



IN TOUCH

with the ministry and people of Living Word

Volume 31, Issue 12

March 20, 2022

"God Will Give You More than You Can Handle"

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You've probably heard – or maybe you've even said – "God will never give you more than you can handle." Sounds really good but there's just one problem. The Bible doesn't teach that. Many people point to 1 Corinthians 10:13 to back up this "Christian teaching." But is that what Paul meant when he wrote: "God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear?" Let's take a quick look at that passage.

What is the Promise of 1 Corinthians 10:13?

This verse is often taken out of context, so let's pull back and look at the surrounding passage to find out what Paul was talking about. (See this post for more information on "biblical context.") The topic of 1 Corinthians 10:1-13 is temptation and being prepared to resist it. At the end of chapter 9, Paul encouraged the believers in Corinth to practice strict spiritual discipline like he did. Chapter 10 begins with a "for" (1 Corinthians 10:1 NIV). Paul wanted them to be self-disciplined because he did not want them to follow the bad example of Israel in the wilderness who gave into temptation and disobeyed God. Because of their disobedience that generation died in the desert and never entered the promised land. Their story was recorded as a warning for the Corinthians and for us (1 Corinthians 10:11). Then, in 1 Corinthians 10:12-13, Paul outlines what we should do instead of giving into temptation:

1. Keep up our guard – Thinking we are too strong to fall into sin makes us vulnerable.
2. Don't believe the lie that our temptation is extreme or unusual – No temptation will come our way that hasn't already been part of the human experience.
3. Look for God's escape plan – God is faithful. He will not allow any temptation to come our way that is too great for us to resist. He will always provide a way for us to say no and the strength to bear up under the pull of sin. Okay, did you see that? Number 3 is the *real* promise of verse 13. God will *never* allow us to be *tempted to sin beyond what we can resist*.

So what about this question: "Does God ever give us more hardship than we can handle?" The short answer is "yes." But let's turn to another one of Paul's letters for a more in-depth explanation.

God Will Give You More than You can Handle

In his second letter to the believers in Corinth, Paul wrote about hardships he experienced in Asia: *We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about the troubles we experienced in the province of Asia. We were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired of life itself. Indeed, we felt we had received the sentence of death. But this happened that we might not rely on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead.*

2 Corinthians 1:8-9, NIV The same biblical author that wrote 1 Corinthians 10:13 also wrote 2 Corinthians 1:8-9. Paul knew that God would allow him to experience more hardship than he could bear. He had lived it. He had pressure in Asia that was far beyond his ability to endure. Why? Why did God allow Paul – and why does God allow us – to experience trials and difficulties, grief and pain, more than we can bear? One reason is found right in this passage – so that we will rely on God and not on our own strength and power. Hear Paul's words in 2 Corinthians 1:10: *He has delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us again. On him we have set our hope that he will continue to deliver us.* 2 Corinthians 1:10, NIV

When we are unable to deliver ourselves, God is able. When we are unable to stand up under the pressure, it will be God's strength in us. No, God does not promise that He will never give us more than we can handle. Instead, He holds out His hand and tells us to lean on Him.

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

SUNDAY SCHEDULE
9:00 am Adult study
10:00 am Worship

This Week at Living Word

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
20 9:15 am Adult Study 10:00 am Worship-COMM	21	22 10:00 am PUSH	23	24	25 9:30 am POW Bible Study Zoom and Living Word	26

March Celebrations

 March 14 Diana Motel March 19 Bobbi Pote	 <i>Happy Baptism Birthday!</i> March 14 Matt Meier March 15 Anita Meier March 18 Ashley Meier March 22 David Merchantz	<i>Anniversary</i>  March 25 Donna & Peter Wasilkoff March 28 Pat & Dale Johnson
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Stewardship Snapshot

March 13th

18 Worshipped
2 Watched DVD's
11 Watched Online
31 Total

Financial Support

1,245.00 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.

Contacts

Church Contacts

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



EASTER LILY ORDER FORMS are in the worship folders starting today. They are due by Sunday, March 27th. Unfortunately though with the price of delivery charges going up due to increasing gas prices, the price for each lily will be \$10.50. If you need to order them just a little bit later than that, you can always see me or call me at the office, I was just trying to eliminate any extra chaos and confusion with the Easter Egg Hunt the following week.

HE IS RISEN! Crosses are available online at EASTERCROSS.ORG. Be a witness to the Risen Christ and stand firm with the community of Christians. Jim McKinney had anonymously ordered some for us last year and we have the info available on the bulletin board, and I will include them as worship folder inserts as well this month. I have looked up the website and the crosses are \$4.00 and we will bulk order them at one time to help with shipping, please let us know by March 27th if you would like to order them, we will need the money by the end of the month when it will be deposited in time to place the order.



Mission of the Month

EASTER BASKET TIME! Now that its March, the mission of the month is the Village of Orland Park. Specifically making and putting together Easter baskets for the children of the under privileged families of the Orland Park township. So when you are out shopping at the Dollar stores and see coloring books, play dough, crayons, stickers, bubbles, sidewalk chalk or anything like that, pick up a couple of items so we can make Easter baskets for the boys and girls of Orland Park Township. Joan Fraser and her daughter have been doing these for the community for several years now, and we thought it would be a terrific and cute group effort once again for this year. As always, if its just easier donating a couple of bucks towards the baskets, our Easter bunnies don't mind doing the shopping. Lol. Diana has made up a basket and it is on the table in the fellowship hall as an example. The village was so happy and surprised at the 20 baskets that we donated last year.



Easter 2022

LIVING WORD EASTER EGG HUNT RETURNS. The Easter Egg Hunt was such a huge success, Diana already has been planning the activity for this year. Hopefully since Easter is a little later this year, the weather will be just a little warmer and a little less windy, lol. Diana will be checking what supplies we have left from last year and will replenish them. We are hopeful to have more little hunters this year. If you are able to volunteer that morning please see Diana for details. Based on last year, if you can help out signing everyone in or spreading out all the eggs, would be greatly appreciated. We already have

Living Word Lutheran Church

EGG

Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, April 3rd

11:30 am

HUNT

Ages 1 to 13

Registration is open!



DEVOTIONAL OF THE WEEK *"But sir, you don't have a rope or a bucket," she said, "and this well is very deep. Where would you get this living water? And besides, do you think you're greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us this well? How can you offer better water than he and his sons and his animals enjoyed?"- John 4:12-13 (NLT)*

As Jesus is speaking with the Samaritan woman, he engages with her around commonalities between their two different cultures. He continues the conversation until she brings up a spiritual idea, that the well they are at goes back to Jacob, the patriarch of the twelve tribes of Israel. Then Jesus goes into the heavier spiritual stuff, ending with the revelation that he is in fact the Messiah. In the same way, as we deal with those of a different (physical or spiritual) culture, we should be alert for common ground that we can use to bridge the gap between us and foster deeper spiritual conversations.

Important Information

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 their 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 from 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. There is nothing like fellowship time among some of your closest friends that share the same beliefs as you do!

COUNCIL MEETING was this past Tuesday evening. Couple of the major topics discussed at the meeting of course was offerings and attendance. Both are way below what was projected and budgeted for. A couple of easy ways to help us out with these issues is to help us grow in members but more importantly our attendance. With the Lenten season upon us now, take the opportunity to invite your family and friends to worship, they will not only get to enjoy some quality fellowship time and be able to worship with you, but also they will be able help us increase our attendance totals which is so very important in hopes that we will be able to reap the benefits from our endowment fund.

Zoom Bible Study

SUNDAY MORNING Bible Study will be on Zoom. We will have a dedicated link every Sunday for the Zoom portion of the class. Going forward, I will email this link to everyone on Fridays, so it would be very easy for you to find the email with the link. Please see me or call the office if you would like to join, we can give you the information that you will need for Zoom. 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 March 20th.**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86050558786?pwd=Vnp1aWJ1WWMvbFBwOVZSV015WFRXUT09>

Meeting ID: 860 5055 8786 Passcode: 473427

Join Zoom Meeting—One tap mobile

+13126266799,,86050558786#,,,,*473427# US (Chicago)

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

POW (People of the Word) Bible Study has wrapped up their study on the Parables for Lent. We are going back to individual links every Friday for the Zoom portion of the class. I will email the following link to everyone on Thursdays, so it would be very easy for you to find the email with the link in your inbox. 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. They have begun their next study for Lent. "*Surrounded By Grace*" study last Friday. If you would like to join them, please call Donna or the church, so you can get a book sent out to you. **Please see below for the Zoom info for the Bible study on March 25th.**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85409399844?pwd=WWhUSFR5OWZwM1pUMU5UTGRmQnBMUT09>

Meeting ID: 854 0939 9844 Passcode: 222527

Join Zoom Meeting—One tap mobile

+13126266799,,85409399844#,,,,*222527# US (Chicago)

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

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

"Living Word Preschool"

A NEED FOR OUR PRESCHOOL AGAIN Please try to help us pass the word about our preschool throughout our community. Now that we are past January and the winter semester, we need to fill our church with the little ones and teach them the love and knowledge of Jesus and prepare them for kindergarten and grade school. Let all your friends and family know that enrollment is open online. We already have one student enrolled and a family just visited us last month. Diana has created fliers and registration forms on our website and has sent them out to past VBS and Easter Egg Hunt families. I know most of us don't have any little ones at home, but if you happen to know of anyone who does, please let them know about our website and that they can come and check out the church and classrooms at anytime.



Stewardship Updates

ATTENDANCE TRACKING Going forward starting with this year, we are trying to keep count of all those who watch the service online. If you could please either sign in with Facebook or very briefly comment at the time that you are watching, and if any are watching with you, we would greatly appreciate it. Also, if you happen to watch it during the week at a more convenient time, please just email us back saying that you had watched, and how many others had watched with you. This way you can get the credit for participating in the service and we can grow our attendance totals in order to reach our endowment fund goals. Thank you for helping us with this effort, again we greatly appreciate any help you can give.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT During these very trying and difficult times, like all of us, the offerings for the church have also been suffering and are below the projected budget. Please help us and come to worship so that we can have better attendance totals and that we can reconnect with each other as we worship together. In doing so, we will be able to reach our goals in the attendance achievements for the endowment fund. Thank you as always for keeping us moving forward in these times.

VBS 2022—CELEBRATING GOD'S GREATNESS Diana has theme for VBS picked out and has already ordered the basic supplies and when it gets closer, and warmer especially, she will have her list of items that she will need for snacks and craft time. Everyone had so much fun here last year, that we already have three kids signed up. Thank you Diana for all of the hard work you put into this program for us and the children of our community. If you can help out a day or two during that week, please see Diana for more information. Even though its only early March, we already have almost 30 kids signed up for it.

3-20-22 Message Outline

“Favor to Your Land”

Psalm 85 says: “You, Lord, showed favor to your land.” How does God show his favor to us...?

1) God shows us favor through His FORGIVENESS.

⁷“Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the people of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from me...¹¹ Say to them, ‘As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn! Turn from your evil ways! Why will you die, people of Israel?’
Ezekiel 33:7, 11

2) God shows us favor by His FAITHFULNESS.

¹³ No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.
1 Corinthians 10:13

3) God shows us favor with His FORBEARANCE.

⁶ [Jesus] told this parable: “A man had a fig tree growing in his vineyard, and he went to look for fruit on it but did not find any. ⁷ So he said to the man who took care of the vineyard, ‘For three years now I’ve been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and haven’t found any. Cut it down! Why should it use up the soil?’ ⁸ “Sir,’ the man replied, ‘leave it alone for one more year, and I’ll dig around it and fertilize it. ⁹ If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it down.”

Luke 13:6-9

Ways to Help Ukraine

**Ukrainian
Refugees need
your help! Join
us in collecting
donations.**

**Living Word Lutheran Church
16301 Wolf Road Orland Park**

Drop off donations Monday – Friday 9:30 am–1:00pm

Sunday's 9:30 am–11:30am

Stop by on Saturday, April 9th from 9 am–5pm with
donations and enjoy some light refreshments.

The little church that cares

Items needed or monetary donations

- Backpacks 10 x 19 x 14 (approximately size)
- Bandage Strips, 1"x3"
- Big Cinch Abdominal Bandage
- Burn Aid – water gel burn dressing 4x16
- Burn Aid – water gel burn dressing 4x4
- Eye Wash, 4oz
- Medical Adhesive tape rolls (2 – 3" inches)
- Multi Trauma Dressings, 12"x30"
- Pain Relievers – Ibuprofen or Acetaminophen, or both
- Pair of Tweezers
- Safety Pins
- Abdominal pad (sometimes "ab pad"), 5" x 9" (2x)
- Acetaminophen / Tylenol
- Adhesive bandages (Band-Aids) in several sizes
- Adhesive tape
- Antiseptic wipes
- Aspirin / Bayer
- Butterfly bandages, 0.5" x 2.75" (16x)
- Caffeine pills
- Gloves
- Pepto-Bismol pills
- Plastic cling wrap, 2" wide roll
- White petroleum jelly / Vaseline in small container

PARTNERING WITH ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL

We will be collecting the items that are needed for the Ukrainian Refugees and drop everything off at their church. We are also going to invite our local community and neighborhood to help us and we will be serving light refreshments for those who will be visiting our church. If you can help out to serve refreshments or help pack up the items or bring the boxes of these items to St. Peter and St. Paul Church in Palos Park, please see Diana Motel, Jim McKinney or Bob Grossart. The list of items can be found to the left and on page 8.

Ways to Help Ukraine



HELPING UKRAINE We have received several different emails this past week as to being able to help Ukraine. I felt that I should share them in our newsletter this month. The emails came from the Northern Illinois District and the Lutheran Church Charities respectively.

From the Northern Illinois District:

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The violence in Ukraine continues. Those in Ukraine and those fleeing to neighboring countries face great need.

Our Office of International Mission — especially through our Eurasia region and the Rev. James Krikava, the Synod's associate executive director of Eurasia and Asia Operations — is working with partner churches, missionaries and others in Europe to help care for those fleeing Ukraine. Krikava has been working with Bishop Serge Maschewski of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ukraine (ELCU) to assist the people of the ELCU who remain in Ukraine, including pastors who continue to care for people.

Please encourage your congregations to pray for Ukraine. You can also [share with them the following story](#), which includes opportunities for giving to this necessary work.

As we repent and join together in meditation about our Savior's precious death and resurrection, we also pray for and care for all those for whom Christ died and rose.

Here's the email below from Lutheran Church Charities along with the pictures on the following page.

Urgent financial assistance is needed for women, children, and the elderly as able men stay to defend the Ukrainian homeland. Lutheran Church Charities IS WORKING WITH the **Ukrainian Lutheran Church (ULC)** and the **Christian Friends of New Americans (CFNA)** to support those staying in Ukraine as well as those fleeing to other countries during these desperate and challenging times. LCC will BE WORKING with Christian Ukrainian families here in the United States that have families in Ukraine or who are displaced in Poland.

The Ukrainian Lutheran Church (ULC) and its 18 national pastors spiritually lead and serve 2,500 members, 24 established congregations, and 12 mission congregations in Ukraine by sharing the hope of the gospel with others around them who do not know Christ. They are committed to remaining in Ukraine to help their fellow Ukrainians who choose to stay in their homeland survive during these horrific conditions.

The Christian Friends of New Americans (CFNA) connect with outreach-minded congregations to welcome and support refugees fleeing to the United States. With the current Ukrainian crisis, they are prepared to support an increased need to help these individuals and families who come to the United States, often with little or no possessions, establish a new life.



ST. PETER AND PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH sent out a posting this week, they are collecting the following items at their church located at 8410 W. 131st Street in Palos Park. You can drop the items off anytime outside their doors. The list includes:

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| • First aid kits | Antiseptics | Face Masks | Socks |
| • Over the counter pain relievers | Antibiotics ointments | Eye Protection | Hygiene Items |
| • Kids fever reducer | Bandages | Cold Medicines | Razors |
| • Band aids | Refillable water bottles | Latex Gloves | Female Products |
| • Sleeping bags | Walkie-talkies | Diapers | Gloves |
| • Thermal underwear | Backpacks | Gauze | Flashlights (no batteries) |

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN, Christian based organization has sent this email, if you would like more info, visit FMSC.org.

“The bullets and bombs in Ukraine could **take the global food crisis to levels beyond anything we’ve ever seen before.**”

FMSC is coordinating efforts with our network of partners in Eastern Europe. Already, **1.5 million MannaPack® meals are on their way to Ukraine, as well as Poland, Romania and Moldova.** More than 2 million additional meals have been requested — and the need is growing. FMSC is ready to produce these meals, but we need you to **help fund them.**

It’s easy to feel helpless in the face of humanitarian catastrophe, **but you can take action today.** Here are two things you can do right now to help the people of Ukraine and other crises around the world:

1. Pray: The word “crisis” is an understatement; the attacks in Ukraine will have far-reaching consequences across the globe for years to come. **But Jesus calls us to bring all our burdens before Him — and we know nothing is too big.** Please join us as we pray: For peace and an end to the attacks; For protection for the vulnerable; For open corridors for food and other humanitarian aid

2. Fund meals: Ukrainian refugees are hungry. Critical food shortages are expected to increase in already-vulnerable regions, including the Horn of Africa, Yemen, Afghanistan and Haiti. **Your gifts matter. And because each meal costs just 24 cents each, every dollar counts.**