



IN TOUCH

with the ministry and people of Living Word

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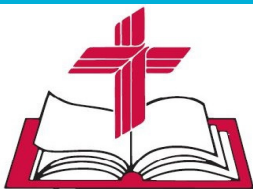
"A Fish Story: Jesus Serves Breakfast"

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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

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

This Gospel is a narrative with two endings. We encountered the first epilogue in chapter 20, but now our author recalls one more story that must not be forgotten. It just didn't fit anywhere else. The first part, John 21:1-14, is about fish and fishing; the second part, to be discussed next time, is about sheep and shepherding. Although the ultimate goal of this chapter is to prepare Peter for ministry, this cannot happen without Jesus again descending to physically share a meal with him and some of his co-disciples. In the Synoptic Gospels, Peter emerges as the leader; but in John's Gospel, the Beloved Disciple (whom we'll refer to as the B.D.) outshines Peter in both faithfulness and insight. At crucial times, Peter has failed Jesus. Only the risen Lord has the authority to rehabilitate him.

No fish story without a boat

In 1986, a drought in northern Israel caused the water level in the Sea of Galilee to drop far enough for two brothers, amateur archaeologists from a nearby kibbutz, to discover the remains of an ancient boat preserved in the mud. It was carefully raised, amid much excitement. It had probably been sunk at a point when it was beyond repair, since it was composed of ten different wood types and had gone through repeated fixes. The boat's flat bottom design allowed it to get close to the shore while fishing.

Pottery and radiocarbon dating put the age of the boat between 50 BCE and 50 CE, thus covering the dates of Jesus's life. Though not directly connected to Jesus, this is the type of boat he and his disciples would have used. This particular boat would have been large enough to hold the seven disciples of John 21:2.

At loose ends

After remaining in Jerusalem for at least a week after Jesus's resurrection, the disciples apparently dispersed to their homes, perhaps uncertain what to do next. So Peter and the "sons of Zebedee" (James and John) revert to their former occupation, bringing along four other comrades: Thomas, Nathaniel of Cana (John 1:45-51), and two other disciples, one of whom must be the B.D. They go fishing, staying out all night. But it's a bust (v 3).




Fish as taxable luxury

If we thought about it at all, we probably imagined local Galilean fishermen catching fish in the lake and selling them in the market. Not so fast! In those days, protein-rich fish was a luxury item. According to Bruce Malina and Richard Rohrbaugh's social-science commentary on John, people leased their rights to fish from toll collectors like Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10), who demanded up to 40 percent of the catch. Then they traded the rest of the catch to middlemen who also took a big cut before fish ever reached the market. How discouraging it was to work all night and make nothing—especially since their itinerant lifestyle with Jesus had surely caused hardship for their families back home. Readers have often puzzled over the 153 fish that were caught that morning—is it a symbolic number? If so, it's pretty obscure. Maybe they were just counting to see how many fish they'd have to forfeit to the toll collector.

An unforgettable breakfast

At dawn, Jesus stands on the beach, but the boat is too far away for the disciples to see who it is. But when he calls them "children" and tells them where to cast their net for a huge haul, the B.D. figures it out in a hurry: "It is the Lord!" (vv 5-7). So ever-impulsive Peter jumps into the sea and heads for shore. But why put *on* clothes (v 7), when people today would strip them *off* to swim? Slaves and manual laborers were expected to wear only a loincloth when working (see John 13:4), but for the sake of honor, no respectable man would approach another man "naked"—that is, without his more formal robe. Peter may arrive dripping wet, but he will do so honorably!

Continued on the bottom of Page 3

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:15 am Adult Study 10:00 am Worship— COMM	2	3 10:00 am PUSH	4	5	6 9:30 am POW Bible Study Zoom and Living Word	7
8 9:15 am Adult Study 10:00 am Worship Mother's Day 	9	10 10:00 am PUSH	11 2:00 pm Meeting with Lois Stewart and Diana Motel	12	13	14
15 9:15 am Adult Study 10:00 am Worship— COMM	16	17 10:00 am PUSH	18 7:00 pm Council Meeting	19	20 9:30 am POW Bible Study Zoom and Living Word	21
22 9:15 am Adult Study 10:00 am Worship	23	24 10:00 am PUSH	25	26	27 9:30 am POW Bible Study Zoom and Living Word	28
29 9:15 am Adult Study 10:00 am Worship	30 Memorial Day Office Closed 	31 10:00 am PUSH				

May Celebrations



May 4 Daniel Michael
May 8 Cathy Baidis
May 12 Diane Chitwood
May 13 Bob Grossart
May 20 Anne Lyons
May 28 Brian Michael
May 30 Deanna Meier
May 30 Joshua Regan



May 9 Shawn Regan
May 11 Ethel Hamill
May 12 Diana Motel
May 13 Paxton Hostert

Stewardship Snapshot

April 24th

21 Worshipped

2 Watched DVD's

12 Watched Online

35 Total

Financial Support

3,970.00 General Fund Deposit
 500.00 Andrew Foundation Matching Funds
4.00 For Easter Crosses
 4,474.00 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.

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

DEVOTIONAL OF THE WEEK *But he replied, "The man who healed me told me, 'Pick up your mat and walk.'"* - John 5:11 (NLT)

Sometimes God doesn't show up in our lives in powerful ways until we are desperate enough to finally listen to what He wants to teach us, or go where He wants to direct us. But when that happens, we suddenly find that we have the motivation, desire and ability to obey, when we didn't before. This can truly be a life-changing moment.

Sharing Information

SHARE OUR POSTS!! Please share our posts with all of your Facebook groups, it's a very small and easy thing to do and the results are so great. Diana has created an ad on Facebook for our preschool, if at all possible, please start sharing the updated information for the three different week day options for preschool and for the two different weeks that she is offering for the preschool summer primer. The same day she had created the ad on Facebook, she had already received comments and questions about the preschool, this should be a great way to reach more people.

"A Fish Story: Jesus Serves Breakfast" Continued from Page 1

By the time everyone arrives, Jesus is making breakfast, just as he did back in John 6 when he fed 5000 people. Like an ordinary housewife, he fries flatbread and cooks some of the fish they had just caught. I can see the disciples standing around awkwardly, unused to helping with women's work, and not knowing what to say (v 12). They know it is "the Lord," but how does one converse with a post-dead friend? (*Are your wounds healing? How did you get out of the tomb and where did you find clothes to wear? Where do you go when you're not with us?*) If the B.D. is indeed Lazarus, can he contribute a few resuscitation insights? We'll never know! Just as he's done in the past, Mother Jesus "takes the bread and gives it to them, and does the same with the fish" (v 13). Yes, it is the same Jesus as before—like a mother serving and eating breakfast with her children.

Mission of the Month



REDEEMING LIF OUTREACH MINISTRIES is the Mission of the Month for May again this year in honor of Mother's Day! CALLED TO PRESERVE LIFE God is leading Redeeming Life to expand in Illinois! Redeeming Life Outreach Ministries is a Recognized Service Organization (RSO) of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and serves single, pregnant women and their unborn children. These women are often at-risk of homelessness, domestic violence, or choosing abortion. The home and property that they were opening in Carpentersville in the Northern Illinois District (NID) last year fell through. Just last week, their update was that they were trying real hard to get a property and home in East Dundee. We just received their latest letter from them earlier this week. All their prayers were answered, Immanuel Lutheran approved their offer to purchase the property. Their next steps is outlined in the letter below. Please join me in keeping them in your prayers. The Maternity Home Steering Committee and LCEF are partnering with us to preserve life and share the love of Christ with vulnerable young women. Immanuel Lutheran in East Dundee led by Pastor Bill Yonker will be the official host congregation for this new location. This new maternity home will provide a safe, comfortable fully furnished home for the residents to live and thrive in and will be supervised by one full-time, live-in Manager. The residents will engage in self-directed learning and one on-one training with the help of a full-time Program Director. The expectant moms will learn necessary life skills including saving and budgeting, parenting, cooking, cleaning, connecting with others, and most importantly, connecting with God. Prayer, Bible study and worship are important components of the maternity home program. As a pro-life ministry, they walk alongside our mothers on their journey whether they plan to parent or lovingly place their baby for adoption. Every woman who calls Redeeming Life home will find help, love, and support. Please help make this new maternity home in Illinois a reality! No one can do everything, but every individual and congregation can do something! This type of project is very important as the lives of women and unborn children needs help and protection. Single pregnant women who lack safe, stable housing feel that abortion is their only option. Redeeming Life is a positive, pro-life maternity home that provides just-in-time resources to redeem the lives of women and babies.

Easter greetings in the Name of Jesus!

I have wonderful news to share with you! Yesterday, we passed a critical milestone in bringing the vital ministry of Redeeming Life Maternity Home to the Northern Illinois District. **The saints at Immanuel Lutheran Church in East Dundee approved our offer to purchase a portion of the 16-acre piece of property they own just east of their school.** There is an existing house on the property which we will renovate to serve as Redeeming Life's first maternity home outside of Florida.

Our next step is to enter into a formal contract with Immanuel so we can then apply for the various approvals and permits needed to renovate and operate on the property. While we do not foresee any issues, we are expecting it to be about three months for us to secure the necessary approvals. That said, we hope to close on the property and begin renovations in June.

I appreciate your patience and understanding as we have navigated our way through this process. While it hasn't been easy (few things worthwhile seldom are), and, at times, it's been a little frustrating, we believe that God has used it all to direct us in the way he would have us go. We know that God's timing is always perfect.

There are so many people, people like you, working to make this ministry to single pregnant women and their babies a reality. We can't do this without them, nor can we do it without you. **My request is that you please continue to pray for everyone involved.** Pray that God would use all of us to bring about his will for Redeeming Life and the residents we serve and will serve in the future.

So, dear friends, now the fun begins! **Our project manager, Jaclyn Deutsch, continues to work hard get remodeling plans and estimates together, enlisting volunteer talent for skilled labor, and making plans for collaborative workdays with the churches in the District.** As the closing date draws near, watch for more information from us on ways you and your congregation can get involved.

Deaconess Lori Trinche, our local Representative, is available to assist you. She would love to speak at your church and attend events to share information about Redeeming Life. She can also offer fundraising ideas. Please contact her directly at lori@rlom.org. She is there to help.

In the Joy of Easter,
Sheryl

Executive Director

Redeeming Life Outreach Ministries, Inc.



5-1-22 Message Outline

“Out of the Depths”

Psalm 30 says: *“I will exalt you, Lord, for you lifted me out of the depths...”*

1) The LIGHT lifts me out of the depths of darkness.

Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord’s disciples. He went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem. ³ As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him... Acts 9:1-3

2) The LION lifts me out of the depths of despair.

Then I saw in the right hand of him who sat on the throne a scroll with writing on both sides and sealed with seven seals. ² And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming in a loud voice, “Who is worthy to break the seals and open the scroll?” ³ But no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth could open the scroll or even look inside it. ⁴ I wept and wept because no one was found who was worthy to open the scroll or look inside. ⁵ Then one of the elders said to me, “Do not weep! See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed. He is able to open the scroll...” Revelation 5:1-5

3) The LORD lifts me out of the depths of death.

Jesus appeared again to his disciples, by the Sea of Galilee. It happened this way: ² Simon Peter, Thomas (also known as Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, Zebedee’s sons, and two other disciples were together. ³ “I’m going out to fish,” Simon Peter told them, and they said, “We’ll go with you.” So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. ⁴ Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus. ⁵ He called out to them, “Friends, haven’t you any fish?” “No,” they answered. ⁶ He said, “Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some.” When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish. ⁷ Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” As soon as Peter heard him, he wrapped his outer garment around him and jumped into the water. ⁸ The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred yards. ⁹ When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread. ¹⁰ Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish you have just caught.” ¹¹ So Simon Peter climbed back into the boat and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, 153, but even with so many the net was not torn. ¹² Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” None of the disciples dared ask him, “Who are you?” They knew it was the Lord. ¹³ Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. ¹⁴ This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead. John 21:1-14

Something to Consider—Church!

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 pray by laying hands on the hurting. 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!

A NEED FOR OUR PRESCHOOL AGAIN Please pass the word about our preschool throughout our community. Now that we are heading into spring and summer, 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 a new flyer and registration form on our website. They have added more options for families, we will now have a 2, 3 and 5 day program for preschool. 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 visit the church and classrooms.

LIVING WORD LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL

Registration is open!

Offering both a 5 day program
with a 3 or 2 day option.

Click on our preschool tab to
register or for more information

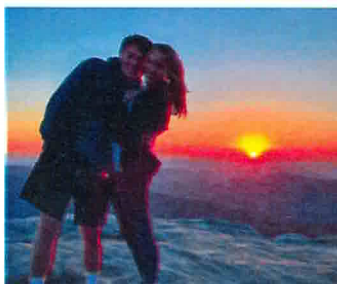
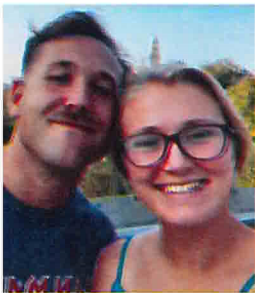
Call us with any questions or to
schedule a tour at 708-403-9673

SUMMER EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAM

Registration Required
MAY 31ST-JUNE 2ND
&
AUGUST 2ND-4TH
9 am to Noon

Visit our website for more info

"Greetings from Virginia"



"Sunday Zoom Bible Study Classes"

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 May 1st.**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85893612656?pwd=MDE3UXZwUEZPYU1wbFZKam1wbFZKam1NY2svUT09>

Meeting ID: 858 9361 2656 Passcode: 308811

Join Zoom Meeting—One tap mobile

+13126266799,,85893612656#,,,,*308811# US (Chicago)

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

"Friday Zoom Bible Study Classes"

POW (People of the Word) Bible Study has wrapped up their study on their "Surrounded by Grace" study for Lent on Friday. 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 as they start new studies. Not only will you gain some insight with these bible study classes, but you will have fun doing so at the same time. This past Friday, they had resumed their study on the Parables. **Please see below for the Zoom info for the Bible study on May 6th.**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82755094796?pwd=KzNNbUVxN3JnRzlhSjNFaXRQMGP4Zz09>

Meeting ID: 827 5509 4796 Passcode: 898934

Join Zoom Meeting—One tap mobile

+13126266799,,82755094796#,,,,*898934# US (Chicago)

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

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

"VBS 2022"



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. 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 April, we already have almost 30 kids signed up for it already.