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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 32

August 7, 2022

## "The Meaning of The Eyes of the Lord"

*The eyes of the Lord* is an anthropomorphic expression, meaning that it attributes humanlike qualities to God. God, who is spirit, does not have a physical body with eyes and ears, or arms and legs. The omniscience of God is most often the intended implication of *the eyes of the Lord*, "The eyes of the LORD are everywhere, keeping watch on the wicked and the good."

Nothing and no one in heaven and on earth can escape being observed by the watchful, all-pervading eyes of the Lord. God is always assessing, appraising, overseeing, superintending, and safeguarding His creation. God sees all people and knows all people, both the evil and the righteous.

Since the eyes of the Lord are everywhere, so too is His presence. Thus, the idiom also expresses God's omnipresence: "For the eyes of the LORD range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him" (2 Chronicles 16:9).

*The eyes of the Lord* conveys the all-knowing, all-seeing limitlessness of God, and yet at the same time His personal, ever-caring nature. The Bible tells us that God is always paying attention to our needs: "The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, and his ears are attentive to their cry". Believers can count on the individual, intimate care and concern of a loving God: "But the eyes of the LORD are on those who fear him, on those whose hope is in his unfailing love" (Psalms 33:18).

*The eyes of the Lord* often indicates His recognition and the bestowing of His favor: "But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD". Likewise, the phrase frequently expresses His protection: "It is a land the LORD your God cares for; the eyes of the LORD your God are continually on it from the beginning of the year to its end" (Deuteronomy 11:12). The heavenly Father keeps a fond eye on His children: "He will not let your foot slip—he who watches over you will not slumber; indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep".

The Bible tells us that God sees everything: "Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account". The Lord's field of vision is omnidirectional and unrestricted. Nothing we do can be hidden or kept secret from Him. Closed doors and locked chambers will not obscure His vision. He sees everything, including our sins, which displease Him, and the depravity of the world, which breaks His heart.




In His sovereign knowledge and foresight of all things, God is never caught off guard or taken by surprise. Nothing happens to Him or to His children unexpectedly. We may find ourselves in difficult circumstances, but we can rest assured that God is in control. As the psalmist reassures, God will be there with us: "If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast. If I say, 'Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me,' even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you".

The concerned and compassionate eyes of the Lord are always on us, penetrating even our darkest night. From the moment we are conceived and every day thereafter, He sees us. The Lord keeps His eyes on His children to protect and preserve them and lead them home. May we pray daily for the Lord to equip us "with everything good" so that we "may do His will, working in us that which is pleasing in His sight through Jesus Christ" (Hebrews 13:20-21).

# This Week at Living Word

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>7</b> 9:15 am Adult Study 10:00 am Worship— COMM	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 10:00 am PUSH	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 9:30 am POW Bible Study Zoom and Living Word	<b>13</b>

## This Week's Celebrations

 <b>Aug 8</b> Jerry Erjavec	 <b>Aug 9</b> Randy Hodo <b>Aug 9</b> Robert Hodo <b>Aug 12</b> Lisa Regan	<b>Anniversary</b>  <b>Aug 11</b> Tiffani & David West
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## Stewardship Snapshot

July 31st

25 Worshipped

2 DVD

11 Watched Online

38 Total

**Financial Support**

1,885.00 General Fund Deposit

100.00 Preschool Registration Deposit

52.52 Designated Funds Deposit for VBS

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](mailto:intouchlwlc@yahoo.com)

**Ministry Support Coordinator, Diana Motel**

[dianamotel@yahoo.com](mailto: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 ENDOWMENT FUND (as of 7/31/2022)

The current value of the fund is \$157,900.57 invested in Thrivent funds. Current market value exceeds cost of investments by \$24,347.66. Since inception (10/12/05), the Fund has earned interest and dividends totaling \$48,572.18. Of this, \$24,286.09 will return to Living Word for growth initiatives.

### THIS REPRESENTS A GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING!

To Date:	Total contributions	\$84,980.73
	Market value over cost	24,347.66
	Dividends and interest	48,572.18
	<b>Total market value</b>	<b>\$157,900.57</b>

### HOW THE ENDOWMENT FUND WORKS

Contributions treated as donation for tax purposes

Funds invested by Thrivent Financial

50% of interest and dividends available for church growth

Interested in estate planning? Call Tim Regan/Thrivent (708-326-4750)

If any questions, call Bob Grossart



## 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 and 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

**ORLAND PARK FOOD PANTRY** was the Mission of the Month for July. The VBS families helped with this mission. Each day they had the battle of the food items, they collected about 210 items. Way to go VBS!

**WOLF ROAD BRIDGE** over I-80 will be closed from 183rd Street to 187th Street starting Monday, July 25th till December 2022. They will have detours clearly posted, to avoid the area completely, LaGrange Rd. may be a good alternative route.

**LIVING WORD ANNUAL PICNIC** was last Sunday. We had some snack items leftover from VBS, and everyone else brought a bunch more goodies. You know what a good time and fellowship we always have at our picnics. Here are some pictures from the picnic, you can also find these on our Facebook page.







**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE** who brought all that good food and for helping us set up the tables and chairs. We all had a great time, the weather was beautiful and we were able to have some quality fellowship time with each other. What a blessed day we were able to share. Also, thank you to everyone who helped clean up and take down the tents and bring the tables and chairs back into the building. We especially want to thank Neal and Kristi for all of their hard work and the donations to this amazing day. We definitely did not go hungry last Sunday, lol. Enjoy a few more pictures on the next page.







## "The Eyes of the Lord"

Psalm 33 says: *"The eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him..."*

### 1) The eyes of the Lord are on those who **BELIEVE** in Him.

After this, the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision: <sup>5</sup>He took him outside and said, "Look up at the sky and count the stars—if indeed you can count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be." <sup>6</sup>Abram believed the Lord, and he credited it to him as righteousness.  
Genesis 15:1, 5-6

### 2) The eyes of the Lord are on those who **HOPE** in Him.

Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. <sup>2</sup>This is what the ancients were commended for... <sup>13</sup>All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance, admitting that they were foreigners and strangers on earth.

Hebrews 11:1-2, 13

### 3) The eyes of the Lord are on those who **REST** in Him.

<sup>22</sup>Then Jesus said to his disciples: "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. <sup>23</sup>For life is more than food, and the body more than clothes. <sup>24</sup>Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds! <sup>25</sup>Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to your life? <sup>26</sup>Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest? <sup>27</sup>"Consider how the wildflowers grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. <sup>28</sup>If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! <sup>29</sup>And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not worry about it. <sup>30</sup>For the pagan world runs after all such things, and your Father knows that you need them. <sup>31</sup>But seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well. <sup>32</sup>"Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom. <sup>33</sup>Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will never fail, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. <sup>34</sup>For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Luke 12:22-34

## "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 August 7th.**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81365540809?pwd=bDIJR2pYMG0NEtwMURzUzBHQWJHZz09>

Meeting ID: 813 6554 0809 Passcode: 920781

Join Zoom Meeting—One tap mobile

+13126266799,,81365540809#,,, \*920781# US (Chicago)

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

## "Friday Zoom Bible Study Classes"

**POW (People of the Word) Parables Bible Study** will be starting up again next Friday. It will be good to get back into their study of the Parables. 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. **Please see below for the Zoom info for the Bible study on August 12th.**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84979769889?pwd=WTJOTThyN05iMkJKHRmdXa0V5SE5Udz09>

Meeting ID: 849 7976 9889 Passcode: 926744

Join Zoom Meeting—One tap mobile

+13126266799,,84979769889#,,, \*926744# US (Chicago)

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

## Mission of the Month

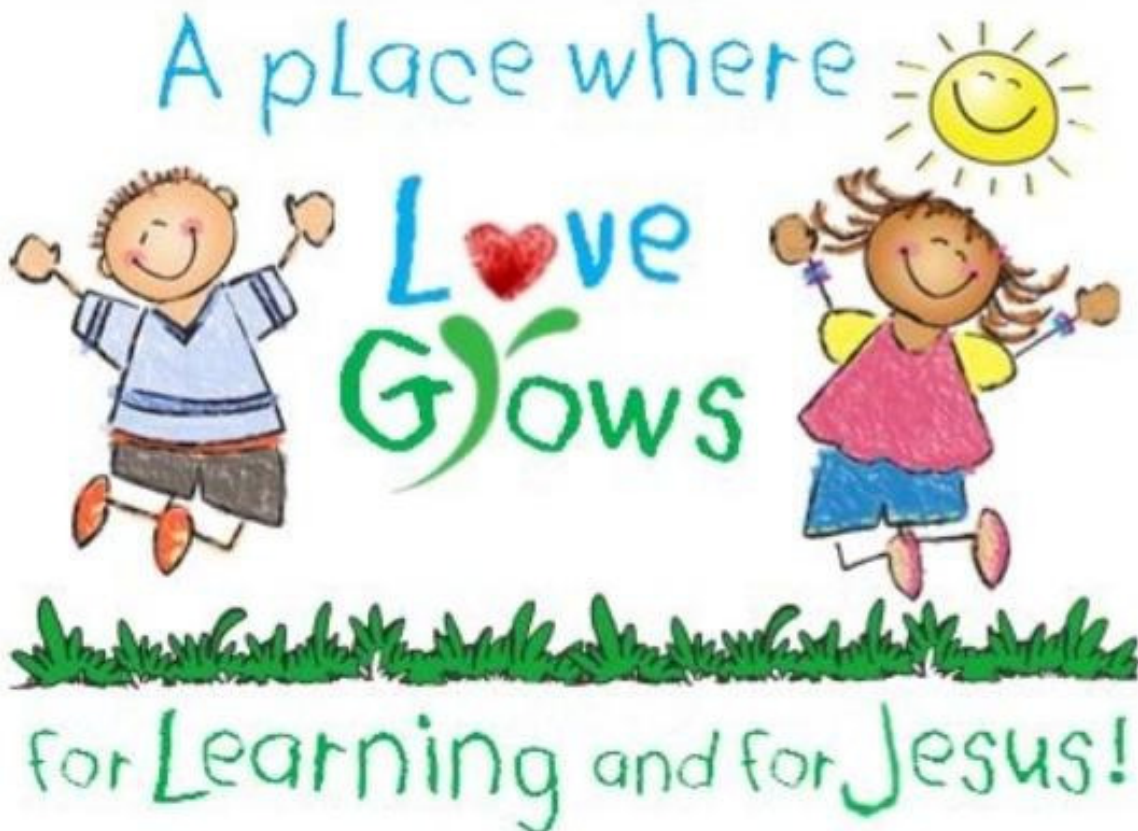
### *Preschool Starts Next Month*



**LIVING WORD EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAM** is the Mission of the Month for August. We have 5 students enrolled, 4 will start in September and the 5th one will start at the beginning of October when she turns 3. A few more said that they will be registering by midyear or even sooner, some are still working on potty training and others feel that they may wait just a few extra months, and a couple won't be turning 3 until later in the year. Help keep us opened till we that time. You have been so supportive in previous years, the children will have an excellent year, Mrs. Diana has been working so hard over the summer, both rooms will be put to great use this year. She has the Dramatic Arts Play area all ready to show them new and exciting adventures, they will start off the school year either camping in tents and fishing in the pond, plus they will also be apple picking in the fall. I can't wait to see what will be their adventures the rest of the year! Please join with me in keeping our Preschool in your prayers. We have already seen how He has seen to us being able to open, it was just barely a week or so ago, that Diana was afraid that she would have to make the heartbreaking decision to close once again. Thankfully, God knew that He just had to wait for her to be certified and be one of our best teachers yet. If you are unable to help financially, which is very understandable during these times, please see Diana as to what items you might be able to donate to her class. She is very creative and resourceful with her lessons, you never know what treasures you might have that she can put to good use. Also, I know this is way early to think about this, but she has already been thinking about scheduling the Christmas program again, I know that will be very special.



## Living Word Early Education Program





**DEVOTIONAL OF THE WEEK** So Jesus told them, "My message is not my own; it comes from God who sent me." - John 7:16 (NLT)

We are also called to speak not our own message, but the gospel, the good news message from God. Fear of inadequacy or rejection can lead us to suppress that message, but the more we abide in Christ, the more confident we become of God's adequacy to use even us to proclaim His message of salvation. So let the gospel flow through you each and every day.

**THANK YOU FROM ORLAND PARK** We received a most honorable mention on Orland Park's Facebook Page this week. It reads: "On Wednesday, August 3rd, Living Word Lutheran Church also graciously donated to the Food Pantry. The church's VBS program witnessed 56 children bring in food items throughout the past week to donate. All together, they managed to collect 206 food items. Not only were they proud to be giving back to the community, but we were touched by the ambition and level of care received from the children who helped contribute. We wouldn't be able to do what we do without donors like you. Our community constantly goes above and beyond to support one another, and especially when it comes to residents in need." Their Facebook link is: <https://www.facebook.com/100068790717098/posts/>



**THANK YOU, LIVING WORD LUTHERAN CHURCH**

From our  
appointed  
readings  
today.

WOULDN'T IT BE  
**GREAT** TO HAVE  
AS MUCH FAITH AS  
**ABRAHAM DID?**



WWW.AGNUSDAY.ORG

TO HAVE MORE  
FAITH IS **NOT**  
THE POINT.



BUT TO ALLOW THE  
FAITH THAT GOD HAS  
GIVEN US TO ACTUALLY  
SHAPE OUR LIVES.



**YEAH!** WOULDN'T  
THAT BE **GREAT?**



HEBREWS 11:1-3, 8-16

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