

PSALM 136:1

OH, GIVE THANKS
TO THE LORD,
FOR HE IS GOOD!
FOR HIS MERCY
ENDURES
FOREVER.

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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**

IN TOUCH

with the ministry and people of Living Word

Volume 30, Issue 29

July 25, 2021

"Give Thanks to the Lord"

Gratefulness of heart to the Lord God almighty is like a golden stream that threads its way through this wonderful song of praise. We have a repetitive chorus that rehearses the truth of God's goodness. It is the recurring reminder, that God's love and grace touches every facet of our lives, "O give thanks to the LORD; for He is good: for His mercy endures forever."

The repeating, melodious heartbeat, that caresses every part of the created universe, rejoices that His loving-kindness is everlasting, His steadfast mercies endure forever, His faithful love is never-ending, and His unwavering goodness, stretches into the furthest extremities of eternity.

"O give thanks to the LORD; for He is good: for His mercy endures forever," is the insistent drumbeat that is designed to grab our attention in every verse of this glorious song of praise, which proclaims the never-ending truth that God is good, and the mercies of the Lord are everlasting, forever and ever, Amen.

As all the deeds and misdeeds of Israel are pronounced and publicized throughout this hymn of praise, the tender loving-kindness and great compassion of the Lord continues to be shed abroad. Mercy and grace, along with goodness and faithfulness, are some of the eternal attributes of our heavenly Father - and the regular rhythm and insistent beat of this joyful chorus, echoes the joyful refrain, "O give thanks to the LORD; for He is good: for His mercy endures forever. O give thanks to the LORD; for He is good: for His mercy endures forever."

The wonderful certainty that the loving-kindness of our heavenly Lord is everlasting, and that His truth endures from one generation to another, should permeate every fibre of our being and thrill the heart of every believer with the fullness of His joy and a heart of gratitude.

The Lord rescues the perishing, pardons the guilty, protects the weak, and fills the hungry with good things. He comforts the sorrowing, heals the broken-hearted, gives His all-sufficient grace to help the needy, and fulfils all His precious promises. He is worthy of all praise and deserving of our grateful thanks. He alone is the God of all gods for His love is eternal, His mercy and loving-kindness endure forever, and He is faithful to fulfil all that He has said.

Should not we, who are His blood-bought children, rejoice to hear such worthy instructions on praise and thanksgiving? Indeed, worship and reverent homage is often the central ingredient adopted by God's people in honoring the LORD - as directed by David, Solomon, and other great kings of Israel. Should we not take up the Palmists refrain and give our most grateful thanks to the LORD, for He is good, and His lovingkindness is everlasting.

The wisdom of Paul, the great apostle to the Gentiles, similarly reminds us that rejoicing in the Lord is our worthy calling, for His steadfast mercy truly does endure from generation to generation. His faithful love is never-ending, and His unwavering goodness stretches into the outer limits of the universe and the furthest extremities of eternity.

Let us endeavor to give thanks to the Lord and be glad in Him! Let all who are saved by grace and morally upright, shout for joy to the God of our salvation! Let us glory in the name of the LORD, for "praise is pleasant and lovely" and praise is "comely for the upright." May we rejoice in the Lord and delight, day by day, in His gracious deliverance.

Let us give thanks to the LORD, in remembrance of his holiness. Let us give thanks for the LORD as we commemorate the glory in the Holy One of Israel. Let us give praise to His name together, for sending Jesus to be our kinsman-Redeemer and to die on the Cross for our sake, and may we never cease to give thanks to the LORD, for He is good, for His lovingkindness is everlasting.

This Week at Living Word

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
25 9:00 am Adult Study 10:00 am Worship Congregational Meeting	26	27 10:00 am PUSH	28	29	30 9:30 am POW Bible Study Zoom and Living Word	31

POW (People of the Word) Bible Study Starting Friday, the 16th, they continued 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 starting time will still be the same as always, 9:30am. **Please See Below For Zoom Info for the July 30th bible study:**

The zoom email is LWLCmedia@yahoo.com

Password is Church@1990!

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89970848862?pwd=S0dhNDZrTjdibkFYNEVqUG5tZHR2QT09>



Meeting ID: 899 7084 8862 Passcode: 487825

Join Zoom Meeting—One tap mobile

+13126266799,,89970848862#,,,,*487825# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Celebrations For July

 <p>July 17 Jim McKinney July 23 John Gabrielson July 27 Kurt Meier</p>	 <p>July 24 Bill Bonnar July 29 Darlene Cygan July 29 Josh Regan July 30 Ashley Regan</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Anniversary</i></p>  <p>July 1 Karen & Bob Grossart July 10 Jessica & John Lyons July 23 Donna & Eric Hann</p>
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Stewardship Snapshot

July 18th

33 Worshipped, 21 Communed

2 From DVD's

12 Watched Online

47 Total

Financial Support

4,200.00 General Fund

500.00 Matching Donation from Andrew Found.

2,000.00 Preschool Account

\$6,700.00 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

Pastor Steven Lee

intouchlwc@yahoo.com

Ministry Support Coordinator, Diana Motel

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Leadership Team

Neal Hartz - President 847-344-2410

Jim McKinney - Vice President 708-359-8527

Bill Merchantz - Treasurer 708-539-6027

Diana Motel - Secretary 708-287-4939

Members at Large

Pastor John Bucka 815-931-2961

Bob Grossart 708-870-0202

Paul Huang 626-551-1446

July Mission of the Month & VBS



JULY MISSION OF THE MONTH will be the mission project from VBS. It may sound a bit off track from what we usually do, but it is still a very worthy cause for those who are much more unfortunate than us. And it proves to be fun to learn about something different. For only a \$10 donation, you can provide an alpaca to a family in Ecuador. The alpacas are a very useful animal. They provide up to 10 pounds of fleece every year. Alpacas can usually live for 20 years. Their fleece is spinnable, knittable, sellable and profitable for needy families. Their fleece is thicker and warmer than sheep's wool and is hypoallergenic. The alpacas also help the local communities in Ecuador by providing work for the shopkeepers, spinners, and herders. The families also are trained on how to care for the alpacas. This mission project proves to be very educational and fun for the kids this month at VBS and us too. Check out the flyers and pictures on the bulletin board next to the office.

Living Word Lutheran Church

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. Let's all get aboard, lol for the Rocky Railway VBS 2021. We will be closing it out with a little program on Sunday, August 1st with a picnic to follow, (in hopes to get back to our normal routine of fellowship time.)



LIVING WORD PICNIC RETURNS!! Who can't wait for this day, huh? Please see the sign up sheet on the desk next to the office. There you will be able to sign up main dishes, side dishes, snacks or desserts and/or tableware items. As you can see below, the picnic will coincide with the VBS closing ceremonies, Sunday, August 1st immediately after the worship service. Get ready to have some great food, a lot fun and games, and terrific fellowship time. Along with signing up to bring goodies, we will need somebody to put up the tents that were bought and donated to us. These tents will be way easier to put up than our old one, so hopefully we should only need a few good men, lol. We will need them to be put up by Sunday, so we can have them up for VBS.

Living Word Lutheran Church
congregational
MEETING
Sunday, July 25, 2021

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING is scheduled for today, immediately following the service. There will be a separate link that will be sent out this week, you will need this link in addition to viewing the service. We will have a new budget to vote on and hear from the new president regarding the outcome of some new decisions that were made at the council meeting this week. We will also receive an update regarding the interview process of a new pre-school teacher, as well as an update from the transition team regarding the prospects from the new list of pastors to call.

Living Word News

DEVOTIONAL OF THE WEEK *Never harm or cheat a fellow believer in this matter by violating his wife, for the Lord avenges all such sins, as we have solemnly warned you before. 1 Thessalonians 4:6 (NLT)*

Sexual sin is particularly destructive of relationships because of the loss of trust it creates. If we remember that the other person who would participate with us in this sin (or be affected by it in the case of the other person's spouse) is our brother or sister in Christ (or a potential brother or sister, in the case of current unbelievers), the incestuousness of the relationship may help us resist the temptation.

TRANSITION TEAM met here on Wednesday, the 21st. They reviewed the new list of pastors that was received by Pastor Schauer from NID. Donna has reached out to a few of the pastors and has two interviews scheduled for later next week. The church council met again this past Wednesday and finalized the proposed budget and a few other necessities that are needed around our church. We will be voting on the proposed budget, the option of having our preschool for 5 days a week with a 3 day a week option, they also made some decisions for groundskeeping and other maintenance for our church. The last interview for a preschool teacher was last Monday, they will be interviewing a couple of other candidates before making a decision for the right teacher for our preschool.

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. We look forward to seeing everyone in church.

"For He Is Good"

Psalm 136 says: *"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever."* God *IS* good, His love *DOES* endure forever, so we give Him thanks. We are filled with confidence, for He is good...

In life's storms...

1) I have confidence that comes from God's COVENANT.

⁸ Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him: ⁹ "I now establish my covenant with you and with your descendants after you ¹⁰ and with every living creature that was with you—the birds, the livestock and all the wild animals, all those that came out of the ark with you—every living creature on earth. ¹¹ I establish my covenant with you: Never again will all life be destroyed by the waters of a flood; never again will there be a flood to destroy the earth." Genesis 9:8-11

2) I have confidence that comes from the Father's CHRIST.

¹⁴ For this reason I kneel before the Father, ¹⁵ from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. ¹⁶ I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷ so that Christ may dwell in your hearts

through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, ¹⁸ may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.

Ephesians 3:14-18

3) I have confidence to live COURAGEOUSLY.

⁴⁵ Immediately Jesus made his disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd. ⁴⁶ After leaving them, he went up on a mountainside to pray. ⁴⁷ Later that night, the boat was in the middle of the lake, and he was alone on land. ⁴⁸ He saw the disciples straining at the oars, because the wind was against them. Shortly before dawn he went out to them, walking on the lake. He was about to pass by them, ⁴⁹ but when they saw him walking on the lake, they thought he was a ghost. They cried out, ⁵⁰ because they all saw him and were terrified. Immediately he spoke to them and said, "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid." ⁵¹ Then he climbed into the boat with them, and the wind died down. They were completely amazed.

Mark 6:45-51