

Please bring your own basket or bag
Must wear a mask
Stay socially distanced
Event will be held rain or shine, please dress accordingly

EASTER EGG HUNT is returning to Living Word this year. Diana Motel came up with the idea of having it on Palm Sunday immediately after service. As you can see by the poster to the left, it will be broken up into 3 different age groups and will be taking place in three different areas outside. We already have 8 kids that have signed up for it, and we are looking for volunteers to help supervise the different age groups. Please see Bev or Diana if you are interested in signing up for the event or can help out in any way. Please let all of your family and friends know about this exciting event taking place once again. Must register in advance on our website, or in person, we will have extra copies of the registration printed out and available in the office or on the table in the fellowship hall. As you can see by the poster, it will be rain or shine, so maybe if you could say a little prayer for decent weather at least, would be very helpful.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE will be held at 6:00pm on Good Friday, April 2nd. We of course will be livestreaming the service, but after not having the ability to be in church last year for Good Friday or Easter, it will be such a blessing to return to some normalcy after the year we all had experienced.

I HAD TO LEARN THE TEN COMMANDMENTS BY HEART WHEN I WAS A KID.



THAT'S NOT WHAT THIS IS ABOUT. THIS IS THE PROMISE OF THE NEW COVENANT WHO IS JESUS.



I WISH MY CONFIRMATION TEACHER HAD KNOWN THAT.



C. NETZSTEIN 11-14-08, 03, 22

WWW.AQUILUSTIAN.ORG

JEREMIAH 31: 31-35

"With All My Heart"

The Psalmist asks, "How can a young person stay on the path of purity?" He then answers, "By living according to your word. I seek you with all my heart!" Why seek God with all our heart? Because...

1) My heart is overjoyed in Christ's SALVATION.

³¹ "The days are coming," declares the Lord, "when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah. ³² It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them," declares the Lord. ³³ "This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time," declares the Lord. "I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. ³⁴ No longer will they teach their neighbor, or say to one another, 'Know the Lord,' because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest," declares the Lord. "For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more."
Jeremiah 31:31-34

2) My heart is overwhelmed by Christ's SACRIFICE.

Every high priest is selected from among the people and is appointed to represent the people in matters related to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. ² He is able to deal gently with those who are ignorant and are going astray, since he himself is subject to weakness. ³ This is why he has to offer sacrifices for his own sins, as well as for the sins of the people. ⁴ And no one takes this honor on himself, but he receives it when called by God, just as Aaron was. ⁵ In the same way, Christ did not take on himself the glory of becoming a high priest. But God said to him, "You are my Son; today I have become your Father." ⁶ And he says in another place, "You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek."
Hebrews 5:1-6

3) My heart is overflowing with Christ's SERVANTHOOD.

⁴² Jesus called them and said, "You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. ⁴³ Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴ and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. ⁴⁵ For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."
Mark 10:42-45

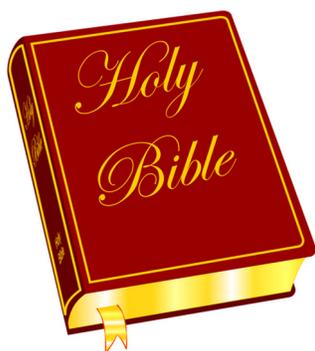
Classes & Groups

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



DEVOTIONAL OF THE WEEK Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to accomplish his work. Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, then comes the harvest'? Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest." John 4:34-35 (ESV)

We need to remember why we're here. We are God's laborers. God wants us to see the world the way He does, and to be about His business, which always revolves around people-serving them, caring for them and bringing them into relationship with their Savior. Let God's mission for you stimulate your passion to live a life that glorifies Him.