



IN TOUCH

with the ministry and people of Living Word

Volume 30, Issue 25

June 27, 2021

"Jesus Heals The Crowds"

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Jesus often has a crowd around him interested in what he is saying and doing. As we read the Gospels, we become like the crowds who follow Jesus, and we are deeply affected by observing and hearing his words. In this Gospel account, the crowd is walking with Jesus on his way to heal the daughter of Jarius. Suddenly Jesus says he is aware of power leaving him.

Desperate for healing, a woman has crawled through the crowd and touched the hem of Jesus' clothes. We are told: "Jesus, aware at once that power had gone out from him, turned around in the crowd and asked, 'Who has touched my clothes?'" The woman admits that she has touched his robe and tells him of her bleeding illness. Those in the crowd hear her tell Jesus about her disease.

When the people in the crowd recognized this sick woman in their midst, they must have been frightened and angry. In that time people considered menstruating women unclean and religiously impure. Some people believed that women bled because they were possessed by an evil spirit. Because of these beliefs, a menstruating woman was kept separate from the community so as not to contaminate others. She was relieved of many of her normal duties. She was not required to draw and carry water from the well. She did not have to cook or serve food to members of the family. She did not have to go to the marketplace. She did not have sexual intercourse. The days of her menstrual period were regarded as a quiet time, a time for herself. (Lev 15:19-31) If the bleeding did not stop, the woman was permanently excluded. Perhaps the patriarchal society at that time thought menstruation unnatural because the men did not experience it.

In this Gospel account the crowd is seeing a woman who has suffered the severe consequences of exclusion. She is terrified because she had broken the purity laws and, in touching Jesus, she had made him ritually unclean as well. Any person she had touched in the crowd was also ritually unclean. Each of them would have to go through a process of ritual cleansing which involved bathing, changing their clothes and being alone until the evening.

She admits her situation to Jesus and the crowd; I can imagine the crowd gasping and moving away from the woman, fearing she had touched someone or all of them. Jesus takes command of the situation and pronounces that her faith has healed her. Jesus does not claim that he healed her; rather, it was her faith. This healing affects the crowd as well. Will the crowd believe in Jesus or believe in the purity laws? Jesus's choice to have the woman healed in a public rather than a private place no doubt awakened many in the crowd to question their own acceptance of the purity laws that were part of their culture.

Each person in the crowd has to wonder at what Jesus just did. Jesus is confronting their assumptions about rules and laws that exclude people rather than protect them. Everyone in the crowd is left with a decision to make just as the woman had to do; continue following Jesus to Jarius's house or perform the ritual cleansing, changing clothes and remaining alone until evening. This desperate woman made her decision and was healed by her faith. Now everyone in the crowd had to decide. In healing the woman in front of many people, Jesus was himself making a public statement, a dangerous one, about his own view of the religious laws he found to be against his ideas of justice and mercy. In doing what he did, he was breaking the religious laws of his time and rebelling against the church leaders.

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

This Week At Living Word

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27 9:00 am Adult Study 10:00 am Worship Cong. Meeting	28	29 10:00 am PUSH	30	1	2	3

Celebrations This Week

 <p>June 30 Jessica Lyons July 2 Bonnie Kurtzman July 2 Gary Pote July 4 Mitchell Gawlik</p>	 <p>June 29 George Hostert June 30 Sarah Bonnar</p>	 <p>June 30 Deanna & Kurt Meier July 1 Karen & Bob Grossart</p>
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Stewardship Snapshot

June 20th

20 Worshipped, **19** Communed
9 Watched Online
2 Watched DVD's
31 Total

Financial Support
 1,115.00 General Fund

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

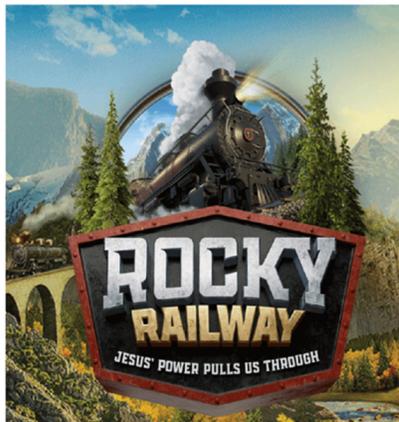
Church Contacts
 Pastor Steven Lee
intouchlwc@yahoo.com

Ministry Support Coordinator, Diana Motel
dianamotel@yahoo.com

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

VBS is back again. YAY! Please see the advertisement above for our VBS that will take place the last week of July. If you are available to help out, please see Diana Motel or myself to let us know that you can volunteer sometime during that week. We will be having a sign up sheet for volunteers and as the time gets closer, we will be letting you know what supplies they need for their crafts. Let's all get aboard, lol for the Rocky Railway VBS 2021.

Living Word Lutheran Church



Join us for VBS 2021
WHEN: JULY 26-30
TIME: 9- NOON
AGES: 3 (POTTY TRAINED) TO 12
CLOSING CEREMONY SUNDAY,
AUGUST 1 @ 10 AM

REGISTER ONLINE
[HTTPS://LIVINGWORDORLAND.ORG/WELCOME/VBS/](https://livingwordorland.org/welcome/vbs/)

Living Word News

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.

DEVOTIONAL OF THE WEEK *And then, dear brothers and sisters, you suffered persecution from your own countrymen. In this way, you imitated the believers in God's churches in Judea who, because of their belief in Christ Jesus, suffered from their own people, the Jews. 1 Thessalonians 2:14 (NLT)*

Persecution will come in some form to all Christians. We must first make sure it is not a response to sin in our lives, and then we must, by prayer and fellowship with other believers, patiently endure it, trusting ourselves to God's care.

POW (People of the Word) Bible Study met last Friday in person for the last time with Donna Wasilkoff. Starting on July 16th, they will continue to have class studying the book of Isaiah still, and for those who wish to continue to meet here, can do so, but we will also add the Zoom link feature going forward and anyone wishing to participate via Zoom from home will be able to do so. The new time starting next month will be 9:45 am, as it is two hours earlier in Nevada. 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.

COMMUNION PRACTICE will be changing and moving forward in the next couple of months. For the month of June we will be offering both the traditional communion at the altar and for those wishing to wait a little while longer, can still have the individual communion cups with the wafers at their seat. More information will be forthcoming. In July, Pastor Lee is hoping to have only the traditional communion practice at the altar. To ensure the safest possible experience, he will hand each person the wafer, minimizing any risk. We will keep you posted if anything changes between now and then.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING is scheduled for today, June 27th following the worship service. For those watching from home, there will be a separate link like we had for previous congregational meetings, that will be emailed directly to the members. We will be electing new council members and will be receiving some updates from the transition team regarding our choices for a new pastor to call. We will not be voting on the new proposed budget for the fiscal year 2021/2022 until next month, as to let the new board members to have a chance of reviewing and/or revising the numbers.

GOD'S GRACE AND COMFORT to the Messineo family. Former member Jan Messineo suffered major health issues this week and the family was faced with a very difficult decision to make on Thursday evening. They had to make the unfortunate decision of having her removed from life support on Friday morning. Jan was a regular attendee of our church up until the past couple of years, when her health had started to deteriorate. Visitation is at Sheehy Funeral Home in Orland Park on Tuesday, June 29th and the funeral will be held here at Living Word on Wednesday morning, June 30th. An email will be sent out as to the specific times for each day.

VBS NECESSITIES Instead of trying to struggle with only a few volunteers to set up our very large and awkward tent, we are looking for anyone who may have one of those smaller pop-up tent/canopies that we can borrow. If you have one that we can use for the last week of July, please let Diana Motel or myself know. Thank you in advance for borrowing such items.

A NEED FOR YOU AND A NEED FOR CHURCH As church attendance numbers fade across the nation and online services become very convenient (who doesn't love not getting ready in the morning or leaving the home?!), it's important to remember why church attendance for you and your family matters so much. You can't serve from your sofa. You can't have community of faith on your sofa. You can't experience the power of a room full of believers worshipping together on your sofa. Christians aren't consumers either. We are contributors. We don't watch. We engage. We give. We sacrifice. We encourage. We do life together. The church needs you. And you need the church. Wherever you are, find a local church where you and your family can be part of community and use your talents to advance the kingdom and reach others. To come alongside one another physically, not just through a screen. While I'm grateful for technology to keep people connected that can't physically come to a facility or need to be away, it's absolutely not like being in the building. Never will be. Yes, church on the sofa is nice. But it'll never be the same as church in the sanctuary.

Donna Wasilkoff Day

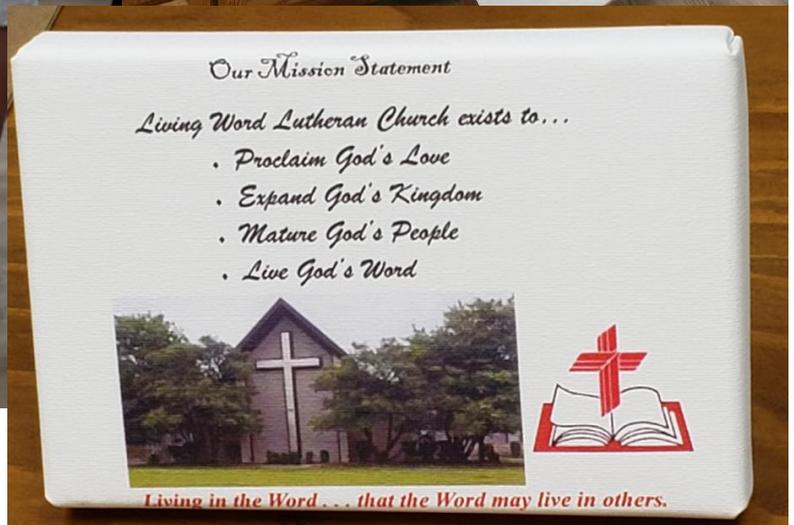
LAST SUNDAY was the last service Donna Wasilkoff attended in person. She is now safely in her new home in Nevada and we want to wish her and Peter a great new life. God's blessings to you both. Enjoy this great new adventure. We appreciate you.



We had great food and wonderful fellowship with her as we will miss seeing you in person, but look forward to the Zoom meetings and Zoom bible classes with you. As she left on Wednesday, she wanted me to thank everyone for everything, but it is us who want to thank you for everything.



And of course we had to give her a little something from Living Word, just so she doesn't forget about us, even though we know she won't, and we will never forget her either. Have fun in Nevada Donna and Peter!



Our Mission Statement

Living Word Lutheran Church exists to...

- Proclaim God's Love
- Expand God's Kingdom
- Mature God's People
- Live God's Word



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

VBS



Mission of the Month

MAY MISSION OF THE MONTH was Redeeming Life Outreach Ministries. Our very generous congregation donated a total of \$382.00 to help with the remodeling of the maternity home. Thank you all so much for your contributions. It will be very helpful for their future home. On the next page you can read the update that they sent to us. Looks like things are good.

JUNE MISSION OF THE MONTH is Working on Wellness Foundation, which helps with mobility exercises among other benefits for patients with MS, Parkinson's, among conditions. They will be providing us with weekly links for their exercise classes and promoting our church in those links as well. Please see below for their schedule, I watched their video and even though you can do them standing up or sitting down, it is a pretty good workout and is somewhat easy to do. Please

see the flyers on the table next to the office for full details and let us know if you are joining in with the videos. This is a win-win for both them and us, and we just might get into better shape and health while we are helping out someone right in our community. We would like to thank George Hostert for his help in connecting our church with their foundation. The Working On Wellness Foundation provides online, seated exercise sessions, created and conducted by our experienced and certified instructors. Join us live on Zoom (all times are Central): Monday 9:45 AM Yoga Tuesday 10:00 AM General Exercise – Sponsored by the Multiple Sclerosis Foundation Wednesday 9:45 AM Strength Training - Sponsored by a donation from Living Word Lutheran Church in Orland Park Thursday 9:45 AM Range of Motion / Parkinson's Exercise Join us on YouTube: Each week, our channel will highlight a week of yoga, strength training, big movement, and general exercise sessions. You can do all while remaining seated. They include cardio, upper body, lower body, core, balance, coordination, and hand exercises. Working On Wellness Foundation focuses on providing exercise for those with conditions that require it just to keep moving. We now provide online seated/chair exercise opportunities for anyone with mobility issues. There was a guest speaker here from Working Wellness last Sunday and we showed a video and to help get us moving in our seats. LOL!

Working On Wellness Foundation

Working On Wellness Foundation focuses on providing exercise for those with conditions that require it just to keep moving. We now provide online seated/chair exercise opportunities for anyone with mobility issues.



The Working On Wellness Foundation provides online, seated exercise sessions, created and conducted by our experienced and certified instructors.

Join us live on Zoom (all times are Central):

Monday	9:45 AM	Yoga
Tuesday	10:00 AM	General Exercise – Sponsored by the Multiple Sclerosis Foundation
Wednesday	9:45 AM	Strength Training - Sponsored by a donation from Living Word Lutheran Church in Orland Park
Thursday	9:45 AM	Range of Motion / Parkinson's Exercise

Join us on YouTube: Each week, our channel will highlight a week of yoga, strength training, big movement, and general exercise sessions. You can do all while remaining seated. They include cardio, upper body, lower body, core, balance, coordination, and hand exercises.

Contact us to get free links to both Zoom and YouTube sessions.

www.workingonwellnessfoundation.org

Email: info@workingonwellnessfoundation.org

Past Mission of the Month Updates

WE RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING UPDATE from the last Mission of the Month in May. Redeeming Life Outreach Ministries sent us this letter in an email.

Hello, Pastor Lee!

Greetings to you in Christ! I hope this email finds you well. It has been a very busy summer here at Redeeming Life. It's time that I give you an update on where we stand with the Illinois Expansion Project.

First Things First!

The contract for purchase of the parsonage at 2501 Helm Road is fully executed. We have begun our due diligence required to work toward closing on this property. This will include survey, plat, design, planning, zoning and any additional inspections required. We already have a full inspection done by a licensed Illinois inspection company. This inspection was generously paid for by one of our NID pastors and his wife!

It's Time to Hurry Up...and Wait!

In mid-May, a meeting took place with RLOM representatives, Faith Lutheran, Immanuel Lutheran East Dundee and the Village of Carpentersville. We had the opportunity to present the mission and ministry to the Village so they had a better understanding of the kind of home we will be operating and how it might impact the community. There are a few zoning issues that still need to be worked through. The Village representatives were cooperative and willing to help us through the process. Until it is resolved, we will wait upon the Lord!

"Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord." Psalm 27:14

Still Moving Toward the Start of the Renovation

In the next several weeks, we will be busy fulfilling the requirements of the contract and clearly defining the remodeling project plan. Our hope is to be ready to begin demolition within a few days of closing.

My Last Trip to Illinois Was Amazing!

In late May, I spent a wonderful week in Illinois and met with many pastors and lay leaders. I am completely blown away by the passion, enthusiasm, and energy I felt wherever I went. It was great to meet so many new friends and supporters. Thank you for extending warm hospitality and friendship in Christ. It was comforting and welcoming!

Please continue to pray for the zoning and legal matters to be resolved soon! I can't wait to celebrate the opening of YOUR new maternity home in Illinois!

LUTHERAN CHURCH CHARITIES have been very busy locally and nationally. At 10:45 pm, Sunday, June 20, a confirmed EF-3 tornado and catastrophic storms raged through Northern Illinois, causing extensive damage in the hardest-hit areas of **Woodridge, Naperville, and Darien, as well as Burr Ridge and Downers Grove**. Straight-line winds of at least 70mph tore through other communities. Buildings have collapsed, homes heavily damaged or leveled, multiple power lines down, large trees uprooted, and dangerous debris scattered. Major destruction has left many roads and neighborhoods impassible. At least 250 homes were damaged, 26 are reported as uninhabitable. During the first 48 hours after the tornado, **Tim Hetzner, LCC President/CEO, Kathy O'Day, LCC Director of Disaster Response, and LCC Lutheran Early Response Team (L.E.R.T) chainsaw team leaders** visited affected first responders and homeowners to assess the damage to their property. Work orders were immediately scheduled for LCC L.E.R.T. volunteers to begin property clean-up starting on Tuesday.



Pastor Mark Schultz from **Trinity Lutheran Church in Lisle** invited LCC to serve out of their church. We are also working with **Bethany Lutheran Church in Naperville**. **Woodridge Mayor Gina Cunningham** and **Illinois State Senator John Curran** were present to thank LCC Disaster Response and L.E.R.T. chainsaw volunteers for everything we are doing to help their community. They are familiar with our response to disaster and crisis situations and welcomed our presence in assisting the residents in the impacted communities. The American Red Cross referred a homeowner to Lutheran Church Charities for chainsaw assistance. This family has received much roof and interior damage to their home, about 40 trees down in their front and back yards, loss of power and lines to home, and a damaged vehicle from falling trees. In addition to this devastation, they are facing the possible loss of their young adult child to

cancer. We told them to take care of their family and we will take care of their property, whenever they are ready for us. They deeply appreciated the compassion and hope of Jesus Christ we showed to them for their difficult situation.

Past Mission of the Month Updates

One of the first homeowners visited is a Lisle-Woodridge firefighter who just returned home from his long shift of responding to his devastated community. His property has many downed trees and hanging tree limbs. An LCC L.E.R.T. team was sent to his property first thing on Tuesday to start the recovery effort. LCC prayed with him, his wife, and his daughter to give them hope and reassurance that God is with them during this challenging time.

“Thank you so much for all your and your team’s help with our branches!! We so appreciate you and are very thankful!!” – Serene Berkowitz



They also visited the home of a Lisle-Woodridge police officer who is helping to keep his community safe. The tree in his front yard has many dangerous hanging limbs. Work on his property was scheduled for Wednesday. LCC L.E.R.T. chainsaw teams are helping a neighbor of **Pastor Mike Curtis from Trinity – Lisle**. The large tree on their property is heavily damaged as well as the tree in their front yard. L.E.R.T. chainsaw teams used their heavy equipment to safely clean up the property and help them in their time of need. Wayne and his wife were presented with a signed slice of the tree taken down and are thankful for our immediate assistance.



