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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
9:15 am Adult study
10:00 am Worship

IN TOUCH

with the ministry and people of Living Word

Volume 31, Issue 27

July 3, 2022

"Called to Witness till Jesus Christ Returns"

We have been instructed by Jesus to "occupy till I come" ([Luke 19:13](#)). But how are we to be occupied? The answer is clear in Jesus' last instructions to His disciples in [Acts 1:8](#), "You shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." We have been left on this earth to lead others to Christ. Witnessing makes the wait worthwhile. What then keeps so many of us from witnessing about Jesus Christ on a regular basis?

Roadblocks to Sharing Your Faith

Proxies. Someone who is authorized to represent you is called a proxy. In the church, we've developed a convenient system: "If you cannot go to spread the Gospel, you can send someone in your place." It is important to support our missionaries. But institutional missions was never intended to replace individual missions. God wants everyone to go somewhere.

Professionalism. You might ask you pastor, "What do you mean you want us to witness? Isn't that what we pay you for?" According to the Bible, it is the pastor's job to equip the people of God so they can do the work of evangelism. Witnessing is not only the job of the pastor; it's your job.

Pessimism. Many hold a pessimistic view of witnessing because they don't want to be viewed as being too aggressive or narrow-minded. We live in an age when people believe that all roads lead to God, as long as you sincerely believe. How many of you know you can be sincerely wrong? Jesus didn't say, "I am one of the ways." He said, "I am the Way" ([John 14:6](#)).

Panic. Just the thought of witnessing creates panic in many people. Many of us fear witnessing because we don't feel ready to share our faith. Preparing to witness is kind of like taking a CPR class. People learn CPR in order to resuscitate someone physically if necessary. You don't have to be a medical doctor with years of training to perform CPR. You just have to learn a few basic principles. In the same way, we ought to know some basic principles of witnessing so we can spiritually resuscitate someone.

The following steps will show you how to perform "spiritual CPR" and share your faith.

Sharing the Road to Salvation

Be Enthusiastic. Are you enthusiastic about your faith in Jesus Christ? A contagious Christian is doing something that's got them excited, something that gets them out of bed in the morning.

Be Authentic. People don't only read the Christian literature we give them; they read our lives. It's nearly impossible to ignore someone who authentically lives out his or her convictions. But it's easy to discount someone who says one thing and does another.

Be Looking for Opportunities. In the past month, how many of you have had dinner with an unsaved couple or individual? Witnessing presents a real challenge if we are always around believers.

Be Prepared. Prepare yourself for evangelism by praying and studying the Bible. Begin on your knees by asking God to touch your unsaved friends through the power of the [Holy Spirit](#). Even if you don't see your friends come to Christ right away, keep praying!

Be Christ-Centered. [Acts 8:5](#) tells us that Philip the evangelist went down to Samaria and preached Christ. He went right to the core of the Gospel message. We must be committed to preaching Christ's death and resurrection.

Finding Worth in the Wait

As you wait for Christ's return, is witnessing a priority in your life? Nothing can compare to being God's instrument to lead one person out of the kingdom of Satan into the glorious life of heaven. If you have never had that experience, or you would like to be more effective in your witness, God can use you starting today.

July 2022 Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 9:15 am Adult Study 10:00 am Worship—COMM	4  Independence Day Office Closed	5 10:00 am PUSH	6	7 7:30 pm Softball Game Good Shepherd vs. Living Word 	8	9
10 9:15 am Adult Study 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Congregational Voter's Meeting	11 6:00 pm Softball Game Christ vs. Living Word 	12 10:00 am PUSH	13	14 6:00 pm Softball Game T.I.S.P. vs. Living Word 	15	16
17 9:15 am Adult Study 10:00 am Worship—COMM	18	19 10:00 am PUSH 7:00 pm Council Meeting	20	21	22	23
24 9:15 am Adult Study 10:00 am Worship	25 9:00 am—Noon VBS	26 9:00 am—Noon VBS 10:00 am PUSH	27 9:00 am—Noon VBS <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>	28 9:00 am—Noon VBS	29 9:00 am—Noon VBS	30
31 9:15 am Adult Study 10:00 am Worship VBS Closing Ceremony						

July Celebrations

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July 2 Gary Pote
July 4 Mitchell Gawlik
July 5 Elaine Lee
July 6 Lisa Regan
July 7 John Paul Lange
July 7 Scott Miklos
July 9 Jesse Meier
July 17 Jim McKinney
July 23 John Gabrielson
July 27 Kurt Meier



July 16 Mark Cygan
July 24 Bill Bonnar
July 29 Darlene Cygan
July 29 Josh Regan
July 30 Ashley Regan

Anniversary



July 1 Karen & Bob Grossart
July 10 Jessica & John Lyons

Stewardship Snapshot

June 26th

15 Worshipped

2 DVD

10 Watched Online

27 Total

Financial Support

1,135.00 General Fund Offering
 125.00 For Lutheran Church Charities Mission of the Month
 100.00 Designated Funds—Preschool Registration
1,360.00 Total Deposit
 25.00 In-Kind Cash Donation For VBS Supplies

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

ORLAND PARK FOOD PANTRY will be the Mission of the Month for July. We will be collecting non-perishable food items and any monetary donations. As always, thank you for all your generosity for our community.

DEVOTIONAL OF THE WEEK *[Jesus said] "I tell you the truth, anyone who believes has eternal life." - John 6:47 (NLT)*
 Believes in what, exactly? Jesus is our Messiah and Lord. He is the Bread of Life, come down from (and now returned to) heaven. He is God, He lived a perfect life, He died in our place, and God has raised Him from the dead. He will come again to gather His own and judge the world. At first hearing, even some of this is a lot to understand (and believe). But Jesus was also fully human, and understands our hesitation and doubt. So He keeps confronting us with His reality, and His Spirit enables us to understand and believe more and more as we journey through our Christian life.

"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. 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 July 3rd.**

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88986640168?pwd=PYLIbGNHUJhvpCOEy_caqZFztqzTw4.1

Meeting ID: 889 8664 0168 Passcode: 190274

Join Zoom Meeting—One tap mobile

+13126266799,,88986640168#,,,190274# US (Chicago)

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

A NEED FOR OUR PRESCHOOL AGAIN Please pass the word about our preschool throughout our community. Now that its 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. We have 3 students enrolled and we receive calls about once or twice a month inquiring about our program. Diana has created a new flyer and registration form on our website. We are offering 2 or 3 day program for preschool. 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

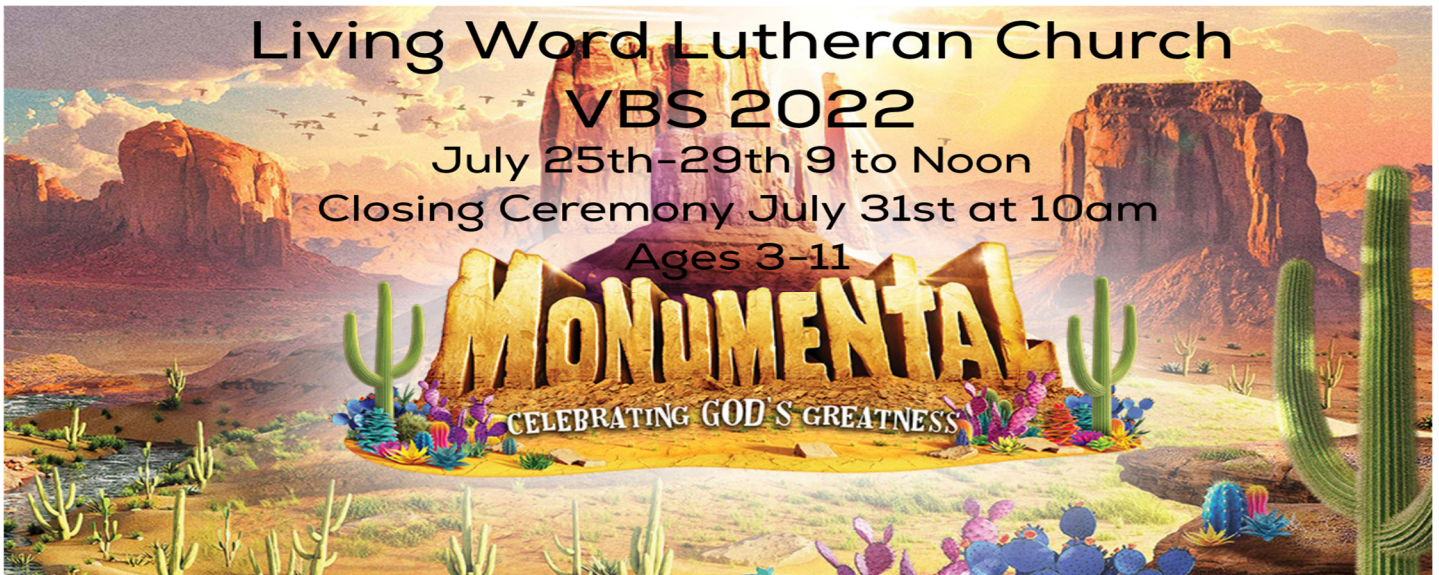
Registration is open!

Offering 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

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. Now that its a month away, we have about 45 kids signed up for it already, and we have 7 student volunteers. We definitely need more volunteers to help with snack time and crafts, please see Diana if you can help out a couple of days that week. Also we now have our supply list, please see the list from Diana on the following page, and the printout to sign up for it is on the desk.



VBS SUPPLY LIST

Need by: Sunday July 24th

(15) Plastic Table Clothes	(400) Napkins
(6) Rolls of Paper Towels	(400) 9 Ounce Plastic cups
(70) Plastic Red Solo Cups	(70) Plastic Spoons
(70) Plastic Knives	(70) Plastic Spoons
(4 boxes) Vanilla Wafers	(4 bags) Cutie Oranges
(70) Chocolate Pudding Cups	(4 bags) Pretzel Sticks
(4 bags) Pretzel Rods	(4 boxes) Corn Chex Cereal
(2) Goldfish Big Box	(7 bags) Popcorn (already popped)
(4 containers) Vanilla Frosting	(4 bags) Chocolate chips
(4 bags) Gummy Worms	(4 bags) Starburst Candy
(4 bags) Small Tootsie Rolls	(4 bags) Hershey Kisses
(6) Tennis Balls	(6) Beach Balls (small)
(500) Sticker Gems total	(200) Color Pipe Cleaners
(4 bags) Small Craft Feathers	(60) Fine Pt. Permanent Markers Multi colors

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 two 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.

WORSHIP LINKS are emailed out every Sunday after service. If you are unable to come join us in person for service, we totally understand, but if you have the capability of watching the service online, please do so. You can watch the livestream from YouTube or our Facebook page, or just click on the link that is emailed to you. Not only will it keep you connected to your church family, but it will also help us grow our attendance totals, which is very important, if we grow our church's attendance, either in person or virtually by 10% we will meet the requirement for the endowment fund to receive approximately \$20,000 or better. We are all struggling in these difficult times, but if we all work together, we will all prosper. Please feel free to share the links or watch with family and friends, kindly let us know how many had watched. Thank you for all your help!

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 or from your bed. You can't experience the power of a room full of believers worshipping together from your sofa or from under the covers. 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, besides WE are your church family.

Living Word News

CONGREGATIONAL VOTERS' MEETING is scheduled for Sunday, July 10th, immediately after the service. They will be presenting the budget for us to vote on and catch us up-to-date on the latest news from the transition team. Please plan on attending to make your vote count.

LIVING WORD SOFTBALL TEAM They played 1 make-up game on Monday against Good Shepherd and won, great job team! They have 3 more games and then the playoff games will be scheduled the third week of July. Good luck Living Word!



LIVING WORD EARLY EDUCATION SUMMER PROGRAM

Is your child registered for preschool yet?

We still have some spots available for our early education program this coming school year. If you are still looking for a program for your child come check out Living Word's Early Childhood Education Program. Children will see just how much fun they will have in preschool this fall. Space is limited so register at <https://livingwordorland.org/preschool/>. For questions email us at lwlcmedia@yahoo.com or call 708-403-9673

When - Tuesday, August 2nd -Thursday, August 4th.
From 9:00am-Noon

Where- Living Word Lutheran Church
16301 Wolf Road Orland Park
Cost- \$40 a day

