



IN TOUCH

with the ministry and people of Living Word

Volume 31, Issue 21

May 22, 2022

"What Next?"

I like Paul's enthusiasm. No sooner does he get a message that the people in Macedonia need his help, but he's ready to go. No time for questions or worries—he's out the door!

But of course, when Paul's group got there, they faced the question of what to do next. Philippi was a big city. Where should they start? How do you share the Good News of Jesus with people who don't even know that they need it? How do you give the world's most valuable gift to people who don't see any need for it?

Paul and his group eventually wound up at the riverside, where some women in the city went to pray every week. I'm sure it wasn't what Paul was expecting, but they told them about Jesus anyway. And some of these women became the first Christian believers in Europe. Together they began the first congregation in Philippi.

You might be facing a similar question. You know that there are people in your family or among your friends and neighbors who don't trust in Jesus. They may even be strongly against Christianity. And you love them. You want them to have God's good gift. But how do you start? How do you deal with the fact that they don't recognize the Gospel as a gift at all?

We can do what Paul and his friends did. We can meet people where they are, not where we expect them to be. For example, if they are interested in fishing or motorcycles or sewing or music, we can have conversations about those things. We can have coffee together; we can be there when they need babysitting or a ride to the airport. We can make sure they see God's love shining through us to them, regardless of whether they ever come to faith in Jesus Christ.

By doing these things we are loving them with the same love Jesus shows to us—a love that does not manipulate or force or have a secret agenda, a love that wants to give them every good thing—everything from casseroles to the good news of the God who laid down His life to give them peace.

Over time, people begin to see that you truly love them, and they become curious about the source of that love. Some of them will ask you: "Why do you care about me? Why did you let me borrow your car when mine broke down last week? What makes you the way you are?"

And that is your opening to tell them about Jesus. Because Jesus is the One who loved you through life through death into life again—and He loves them through you.

WE PRAY: Dear Lord, show me how to love the people around me so that they will see You and come to trust in You. Amen.

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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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
22 9:15 am Adult Study 10:00 am Worship	23 5:30 pm Transition Team Meeting with Pastor Croon	24 10:00 am PUSH	25	26	27 9:30 am POW Bible Study Zoom and Living Word	28

May Celebrations

Stewardship Snapshot



May 28 Brian Michael

May 15th

17 Worshipped, 15 Communed
2 Watched DVD's
17 Watched Online
40 Total
Financial Support
 1,595.00 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
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

Living Word Open House



Living Word Early Childhood Education Program

OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, June 25th

From 10 am to Noon

Come stop by and see our amazing early childhood education classroom. Children can come see the classroom and play while Mrs. Diana answers any questions you may have. Registration forms will be available.



OPEN HOUSE for the preschool program is scheduled for Saturday, June 25th from 10 to Noon. Come see how much work Mrs. Diana has done over the past couple of weeks in the classrooms. The students are going to have a great year. Please help us pass the information along to anyone you know that have little ones at home. We really need to help her grow the Living Word Early Childhood Education Program. We will be working with local churches that don't have preschools to pass our information to their families. I will also be emailing the churches that do have a pre-school that might have a waiting list for their program.

Living Word News

TRANSITION TEAM met last Monday, the 16th to discuss the options for seeking a new pastor. They have another list of names of pastors from the district, Donna has reached out to the 7 pastors to see if they are interested in still taking a call, and they have meetings scheduled with 2 of them. On Monday evening, they will be meeting with Pastor Croon here at church, and then they have a meeting scheduled for June 6th with Pastor Penikis. They will still continue to work on a few other different ideas and proposals and will have more information for us in the weeks to come.

COUNCIL MEETING was this past Wednesday, the 18th. They finalized preschool tuition and will continue to work on the constitution with Pastor Schauer, plus there were a few more topics that they had discussed.

CONGRATULTIONS TO KYLE MOTEL for graduating preschool this past Thursday, he will be going to a full day kindergarten in the fall.

CONGRATULATIONS TO PETRA WASILKOFF for receiving her MBA last Friday. Good job Petra. Your hard work paid off.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OTHER GRADUATES from our extended church family. We're so proud of you. Best wishes and God's blessings to all of you in your future endeavors.



Sharing Information

DEVOTIONAL OF THE WEEK *"You search the Scriptures because you think they give you eternal life. But the Scriptures point to me!" - John 5:39 (NLT)*

When he was here on earth, Jesus revealed Himself to be God through his teaching, his miracles, his fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy, and even, as at his baptism and his transfiguration, the direct testimony of the Father. Still today we have his teaching, which is a continuation and fulfillment of the Old Testament, his miraculous work in our lives (when we don't chalk it up to "luck"), and the written witness of those apostles and others who both lived with him for three years, and saw him after his resurrection. Pray today to trust this revelation even more, for it will surely lead you to eternal life.

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 22nd.**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85302618154?pwd=NzBZNVpiTThVTFZlYmRlc0h2cmhjZz09>

Meeting ID: 853 0261 8154 Passcode: 889444

Join Zoom Meeting—One tap mobile

+13126266799,,85302618154#,,,,*889444# 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 27th.**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88963260880?pwd=WmFMS0jjUGh3UnNVMERCa2dzZmtHQT09>

Meeting ID: 889 6326 0880 Passcode: 449938

Join Zoom Meeting—One tap mobile

+13126266799,,88963260880#,,,,*449938# US (Chicago)

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

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

5-22-22 Message Outline

1) *Lydia sang for joy about God's GOSPEL.*

⁹ During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." ¹⁰ After Paul had seen the vision, we got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them. ¹¹ From Troas we put out to sea and sailed straight for Samothrace, and the next day we went on to Neapolis. ¹² From there we traveled to Philippi, a Roman colony and the leading city of that district of Macedonia. And we stayed there several days. ¹³ On the Sabbath we went outside the city gate to the river, where we expected to find a place of prayer. We sat down and began to speak to the women who had gathered there. ¹⁴ One of those listening was a woman from the city of Thyatira named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth. She was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul's message. ¹⁵ When she and the members of her household were baptized, she invited us to her home. "If you consider me a believer in the Lord," she said, "come and stay at my house." And she persuaded us.

Acts 16:9-15

2) *Nations (ethnos) will sing for joy about God's GLORY.*

⁹ One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and said to me, "Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb." ¹⁰ He carried me in the Spirit to a mountain great and high, and showed me the Holy City, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God. ¹¹ It shone with the glory of God... ²² I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. ²³ The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp. ²⁴ The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their splendor into it. ²⁵ On no day will its gates ever be shut, for there will be no night there. ²⁶ The glory and honor of the nations will be brought into it. ²⁷ Nothing impure will ever enter it, nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Revelation 21:9-11a, 22-27

3) *I sing for joy about God's GRACE.*

[Jesus said] ³³ "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world (kosmos) you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

John 16:33

"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