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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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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

IN TOUCH

with the ministry and people of Living Word

Volume 30, Issue 26

July 4, 2021

"The Story of the Fourth of July"

The Declaration of Independence

We celebrate American Independence Day on the Fourth of July every year. We think of July 4, 1776, as a day that represents the **Declaration of Independence** and the birth of the United States of America as an independent nation.

But July 4, 1776 wasn't the day that the Continental Congress decided to declare independence (they did that on July 2, 1776).

It wasn't the day we started the American Revolution either (that had happened back in April 1775).

And it wasn't the day Thomas Jefferson wrote the first draft of the Declaration of Independence (that was in June 1776). Or the date on which the Declaration was delivered to Great Britain (that didn't happen until November 1776). Or the date it was signed (that was August 2, 1776).

So what did happen on July 4, 1776?

The Continental Congress approved the final wording of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. They'd been working on it for a couple of days after the draft was submitted on July 2nd and finally agreed on all of the edits and changes.

July 4, 1776, became the date that was included on the Declaration of Independence, and the fancy handwritten copy that was signed in August (the copy now displayed at the National Archives in Washington, D.C.) It's also the date that was printed on the Dunlap Broad-sides, the original printed copies of the Declaration that were circulated throughout the new nation. So when people thought of the Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1776 was the date they remembered.

In contrast, we celebrate Constitution Day on September 17th of each year, the anniversary of the date the Constitution was signed, not the anniversary of the date it was approved. If we'd followed this same approach for the Declaration of Independence we'd be celebrating Independence Day on August 2nd of each year, the day the Declaration of Independence was signed!

How did the Fourth of July become a national holiday?

For the first 15 or 20 years after the Declaration was written, people didn't celebrate it much on any date. It was too new and too much else was happening in the young nation. By the 1790s, a time of bitter partisan conflicts, the Declaration had become controversial. One party, the Democratic-Republicans, admired Jefferson and the Declaration. But the other party, the Federalists, thought the Declaration was too French and too anti-British, which went against their current policies.

By 1817, John Adams complained in a letter that America seemed uninterested in its past. But that would soon change.

After the War of 1812, the Federalist party began to come apart and the new parties of the 1820s and 1830s all considered themselves inheritors of Jefferson and the Democratic-Republicans. Printed copies of the Declaration began to circulate again, all with the date July 4, 1776, listed at the top. The deaths of Thomas Jefferson and John Adams on July 4, 1826, may even have helped to promote the idea of July 4 as an important date to be celebrated.



JULY 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 9:00 am Adult Study 10:00 am Worship—COMM Independence Day	5	6 10:00 am PUSH	7	8	9	10
11 9:00 am Adult Study 10:00 am Worship	12	13 10:00 am PUSH	14	15	16 9:45 am POW Bible Study Zoom and Living Word	17
18 9:00 am Adult Study 10:00 am Worship—COMM Finnigan Baptism	19	20 10:00 am PUSH	21	22	23 9:45 am POW Bible Study Zoom and Living Word	24
25 9:00 am Adult Study 10:00 am Worship	26	27 10:00 am PUSH	28	29	30 9:45 am POW Bible Study—Zoom and Living Word	31

Rocky Railway VBS—Jesus power pulls us through



Celebrations For July



July 2 Bonnie Kurtzman
July 2 Gary Pote
July 4 Mitchell Gawlik
July 5 Elaine Lee
July 6 Lisa Regan
July 7 John Paul Lange
July 7 Scott Miklos
July 9 Jesse Meier
July 9 Margie Sefcik
July 17 Jim McKinney
July 23 John Gabrielson
July 27 Kurt Meier



*Happy Baptism
Birthday!*

July 16 Mark Cygan
July 24 Bill Bonnar
July 29 Darlene Cygan
July 29 Josh Regan
July 30 Ashley Regan

Anniversary



July 1 Karen & Bob Grossart
July 10 Jessica & John Lyons
July 23 Donna & Eric Hann

Stewardship Snapshot

June 27th

31 Worshipped
8 Watched Online
2 Watched DVD's
41 Total

Financial Support

2,845.00 General Fund
 180.00 Working on Wellness Mission
 \$3,025.00 Total General Fund 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

dianamotel@yahoo.com 708-287-4939

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
 Bob Grossart
 Paul Huang

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. 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 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 *After all, what gives us hope and joy, and what will be our proud reward and crown as we stand before our Lord Jesus when he returns? It is you! 1 Thessalonians 2:19 (NLT)*

Encouragement in God's work comes from those we work with, and those we work for. Do not neglect staying connected (in person, by phone, by text or email, and yes, even by Zoom) with those who can encourage you by the evidence of God working in their lives. We all need to feel connected.

POW (People of the Word) Bible Study Starting on Friday, 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. In July, Pastor Lee is hoping to have only the traditional communion practice at the altar, however since we have enough individual communion cups with the wafers, those who wish to err on the side of caution can still take communion in their seats.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING was last Sunday, the 27th following the worship service. We elected some new council members, Neal Hartz is the President, Jim McKinney is our Vice President, Bill Merchantz is the new treasurer, and Diana Motel will stay on as the council secretary. The members at large will be Pastor John Bucka, Paul Huang, and Bob Grossart. Also, as I had mentioned at the meeting, the contact information for the council members will be available in the newsletter and will be posted in the Grebik Fellowship Hall. We received some new information regarding to call a new pastor, it has been decided we will follow both paths for now to see in which direction God wants us to go. Since we do not need to fill out the Call Day request forms for seminary student till December or January, we will take a look at the list of pastors that we will eventually receive from the district. We know we need to grow and eventually have the ability to have more committees, and we all know whatever time we have to contribute to the future of this church is essential and needed to become what we once used to be. We need to pray and trust in God that He knows what is best for our church to become a bigger family.

GOD'S GRACE AND COMFORT to the Messineo family. Former member Jan Messineo suffered major health issues last week and the family was faced with a very difficult decision. 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 was at Sheehy Funeral Home in Orland Park on Tuesday and the funeral was held here at church on Wednesday morning. Join me in keeping her family in our prayers at this difficult time.

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.

VBS



Mission of the Month

JUNE MISSION OF THE MONTH was Working on Wellness Foundation, which helps with mobility exercises among other benefits for patients with MS, Parkinson's, among conditions. We collected \$180.00 for them and they can still use any help your able to provide. They provided us with weekly links for their exercise classes and promoting our church in those links as well. Even though the month of June is over, you can still see George for any information on their class schedules and ways to help out. Exercise isn't only a one month activity, mobility for us all is important. Keep watching their videos. We would like to thank George Hostert for his help in connecting our church with their foundation.

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. Check out the flyers and pictures on the bulletin board next to the office.



“No End of Contempt”

Psalm 123 says, *“Lord, have mercy on us, for we have endured no end of contempt.”* Today we look at a prophet’s place, and finding God’s purpose, power and peace despite no end of contempt...

1) Despite no end of contempt, we stand against sin.

He said to me, “Son of man, stand up on your feet and I will speak to you.” ² As he spoke, the Spirit came into me and raised me to my feet, and I heard him speaking to me. ³ He said: “Son of man, I am sending you to the Israelites, to a rebellious nation that has rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have been in revolt against me to this very day. ⁴ The people to whom I am sending you are obstinate and stubborn. Say to them, ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says.’ ⁵ And whether they listen or fail to listen—for they are a rebellious people—they will know that a prophet has been among them.”

Ezekiel 2:1-5

2) Despite no end of contempt, we show sufficient strength.

In order to keep me from becoming conceited, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. ⁸ Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. ⁹ But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me. ¹⁰ That is why, for Christ’s sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

2 Corinthians 12:7b-10

3) Despite no end of contempt, we speak about Mary’s Son.

Jesus left there and went to his hometown, accompanied by his disciples. ² When the Sabbath came, he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were amazed. “Where did this man get these things?” they asked. “What’s this wisdom that has been given him? What are these remarkable miracles he is performing?” ³ Isn’t this the carpenter? Isn’t this Mary’s son and the brother of James, Joseph, Judas and Simon? Aren’t his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him. ⁴ Jesus said to them, “A prophet is not without honor except in his own town, among his relatives and in his own home.”

Mark 6:1-4

PRESCHOOL OPENINGS are available for a preschool teacher for the coming school year. Audra from the Nature Exploration Academy is unable to find or hire teacher aides for her school while she is teaching the preschool class, so she wanted to give us plenty of notice to be able to advertise and hire a qualified person to teach our students. If you or anyone you know of are interested in this position, please the ad below and have them send in their cover letter and resume to the email listed.



JOIN OUR TEAM

LIVING WORD LUTHERAN CHURCH

16301 WOLF ROAD ORLAND PARK, IL

Do you love teaching children?
Do you love sharing the love of
Jesus? We are looking to hire an
experienced preschool teacher
for our 2021/2022 school year.

Email your cover letter and resume to
LWLCmedia@yahoo.com