



IN TOUCH

with the ministry and people of Living Word

Volume 30, Issue 20

May 23, 2021

"4 Facts About Pentecost"

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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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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

1. The Holy Spirit inseparably continues the ministry of the Father and the Son. He was sent in place of the physical presence of Jesus. The ministry of the apostles and the early church in the power of the Spirit continued Jesus's ministry (Acts 1:1-2; 2:47; cf. John 16:12-15). Again, Paul reflects on the Father sending the Son in his incarnation and so also the Spirit at Pentecost; not only is the Spirit sent by the Father, but he is also called "the Spirit of [the Father's] Son" (Gal. 4:4-6). The Father also is said to send the Spirit (John 14:26), while the Son also sends him, having received him from the Father (Acts 2:33). Much in the New Testament supports the Orthodox point that the Spirit is sent by the Father and received by the Son, here and at his baptism, with the Son then pouring him out on his church.

2. Pentecost thus marks a new era in the history of redemption. It fulfills Old Testament prophecy. The Spirit is now present in a heightened way. He was present in the Old Testament (he could hardly have been absent) but not in the foreground as in the New. How and in what ways was the Spirit active in the Old Testament? Warfield, in considering the work of the Spirit in the cosmos, the kingdom of God, and the individual, concluded that he was at work in all the ways in which he is at work in the New Testament.¹ However, there is something new: first, the miraculous endowments of the apostles, together with the churches they founded; second, the worldwide mission of the Spirit, promised in the Old Testament but only now realized; and, third and principally, the fact that the Old Testament was preparatory for the New Testament, the Spirit then preserving the people of, whereas now he produces "the fruitage and gathering of the harvest."²

The distinction is not between his presence now compared with a putative absence in the Old Testament but rather between the falling away of what was preparatory and temporary (the Old Testament) and the emergence of what is final, binding and permanent (the New). Galatians 4:4-6 is again pertinent. Israel was God's son in the Old Testament, but it was so in a way little short of servant status. It was a child in its minority, under the protection of a pedagogue, a slave entrusted with its care and upbringing (Gal. 3:24). With Christ's coming and the Spirit's sending at Pentecost, God's people have been adopted as mature sons. So significant is the sending of the Spirit that Paul describes this transition in absolute terms, as elsewhere does John (John 1:17; 4:24). Hence, in the Old Testament the Spirit came intermittently on the prophets, whereas now he is poured out on all flesh (Acts 2:16-21). Then his presence with his people was spasmodic (Ps. 51:11); now he is given permanently (John 14:17, 23).

3. The church of Jesus Christ is a Pentecostal church. The church was sent to baptize, teach, and disciple in the power of the Holy Spirit. The Bible is the Word of the Spirit and therefore the objective bearer of the Spirit's power, and thus it is the Word of Christ. The Spirit unites people to Christ by and through his Word.

The actions of Ananias and Sapphira in misleading the apostles are described as lying to the Holy Spirit, which brought upon them swift and unmistakable discipline enforced not by the human leaders but by the Spirit himself (Acts 5:1-11).

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This Week at Living Word

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
23 9:00 am Adult Study 10:00 am Worship	24 9:00–3:00 Nature Exploration Academy	25 9:00–3:00 Nature Exploration Academy 10:00 am PUSH	26 9:00–3:00 Nature Exploration Academy 6:30am “Nature’s God Presentation”	27 9:00–3:00 Nature Exploration Academy	28 9:00–3:00 Nature Exploration Academy 9:30am POW Bible Study	29

Stewardship Snapshot

May 16th

Attendance

29 Worshipped, 28 Communed

15 Watched Online

2 Watched DVD’s

46 Total

Financial Support

1,540.00 General Fund

May 9th

Financial Support

1,425.00 General Fund

699.00 Building Use (NEA)

2,124.00 Total General Deposit

May Birthdays



May 28 Brian Michael
May 30 Deanna Meier

Church Contacts

Church Contacts

Pastor Steven Lee

intouchlwc@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

Living Word News

POW (People of the Word) Bible Study started meeting again last month, Friday. They will continue to meet every Friday at 9:30 am. With word pictures to spark your imagination, the preeminent prophet Isaiah paints pictures of the holy and composes symphonies of hope. Witness the double-edged dynamic of God’s holiness, both burning away sin in the furnaces of His judgment and refining the humble so they are fit for His presence. God the looming judge also sends the Suffering Servant, who takes our sorrows upon Himself. Watch Isaiah bring these seeming contradictions to dramatic resolution in his magnificent masterwork.

ADULT SUNDAY FORUM meets 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.

NATURE EXPLORATION ACADEMY with Pastor Lee will be hosting a end of the year program called “Nature’s God”, a presentation on their class together from this past school year learning how nature’s laws and God’s laws are related to each other. The program will be on Wednesday, May 26th at 6:30 pm. If you would like to attend and watch the connection transpire, please RSVP to Bev by phone, email or in person.

ALUMINUM CANS will not be collected any longer going forward, if you have been collecting the cans, you can always drop them off by the recycling center at the Orland Park Highway Department Facility on Wolf Rd.

GOD’S GRACE AND COMFORT to the Witt family, as our very dear friend Diana Witt had passed away last Sunday morning. Diana’s memorial service will be here at Living Word on June 5th, at 10:00 am.

Jackie Schultheiss; father Jack Chaffin had passed away on Thursday, May 13th. He was 93 and is home with our Lord and his late wife. Visitation is today (23rd) from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm at Modell Funeral Home at 12641 W. 143rd St. in Homer Glenn. Funeral will be from Modell at 10:30 to 11:30 am and burial is at Abraham Lincoln Cemetery at 2:00 pm.

“Knit Together”

Psalm 139:13-16 says: “You created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.” God’s Spirit knits us together...

1) God’s Spirit knits me a new HEART.

²⁶I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws. Ezekiel 36:26-27

2) God’s Spirit knits me a new TONGUE.

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. ²Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. ⁵Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. ⁶When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. ⁷Utterly amazed, they asked: “Aren’t all these who are speaking Galileans?” ⁸Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language? ⁹Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome ¹¹(both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!” Acts 2:1-11

3) God’s Spirit knits me new EYES.

[Jesus said] “But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth.” John 16:13a

Mission of the Month

REDEEMING LIFE OUTREACH MINISTRIES is the Mission of the Month for May. CALLED TO PRESERVE LIFE God is leading Redeeming Life to expand in Illinois! Redeeming Life Outreach Ministries is a Recognized Service Organization (RSO) of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and serves single, pregnant women and their unborn children. These women are often at-risk of homelessness, domestic violence, or choosing abortion. We are opening a new Christ-centered maternity home in Carpentersville in the Northern Illinois District (NID) as early as 2021. The Maternity Home Steering Committee and LCEF are partnering with us to preserve life and share the love of Christ with vulnerable young women. Immanuel Lutheran in East Dundee led by Pastor Bill Yonker will be the official host congregation for this new location. This new maternity home will provide a safe, comfortable fully furnished home for the residents to live and thrive in and will be supervised by one full-time, live-in Manager. The residents will engage in self-directed learning and one on-one training with the help of a full-time Program Director. The expectant moms will learn necessary life skills including saving and budgeting, parenting, cooking, cleaning, connecting with others, and most importantly, connecting with God. Prayer, Bible study and worship are important components of the maternity home program. As a pro-life ministry, we walk alongside our mothers on their journey whether they plan to parent or lovingly place their baby for adoption. Every woman who calls Redeeming Life home will find help, love, and support. Please help make this new maternity home in Illinois a reality! No one can do everything, but every individual and congregation can do something! This type of project is very important as the lives of women and unborn children needs help and protection. Single pregnant women who lack safe, stable housing feel that abortion is their only option. Redeeming Life is a positive, pro-life maternity home that provides just-in-time resources to redeem the lives of women and babies.

The message video today will be showing us the new home for Illinois in Carpentersville, and Diana Motel attended a meeting with the Redeeming Life Outreach Ministries and will tell us a bit more about the charity and organization.

DEVOTIONAL OF THE WEEK *And now the word of the Lord is ringing out from you to people everywhere, even beyond Macedonia and Achaia, for wherever we go we find people telling us about your faith in God. We don’t need to tell them about it - 1 Thessalonians 1:8 Faithfulness brings results, even when they are not visible to us. We may never know all the ripples that flow out from our daily witness, but as long as we stay close to God and persevere in following his guidance, God will protect us and make sure that His working through us will bear fruit for eternity. So as you endure tough times and struggles, remember that God continues to protect and sustain you.*



Addie, Mason, and CJ walking to their seats

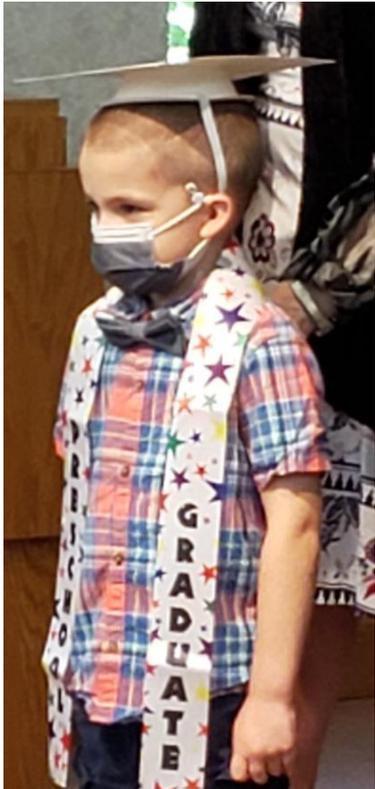


Pastor Lee leading the graduates in the opening prayer

CJ holding the American flag while the students said the Pledge of Allegiance

All of the students performing their 4 favorite songs from the schoolyear





Lucy, Addie, Jordy, Aubrey and CJ receive their caps and sashes.



Ms. Audra and Ms. Alyssa showing their pride in the students as they received their graduating caps and sashes.

The children then joined their families in their assigned rows and watched the slide show of pictures from the school year and enjoyed one last devotional for their graduation from Ms. Diana.

The ceremony went very well and everybody enjoyed all the refreshments that were brought in from all the families.



Continued from Page 1

"4 Facts About Pentecost"

The Spirit disciplines the church. Administrative and judicial discipline and the considered decisions of the Council of Jerusalem are also the decisions of the Spirit (Acts 15:28).

There is a conjunction between the calling, ordaining, and sending of the church at Antioch and the actions of the Spirit (Acts 13:1-7). The Spirit set Saul and Barnabas apart for missionary labors and made this known to the church leaders, who in turn set the two apart by prayer and the imposition of hands and so sent them away, a sending that was ultimately by the Holy Spirit. Church action and action by the Spirit were coordinate. Indeed, throughout Acts the Spirit directs Paul's missionary labors (Acts 16:6 ff.). Paul's apostolic authority is the Spirit's work. Although he has no instructions from Jesus from his earthly ministry on a matter, yet Paul's apostolic advice is of equal weight, since he has the Spirit of God to direct him as an apostle (1 Cor. 7:10-12, 40).

4. The Holy Spirit brings about our union with Christ in our life history, doing this by grace through faith.

Our faith and all that flows from it in the Christian life is due to the Spirit, who renews us in the image of God and transforms us into Christ (2 Cor. 3:18). Eventually, when Christ returns in glory, we will be like him (1 John 3:1-2). This entire process occurs through faith. Faith is "the principal work of the Holy Spirit," as Calvin said.⁴ The Spirit unites us to Christ. As a house benefits from electricity when hooked up to the grid, so we benefit from the work of Christ when it becomes ours as the Spirit unites us to him.