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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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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 43

October 30, 2022

"Reformation Sunday—What is it, and Why Does it Matter"

Reformation—Then, Now, Always

Every year on the last Sunday in October, many churches set aside the day as "Reformation Sunday." If you didn't grow up with this practice, you may wonder where this tradition comes from, and why some congregations continue to practice it.

So ... what is Reformation Sunday, and why should we care?

The History of Reformation Sunday

Our story begins in the 16th century – 1517, to be exact. Bear with us here – what follows is a very simplified explanation of complex theological, political, and economic events that all coincided.

Across Europe, the Roman Catholic Church was engaged in one of the greatest fundraisers in all of history.

If a person – out of contrition for their sins and as a sign of repentance – made a financial gift to help with the building Saint Peter's Basilica in Rome, then the church would furnish that person with a certificate acknowledging that gift and promising that they or their loved ones would be freed from a portion of the misery expected in the afterlife.

In short, the church at that time taught that even those bound for heaven had to be cleansed of their earthly sins and this cleansing (purging) in the afterlife took place in a place called Purgatory. The certificates offered by the church (called "Indulgences") promised to lessen this time of cleansing for oneself or others who have already died.

There were some very nuanced explanations of this practice at the time.

And there were other very crass explanations that basically amounted to people paying to be forgiven.

November 1st was an important day for the selling and buying of these indulgences, known as All Saints Day on the church's calendar.

The day before a German Monk named Martin Luther posted a list of 95 Theses – 95 reasons that he objected to this practice of selling indulgences. Along with other writings by Martin Luther, those 95 Reasons went viral.

Luther insisted that we are not forgiven because of anything we do – including the buying of Indulgences or doing enough good work. **Instead, we are forgiven because of who God is.** We are loved and forgiven because God is full of grace and mercy.

His teachings and writings got Martin Luther kicked out of the church. But he didn't go alone. Others agreed with him, and after his death those who agreed with Luther became known as Lutherans and also as Protestants.

Every Protestant church traces their roots back to this moment in history.

Why Does Reformation Sunday Matter?

October 31st, 1517 was a long time ago. Why does it continue to matter and be remembered in our churches today?

Continued on the bottom of the back page

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 All Saints' Day 9:00am—12:00pm Preschool 10:00am Push Prayer	2 9:00am—12:00pm Preschool	3 9:00am—12:00pm Preschool	4 9:30am POW Bible Study Zoom and Living Word	5 Daylight Savings Time Ends 
6 9:15am Adult Bible Study 10:00am Worship-COMM All Saints' Day Observed	7	8 Election Day No Pre-school 10:00am Push Prayer	9 9:00am—12:00pm Preschool	10 9:00am—12:00pm Preschool	11 9:30am POW Bible Study Zoom and Living Word Veterans' Day 	12
13 9:15am Adult Bible Study 10:00am Worship Gideon's Bible Presentation	14 Tot Time 9:30am-11:00am 	15 9:00am—12:00pm Preschool 10:00am Push Prayer 7:00pm Council Meeting	16 9:00am—12:00pm Preschool	17 9:00am—12:00pm Preschool	18 9:30am POW Bible Study Zoom and Living Word	19
20 9:15am Adult Bible Study 10:00am Worship-COMM	21	22 10am Push Prayer No Pre-school	23 5:30pm Thanksgiving Eve Service No Pre-school	24 Thanksgiving Day Office Closed 	25 Office Closed	26
27 9:15am Adult Bible Study 10:00am Worship	28	29 9:00am—12:00pm Pre-school 10:00am Push Prayer Townhome Assoc. Meeting	30 9:00am—12:00pm Preschool			

This Week's Celebrations



Nov 16 John Lyons
Nov 17 Ed Baidis
Nov 20 Joan Tinich
Nov 30 Jeff Regan



Nov 6 Barb Erjavec
Nov 9 Jill Goebel
Nov 17 Jessica Lyons
Nov 17 Emily Olund

Happy Anniversary



Nov 5 Jim & Sandy Boehm
Nov 12 Mike & Nikki Miklos
Nov 26 Jerry & Barb Erjavec

Stewardship Snapshot

October 23rd

23 Worshipped

2 DVD

8 Watched Online

33 Total

Financial Support

1,505.00 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

Devotional Time

Opportunities to Connect with God

PUSH PRAYER meets every Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. to pray for our church, community and world. We welcome requests (call 708.403.9673) or visit our website to send in your prayer request, or join us for 30-40 minutes each week.

RADIO & TV OPPORTUNITIES

- **Worship Anew** 8:00 a.m. Sunday - Comcast channel 184 (TLN) & 8 (SD) , WPWR channel 50
 AT&T U-verse channel 1008 (HD) & 8 (SD), Dish Network # 8495
 10:30 a.m. Sunday - DIRECTV channel 377 (TCT)
- **The Lutheran Hour** 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sundays on 1230 AM; and 9:30 a.m. Sundays on 1580 AM



DEVOTIONAL OF THE WEEK *Some of the Pharisees said, "This man Jesus is not from God, for he is working on the Sabbath." Others said, "But how could an ordinary sinner do such miraculous signs?" So there was a deep division of opinion among them. - John 9:16 (NLT)*

God is able to do infinitely more than we might ask or think (Ephesians 3:20). This is often difficult for Christians to believe. Too often we think that God can only work the way we have seen him work before, and in our minds we limit what we will accept as being the work of God. This is the Pharisees' problem here. They know the command to not work on the Sabbath, but they lose track of the reason for the command - that continual work without rest is not good for us. The command was not meant to prevent us from doing good to or for others. So today ask God to enlarge your understanding and enable you to believe in a bigger God, because our God is infinitely bigger than we can imagine.

OCTOBER MISSION OF THE MONTH is Working on Wellness Foundation, which helps with mobility exercises among other benefits for patients with MS, Parkinson's, among other conditions. They will be providing us with weekly links for their exercise classes and promoting our church in those links as well. I watched their video and even though you can do them standing up or sitting down, it is a pretty good workout and is somewhat easy to do. Please see the flyers on the table next to the office for full details and let us know if you are joining in with the videos. This is a win-win for both them and us, and we just might get into better shape and health while we are helping out someone right in our community. We would like to thank George Hostert for his help in connecting our church with their foundation. The Working On Wellness Foundation provides online, seated exercise sessions, created and conducted by our experienced and certified instructors. Join them on YouTube: Each week, their channel will highlight a week of yoga, strength training, big movement, and general exercise sessions. You can do all while remaining seated. They include cardio, upper body, lower body, core, balance, coordination, and hand exercises. Working On Wellness Foundation focuses on providing exercise for those with conditions that require it just to keep moving. They provide online seated/chair exercise opportunities for anyone with mobility issues.



October Mission of the Month Working On Wellness Foundation

Working On Wellness Foundation wants to make it a little easier people with Multiple Sclerosis, Parkinson's Disease, and other conditions by providing chair-based exercise sessions lead by certified instructors. Now these sessions can be accessed through Zoom or via YouTube.

Living Word News

OCTOBERFEST MEAL is being planned for today, the 30th, immediately following our traditional Hymnal Reformation Sunday worship service. Please see the sign up sheet on the desk in the fellowship hall to let us know what kind of yummy food you can bring, we can't wait till we're able to dig in, lol.



Germanfest

DON'T FORGET TO remember when doing gift card shopping this upcoming holiday season to use the app and/or website that Diana had set up for us last year to help raise money for our church just by doing our Christmas shopping, birthday shopping or buying gift cards for other happy occasions. With a mobile app, RaiseRight or the website ShopWithScrip, you can purchase gift cards for your friends, family, and even yourself and they will donate 3% of the sales to our church. If you need help setting this up, just let Diana know and she can help you set it up, and she will also have all of this up on our website and Facebook page, and once the account gets set up, our unique code to use in order for the 3% is **YL5M6W4APYDX**. This is the most safe and secure way to buy gift cards these days, Still be as generous as you always are, just be aware to do it safely and securely, and help raise extra cash for us. So as you are starting some of your Christmas shopping this year, stay nice and warm at home and do it from your phone or laptop and have the gift card company donate the 3% back to Living Word.

AMAZON SMILE will also donate some of the proceeds to our church when using that feature on their website. All you have to is put Living Word into their search field or click on the link from our website and you can start doing your shopping. We all know how much we spend with Amazon, lol. Every little bit can go a long way for our church and our future. Happy shopping with both of these opportunities.

PLASTIC GALLON JUGS are needed for our preschool. Mrs. Diana will be creating the arctic in her Dramatic Arts Play Area in January, and she is asking for all your empty plastic gallon jugs. They can be from certain orange juices, fruit punches, water, apple cider or milk. We have several boxes set up outside of the sanctuary that you can drop them off anytime you are here. She has about 70 already, most of them from The Well Coffee Shop in Manteno. If you ever happen to be in that area, please stop by and tell them thank you from Living Word and let them know that we are trying to support them for all of their help that they are offering to Diana and her class. She is hoping to have about 400 or better by the beginning of January, so help her fill up those boxes and bags with these bottles. As always thank you for all of your help and donations for preschool as they build the arctic, lol.

HAPPY HALLOWEEN from our preschoolers. Thursday was their Halloween party, as you can see we had princesses, unicorns, pumpkins and super heroes, lol. Jessie from Toy Story even stopped by. The parents and families were so amazed at how they paraded around the sanctuary and performed their Five Little Pumpkins song for them., and the kids couldn't wait till they were able to get their treat bags from some of their friends and from Mrs. Diana. Boy are they going to on a sugar overload all weekend, lol.



"Our Fortress"

Psalms 46 says: "The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress..."

1) God is my fortress of FEAR.

⁶ Then I saw another angel flying in midair, and he had the eternal gospel to proclaim to those who live on the earth—to every nation, tribe, language and people. ⁷ He said in a loud voice, "Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come. Worship him who made the heavens, the earth, the sea and the springs of water." Revelation 14:6-7

2) God is my fortress of FAITH.

²⁰ Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God's sight by the works of the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of our sin. ²¹ But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. ²² This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. ²⁵ God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished— ²⁶ he did it to demonstrate his righteousness at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus. ²⁷ Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded. Because of what law? The law that requires works? No, because of the law that requires faith. ²⁸ For we maintain that a person is justified by faith apart from the works of the law. Romans 3:20-28

3) God is my fortress of FREEDOM.

³¹ To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. ³² Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." ³³ They answered him, "We are Abraham's descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?" ³⁴ Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. ³⁵ Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. ³⁶ So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. John 8:31-36

"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 October 30th.**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83868789282?pwd=ZDZsN0lzcUR1YTB0NG5FR3dZZitjd09>

Meeting ID: 838 6878 9282 Passcode: 181388

Join Zoom Meeting—One tap mobile

+13126266799,,83868789282#,,, *181388# US (Chicago)

"Friday Zoom Bible Study Classes"

POW (People of the Word) Acts Bible Study will be wrapping up their study on Acts next Friday and they plan on an Advent study, "It's a Wonderful Life" in two weeks from now. Please let me know if you would like to join, that way we can order books for you as they start the new studies. I will email the following link to everyone on Thursdays. All you have to do is click on the link and it will connect you to the group. **Please see below for the Zoom info for the Bible study on November 4th.**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81716110689?pwd=SlIFMUZ1dVZPUeVxSVVrQnZ4N3YvUT09>

Meeting ID: 817 1611 0689 Passcode: 263001

Join Zoom Meeting—One tap mobile

+13126266799,,81716110689#,,, *263001# US (Chicago)



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!



NOVEMBER 23rd is Thanksgiving Eve, and as usual we will come and worship to give thanks and praise to Jesus Christ, our Lord. Service is at 5:30pm. We want to wish everyone here at Living Word and your families a very blessed Thanksgiving! We all need to remember our loved ones and all that we have to be thankful for.

Thanksgiving Eve Worship

November 23rd, 2022

5:30 pm Service

'Come join us to give thanks and praise!'

OCTOBER'S TOT TIME

Was a huge success, the families that had attended already have registered for November's Tot Time. They were all impressed how Diana ran the event and how she truly wanted to be able to give back to the community where her home church is. All the kids had a great time, and the families seen how much time, effort and expense she had put into this new program. They all felt that they should be able to do something in return, such as bring snacks. They all helped clean up, and they said that they would help collect the gallon jugs for her for preschool. We are hoping that one of the families will be registering their twin girls for preschool next fall.



Living Word Lutheran Church

Tot Time

When - Monday, November 14th
From - 9:30 am - 11 am

"Reformation Sunday—What is it, and Why Does it Matter"

Continued from Page 1

1. Reformation Sunday gives us a chance to tell our story – a chance to remember.

We all have a family story – how we got to this point in history. Stories about parents and grandparents, about the things that have shaped our families over the years. Reformation Sunday is a day when we remember and re-tell the family stories of our faith. Stories about men and women who came before us and taught us about the faith. Stories about people who risked everything so that we would be able to gather and worship in the manner that we do.

2. Reformation Sunday reminds us of the most important things.

Throughout the year we preach about many things in church. About how we live our daily lives, the choices we make, the habits of our faith. On Reformation Sunday we are brought back to the most important thing – the thing that compelled Luther and others to risk their lives.

On Reformation Sunday, we return to the core of our faith: ***God loved us first, and God continues to shower us with grace and mercy.***

3. Reformation Sunday challenges us to do better

Through re-telling our story and returning to the core of our faith, Reformation Sunday prods us to do better.

We are called to be more loving and grace-filled, because God was gracious and merciful to us. We are called to repent of the times that we have placed barriers that have kept others from hearing the Good News. We are called to remember that all that we are is a gift from God.

In the church in Wittenberg where Martin Luther preached, there is a wonderful painting. In it Luther stands in the pulpit on the right hand side, and the people stand on the left. In between people and the preacher is Christ on the cross. Reformation Sunday is a reminder that this is the bedrock of our faith – the grace and mercy given to us in Jesus Christ. Keeping the most important thing in the center of the picture is the only hope for our faith and for this community that we call "church."

Happy Reformation Sunday!

If you would like to be a part of our Reformation Sunday celebration, join us on October 30 at 10:00 am for worship at Living Word Lutheran Church – we worship both online and in-person.