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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

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

IN TOUCH

with the ministry and people of Living Word

Volume 31, Issue 20

May 15, 2022

"What Does It Mean to Praise God Every Day?"

Praise isn't just something relegated to worship services; in fact, it's associated with our every-day lives. In our daily busyness of going to work, loving our families, and walking through the checkout line, we can praise God; we can highlight His greatness and worth. When we praise God, we're giving glory to Him. His light within us shines back to Him. It's as if we're saying, Look! Look at God, at who God is and what He does!

We Praise the Lord Because He Is Great

We praise God because He deserves it, and He tells us to praise Him. Because God is so different from us—so fully incomprehensible—His mystery can be frustrating and scary sometimes, especially in seasons of hardship and pain. But, ultimately the fact that God is higher than us, that we can't wrap our minds around the entirety of who He is, is a good thing! We wouldn't want to worship a God who we could completely understand. If we could fully understand Him, then we'd be on His same level and He wouldn't be God. As God reveals different aspects of His character to us and as we come to understand more and more of what He has done for us as His children, we will discover reason after reason to praise Him. I love to think of God that way. There are always more beautiful aspects of His character and love for us to discover. We'll never come to the end of who He is. And, when He shows us more of who He is through His Word and prayer, we respond to that revelation with praise and gratitude.

We Praise God Because It Helps Us

God made us. He knows how we were created to flourish and thrive. He commands us to praise Him because He knows the best thing for us is to prize Him as the joy and delight of our hearts. When our relationship with God is prioritized first and we're placing the full weight of not only our eternal security but our emotional and spiritual security here and now on God, we typically give the people in our lives more freedom. And that leads to healthier and more loving relationships and more internal security. Praising God also helps us because it reminds us of the truth of His Word, and gives us a way to turn His gospel truths over and over in our hearts and minds. Over and over again in the psalms, we see men grappling with devastating loss, pain, and fear, only to turn the corner with "but." Then we see God's Word walk them back from the edge of despair. Praising God helps anchor us in the truths of His character and His steadfast love for us. It reminds us that He holds onto us during the good and the bad days. Praising God stirs our hearts up to joy so we can walk in a hope-filled assurance of who God is. It's a reminder that God isn't done with us yet. Though things may look grim now, His truth and Word will hold us until eternity. God has good plans for us still.

We Praise God to Make Much of Him to Others

We praise God and shine a light on Him, giving Him glory so that others will see how great He is. We tell of His goodness to other believers to encourage them, to strengthen their hope and faith in Him. We tell of His goodness to those who do not yet know God, so that they can see how all-satisfying a relationship with Him is so that they will want to know Him too. Following Jesus doesn't exempt you from life's storms, so you need to: 1) Remind yourself who's with you – Jesus! Think about it: if Jesus can calm the storm, surely He can prevent it. But He permits us to go through storms to prove that we don't have a problem He can't solve. You may be powerless in the situation, but He's not, and through it you'll come to know Him in a way you never have before. His goal is to bring you out stronger on the other side. 2) Trust what He has told you. When Jesus tells you, 'Let's cross to the other side,' there's not a wave big enough to take you under. The truth is, 'We cannot stand in the storms of life based on someone else's faith. We must be fully assured in our own hearts and minds'. What has God promised you? Stand on it!

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------|--|-----------|
| 15 9:15 am Adult Study 10:00 am Worship-COMM | 16 6:30 pm Transition Team Meeting | 17 10:00 am PUSH | 18 7:00 pm Council Meeting | 19 | 20 9:30 am POW Bible Study Zoom and Living Word | 21 |

May Celebrations

Stewardship Snapshot



May 20 Anne Lyons

May 8th

21 Worshipped
 2 Watched DVD's
 17 Watched Online
 40 Total

Financial Support

1,600.00 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.

Church Contacts

intouchlwlc@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

ATTENDANCE TRACKING Just as a reminder, we are trying to keep count of all those who watch the service online. Please either sign in with Facebook or 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 attending 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 difficult times, like all of us, the offerings for the church have also suffered 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.

SPRING YARD CLEANUP

Helping Hands Needed

Sunday, May 15th

11:30 am

SPRING WORK DAY On May 15th, starting right after service and fellowship time, we will be rolling up our sleeves and doing some yard work around the grounds, if by chance it might be raining, there are plenty of indoor projects that we could find to fix. Please plan on staying for a little while and lend a helping hand to fix up our church. If we get enough volunteers, it won't take too long and we all be able to enjoy the rest of the day. As always, thank you in advance for all that you do for your church.

Living Word News

CONGRATULATIONS TO DIANA MOTEL AND LIVING WORD Thanks to Diana, Living Word has won the Best Church Websites of 2022 Award from OurChurch.com. After their review of our website, they seen that we meet all 10 points on the Self-Review Checklist. We couldn't have done this without you Diana, thank you for helping get our name and church out there.



PRESCHOOL MEETING On Wednesday, the 11th Diana met with Lois Stewart from Northern Illinois District, she is the Mission Facilitator for Schools in our district. Thanks to Lois and a few good ideas she shared, we have some more ways to that we can follow to look for more students for preschool.

TRANSITION TEAM will meet Monday, the 16th to discuss the options for seeking a new pastor. They are currently working on a few different ideas and will have more information for us in the weeks to come.

COUNCIL MEETING will be this Wednesday, the 18th. They will be finalizing preschool tuition and the constitution among discussing a few other topics.

TAHNK YOU NEAL for the two new "Summer Early Education Program signs in the front. Please check them out on your way in on Sunday morning.

Sharing Information

DEVOTIONAL OF THE WEEK *Don't be so surprised! Indeed, the time is coming when all the dead in their graves will hear the voice of God's Son, and they will rise again. - John 5:28-29a (NLT)*

God encourages us to live with our end in mind. We will all be raised again after death, and separated into those who have let God work good in and through them, and those who have continued to try to reach God in their own strength. Since our own strength is tainted by sin just like our own thoughts, words, and attitudes, that will end in disappointment and judgment. So if you're still trying to earn your way to God, today's a great day to change, and let Jesus' righteousness become yours.

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.

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!

Mission of the Month



REDEEMING LIFE 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 last week. All their prayers were answered, Immanuel Lutheran approved their offer to purchase the property. 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 the 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.

"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 15th.**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84294663509?pwd=ekZrbUIOVWJTSk94aWV2aDZpVU1QQT09>

Meeting ID: 842 9466 3509 Passcode: 869260

Join Zoom Meeting—One tap mobile

+13126266799,,84294663509#,,,,*869260# US (Chicago)

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

"Friday Zoom Bible Study Classes"

POW (People of the Word) Bible Study will have 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. Last Friday, they had resumed their study on the Parables. **Please see below for the Zoom info for the Bible study on May 20th.**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86824762150?pwd=b0lCemlvRXlnUW93Q255cFFtSTFCdz09>

Meeting ID: 868 2476 2150 Passcode: 876646

Join Zoom Meeting—One tap mobile

+13126266799,,86824762150#,,,,*876646# US (Chicago)

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

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

5-15-22 Message Outline

"Praise the Lord!"

Psalm 148 says: "Let [all creation] praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted; his splendor is above the earth and the heavens. And he has raised up for his people a horn, the praise of all his faithful servants." Today we ask, why praise the Lord...?

1) I praise the Lord when I discover His PLAN.

The apostles and the believers throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God. ² So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him ³ and said, "You went into the house of uncircumcised men and ate with them." ⁴ Starting from the beginning, Peter told them the whole story... ¹⁵ "As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit came on them as he had come on us at the beginning. ¹⁶ Then I remembered what the Lord had said: 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' ¹⁷ So if God gave them the same gift he gave us who believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I to think that I could stand in God's way?" ¹⁸ When they heard this, they had no further objections and praised God, saying, "So then, even to Gentiles God has granted repentance that leads to life." Acts 11:1-4, 15-18

2) I praise the Lord when I enter His PLACE.

Then I saw "a new heaven and a new earth," for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. ² I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. ⁴ 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." ⁶ He said to me: "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life. ⁷ Those who are victorious will inherit all this..."

Revelation 21:1-7a

3) I praise the Lord when I find my PURPOSE.

³⁴ "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples; if you love one another."

John 13:34-35

"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 May, we already have almost 30 kids signed up for it already, and we have 8 volunteers as well.

A NEED FOR OUR PRESCHOOL AGAIN Please pass the word about our preschool throughout our community. Now that we are heading into 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. Diana is planning an open house on June 25th, so the kids can see the classroom again and meet Mrs. Diana. We already have a few more interested and saying that they want to come back. Diana has created a new flyer and registration form on our website. We've added more options for families, there is 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