



Reformation Sunday

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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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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

IN TOUCH

with the ministry and people of Living Word

Volume 30, Issue 43

October 31, 2021

"What is Reformation Day?"

A single event on a single day changed the world. It was October 31, 1517. Brother Martin, a monk and a scholar, had struggled for years with his church, the church in Rome. He had been greatly disturbed by an unprecedented indulgence sale. The story has all the makings of a Hollywood blockbuster. Let's meet the cast.

First, there is the young bishop—too young by church laws—Albert of Mainz. Not only was he bishop over two bishoprics, he desired an additional archbishopric over Mainz. This, too, was against church laws. So Albert appealed to the pope in Rome, Leo X. From the De Medici family, Leo X greedily allowed his tastes to exceed his financial resources. Enter the artists and sculptors, Raphael and Michelangelo.

When Albert of Mainz appealed for a papal dispensation, Leo X was ready to deal. Albert, with the papal blessing, would sell indulgences for past, present, and future sins. All of this sickened the monk Martin Luther. Can we buy our way into heaven? Luther had to speak out.

But why October 31? November 1 held a special place in the church calendar as All Saints' Day. On November 1, 1517, a massive exhibit of newly acquired relics would be on display at Wittenberg, Luther's home city. Pilgrims would come from all over, genuflect before the relics, and take hundreds, if not thousands, of years off time in purgatory. Luther's soul grew even more vexed. None of this seemed right.

Martin Luther, a scholar, took quill in hand, dipped it in his inkwell and penned his Ninety-Five Theses on October 31, 1517. These were intended to spark a debate, to stir some soul-searching among his fellow brothers in the church. The Ninety-Five Theses sparked far more than a debate. The Ninety-Five Theses also revealed the church was far beyond rehabilitation. It needed a reformation. The church—and the world—would never be the same.

One of Luther's Ninety-Five Theses simply declares, "The Church's true treasure is the gospel of Jesus Christ." That alone is the meaning of Reformation Day. The church had lost sight of the gospel because it had long ago papered over the pages of God's Word with layer upon layer of tradition. Mere tradition often brings about systems of works, of earning your way back to God. It was true of the Pharisees, and it was true of medieval Roman Catholicism. Didn't Christ Himself say, "My yoke is easy and My burden is light"? Reformation Day celebrates the joyful beauty of the liberating gospel of Jesus Christ. What is Reformation Day? It is the day the light of the gospel broke forth out of darkness. It was the day that began the Protestant Reformation. It was a day that led to Martin Luther, John Calvin, John Knox, and many other Reformers helping the church find its way back to God's Word as the only supreme authority for faith and life and leading the church back to the glorious doctrines of justification by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone. It kindled the fires of missionary endeavors, it led to hymn writing and congregational singing, and it led to the centrality of the sermon and preaching for the people of God. It is the celebration of a theological, ecclesiastical, and cultural transformation.

So we celebrate Reformation Day. This day reminds us to be thankful for our past and to the monk turned Reformer. What's more, this day reminds us of our duty, our obligation, to keep the light of the gospel at the center of all we do.

NOVEMBER 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 10:00 am PUSH	3	4	5 9:30 am POW Bible Study Zoom and Living Word	6  Daylight Savings Time Ends
7 9:00 am Adult Study 10:00 am Worship—COMM	8	9 10:00 am PUSH	10	11	12 9:30 am POW Bible Study Zoom and Living Word	13
14 9:00 am Adult Study 10:00 am Worship	15	16 10:00 am PUSH 7:00pm Council Meeting	17	18	19 9:30 am POW Bible Study Zoom and Living Word	20
21 9:00 am Adult Study 10:00 am Worship—COMM	22	23 10:00 am PUSH	24	25 Thanksgiving Day	26	27
28 9:00 am Adult Study 10:00 am Worship Church Decorating	29	30 10:00 am PUSH				

November Celebrations

 <p>Nov 14 Karen Lange Nov 16 John Lyons Nov 17 Ed Baidis Nov 20 Joan Tinich Nov 23 Hank Kalis, Jr. Nov 30 Jeff Regan</p>	 <p>Nov 1 Dennis Tarandy Nov 1 Clarissa Tarandy Nov 6 Barb Erjavec Nov 9 Jill Goebel Nov 10 Dayna Hann Nov 14 Cal Sefcik Nov 17 Josh Folgers Nov 17 Jessica Lyons Nov 17 Emily Olund Nov 26 Lily Rozwalka</p>	<p><i>Anniversary</i></p>  <p>Nov 5 Jim & Sandy Boehm Nov 12 Michael & Nikki Miklos Nov 26 Barb & Jerry Erjavec</p>
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Stewardship Snapshot

October 24th

24 Worshipped
2 Watched DVD's
16 Watched Online
42 Total

Financial Support

1,145.00 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

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 815-931-2961

Bob Grossart 708-870-0202

Paul Huang 626-551-1446

Church Events

THANKSGIVING SERVICE is being planned. We emailed a survey form to everyone, the options are 11:00 am Wednesday, November 24th, 5:30 pm Wednesday, November 24th or 10:00 am Thursday, November 25th. Please try to fill out the survey online, or if you would like, there will be copies of the survey available on the desk next to the office for you to fill out on Sunday. The time that is most voted for will be the time that we will have it.

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS That time of year is fast approaching, and just wanted to give everyone a heads up that we are still in need of lights for our Christmas tree again this year. We did receive several donations from our members and their friends even last year, but if you happen to have any to spare, we can still put them to use. We are looking to decorate the church after service on Sunday, November 28th, which happens to be the first Sunday of Advent. Please plan on staying for a short while after service to help us with decorating. The more people we have, the less time it will take to make our church festive looking for the blessed season.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY will always be available and ready to go if we have any children in attendance at church. Ms. Diana will always have a short lesson planned and as many of you know, she is always here and ready to go, and will hold class Sunday mornings from 9:15 to 9:45. Please let anyone you know that might be interested in having children have fun learning about Jesus, and maybe doing a craft or two. Another opportunity for growth for our church.

10-31-21 Message Outline

“A Mighty Fortress is Our God”

Psalm 46 says: “*The God of Jacob is our fortress.*” As Luther declared in his Reformation hymn, “*A mighty fortress is our God...*”

1) **My FEAR of the Lord encourages me.**

⁶Then I saw another angel flying in midair, and he had the eternal gospel to proclaim to those who live on the earth—to every nation, tribe, language and people. ⁷He said in a loud voice, “Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come. Worship him who made the heavens, the earth, the sea and the springs of water.”
Revelation 14:6-7

2) **My FAITH in the Son shields me.**

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God. ²⁰Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God’s sight by the works of the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of our sin. ²¹But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. ²²This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, ²³for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. ²⁵God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith... ²⁸For we maintain that a person is justified by faith apart from the works of the law.
Romans 3:19-25, 28

3) **My FORTUNE from the Father frees me.**

³¹To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. ³²Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” ³³They answered him, “We are Abraham’s descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?” ³⁴Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. ³⁵Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. ³⁶So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.”
John 8:31-36

UPDATED MASKS REQUIREMENTS: we will have to require masks now. We would still like to offer communion at the altar and pre-portioned communion for those who wish to stay at their seat. If you go up for communion you can pull your mask down to receive the sacraments. Diana has this posted on Facebook and our website. I have posted the new signs at the door and it will also be in the newsletter. As always for your safety, we still have extra masks and hand sanitizer available in the fellowship as you enter, in case you don't bring one from home. Hopefully, this will be short termed, but your safety and health will always be our main concern.

Mission of the Month

MISSION OF THE MONTH - For October, we have been collecting yarn, fleece and material for Vitas Healthcare and Hospice. They are a local health-care facility for seniors and pediatric patients located in Tinley Park and they are looking to collect these items for volunteers to make robes, blankets, draw string bags, prayer shawls and other miscellaneous items for their patients. There are boxes on the table for those who wish to drop of any yarn that they may have or if you would like you can always make monetary donations, which we will send in to them, since we have had so many yarn donations. They are also looking for volunteers to knit, sew or crochet these items for their patients as well, so if you



VITAS[®]
Healthcare

have any spare time, I know not many of us do, but even if it is for only one or two items, they would be very grateful. They truly have been excited about Diana contacting them and they're looking forward to anything that we can do for them. They are available for their patients 24/7/365. Thank you so much for all of the yarn from Joan Tinich, and the monetary support that we have already collected from others, they are going to be so happy!

Church News

FROM THE TRANSITION TEAM! The transition team had met a couple of times over the past few weeks to discuss what their next steps are, and what options they have available to them. They will be asking the NID for some information on a pastor from Iowa that is looking to move back to the Chicagoland area.

DEVOTIONAL OF THE WEEK *So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most. Hebrews 4:16 (NLT)*

Prayer is also our main weapon in resisting temptation. When we are tempted to do evil rather than good, we can go boldly to God in Jesus' name to ask for strength to remain faithful to what we know is God's will for us, or to ask for forgiveness if we have already fallen. Do you have a pet sin that keeps tripping you up? Go boldly now to the throne of grace to ask for God's strength to resist it today.

Zoom Bible Class

POW (People of the Word) Bible Study started meeting again on Fridays, at 9:30am starting the study on the Parables. We are now using the same link every Friday for the Zoom portion of the class. Going forward, I will still email this link to everyone on Thursdays, so it would be very easy for you to find the email with the link. The parables study will last till the Advent season, and then for an Advent study they chose to read "Our Hope Has Come". Please see me or call the office if you would like to join, that way we can order books for you. Not only will you gain some insight with these bible study classes, but you will have fun doing so at the same time. **Please see below for the Zoom info for the Bible study on November 5th.**

The zoom email is LWLCmedia@yahoo.com

Password is Church@1990!

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81985492272pwd=MS9wRkllWmFKQnQvdKx5ZjhxSkZodz09>

Meeting ID: 819 8549 2272 Passcode: 985490

Join Zoom Meeting—One tap mobile

+13126266799,,81985492272#,,,,*985490# US (Chicago)

Donation Opportunities

NEW EARNING OPPORTUNITIES Diana has more ways for us to help raise money for our church just by doing our Christmas shopping, birthday shopping or buying gift cards for other happy occasions. With a mobile app, RaiseRight or the website ShopWithScrip, you can purchase gift cards for your friends, family, and even yourself and they will donate 3% of the sales to our church, I have screenshots from Diana below just to give you an idea of what it will look like, but she will also have all of this up on our website and Facebook page, and once the account gets set up, our unique code to use in order for the 3% is **YL5M6W4APYDX**. This is the most safe and secure way to buy gift cards these days, trust me, I was a victim of the money on a gift card being used by criminals. Even though I had the card in my possession, a day after it was given to me, the money was already gone, and it took me several calls and emails and a bunch of paperwork, and about 6 months later I was able to receive a replacement gift card with my name on it and for me to set up a pin on the card. Still be as generous as you always are, just be aware to do it safely and securely. Diana has copies of the images below with the special code to use on the desk next the office. Samples of the flyers are located on the next page.

AMAZON SMILE ACCOUNT is also another earning opportunity for us, the link for that is on our website, and all you have to do is click on the link on our Facebook page and it will take you right into Amazon and link it to our account. Another easy and safe way to shop during these unprecedented times. Have fun shopping and help us continue to earn money all at the same time. So don't delay, get a head start on your Christmas shopping this year with these two great opportunities. So have fun shopping this holiday season while staying warm and dry and also safe inside and helping us earn money.

HONEY SUNDAY is returning to Living Word this year. We will be holding the Honey Sunday on November, 14th. For each bottle of honey, there is a \$10.00 fee, 30% of the proceeds will be returned to Living Word, and 70% will be donated to the Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch. Please call me with any orders that you would like to place because if you place the order online, we will not receive the 30%.



TURN SHOPPING INTO EARNING

Donation Opportunities



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Jen H., earns for hockey

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- The brand gives back to your organization the moment you buy a gift card—at no extra cost to you.

3. Get and use your gift cards

- eGift cards are delivered to the app within minutes—view them in your Wallet.
- Physical gift cards are mailed to your coordinator. Many are reloadable so you can keep earning with the ones you have.
- Use both types in-store and online.

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Community Events

CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING We will have a Christmas tree again in Orland Park, the tree needs to be decorated by November 28th when the Village of Orland Park will hold their Holiday Festival and Tree Lighting Ceremony. The festivities will begin at 4:00 pm and there will also be a parade, which are invited to participate in if we would like to decorate a "float" and promote our church and preschool. From my past experiences, we can even use a pickup truck with or without a trailer on the back end and have it decorated and hopefully get Living Word some recognition and free publicity and advertisement. If you would like to participate in helping with decorating the tree and if we choose to participate in the parade, please let Diana or myself know so we can start coordinating and brainstorming some ideas for the float. Also, even though Diana had managed to save most of the decorations and lights from last year, please let us know if you can donate any ornaments and/or lights for the tree.

