



Above all,  
taking the  
shield of faith,  
wherewith  
ye shall be able  
to quench all  
the fiery darts  
of the wicked.  
Ephesians 6:16

# IN TOUCH

with the ministry and people of Living Word

Volume 33, Issue 34

September 1, 2024

## "Six Steps to Shield Yourself from Satan"

Every day we are attacked by Satan's flaming darts. It might be suddenly feeling bitter over someone's gossip, or fearful about our finances, or jealous of your friend's promotion. The good news is that God has given us a weapon that can extinguish all of them: In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one. So, no matter how many flaming darts Satan fires against us, the shield of faith can extinguish them *all*. But that doesn't happen automatically. Shields need to be picked up, and used. So, how do we do that? Here are steps that can be helpful.

### Inside this issue:

"Six Steps to Shield Yourself from..."	1
September 2024 Calendar	2
September 2024 Celebrations	3
Stewardship Snapshot/Devotional Time	3
Preschool News	4
Mission of the Month	5
Living Word News	5
9-1-2024 Message Outline	6

### 1. Identify the flaming dart.

Maybe someone gossiped about you, or didn't invite you to the party, or hurt you in some other way. And you feel bitterness rising in your heart. That bitterness is a flaming dart fired by Satan to destroy you. The same is true with lust, greed, and impatience. So first, identify the dart.

### 2. Trust that this dart can be quenched.

When the flaming dart lands, and you feel your heart filling with bitterness, you can feel like there's nothing you can do about it. That's why it's crucial to see that this flaming dart *can* be quenched. In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one. You can extinguish this flaming dart, but how?

### 3. Understand that it can only be quenched by the shield of faith.

This flaming dart of bitterness cannot be quenched by:

- ✦ trying to stop feeling bitter,
- ✦ looking on the bright side, or taking a deep breath and counting to ten.

None of those will quench the flaming dart, because none of those involves faith. The only way to quench Satan's darts is with the shield of faith — faith in Christ. So, how do you pick up that shield and use it?

### 4. Turn to Jesus Christ.

The shield is a shield of faith, and faith means trusting all that God has promised to be for us in Jesus Christ. So, *turn your heart to Jesus Christ*. You don't need to get rid of your bitterness first. Because of Jesus's death on the cross, you can turn to him as you are, confessing your sin and asking Him to forgive you for your bitterness. And He will. Then ask Him to help you use the shield of faith to extinguish this flaming dart of bitterness.

### 5. Find promises which counter the flaming dart.

Faith means trusting all that God promises to be for us in Christ. So, it's crucial to find promises in God's word — specific, blood-bought promises — which counter the flaming dart.

So, what promise would help with bitterness over what someone did to you, or said about you? "As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today."

### 6. Pray over those promises until you feel God strengthening your faith and changing your heart.

This might take some time. But wait patiently on the Lord (perhaps praying Psalm 40:1–3 to help you). Pray over Scriptures which display Christ's beauty and glory (like Galatians 2:20 or Mark 2:1–12 or Revelation 5:1–14). You might also want to ask some brothers or sisters in Christ to pray with you and for you.

As you pray over God's word, he will help you. He will strengthen your faith, help you see and feel the glory of Christ, and change your heart. You will move from feeling bitterness, hurt, and anger to feeling contentment, satisfaction, and joy in Christ.

And the flaming dart will be extinguished.

**PRAYER CHAIN REQUESTS**  
Eleanor Galik  
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  
  
livingwordorland.org  
intouchlwlcc@yahoo.com  
  
CHURCH OFFICE HOURS  
Mon - Fri 9 am - 2 pm  
  
SUNDAY SCHEDULE  
9:15 am Adult study

# September 2024 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> 9:15am Adult Bible Study 10:00am Worship Traditional Communion Hymnal Service	<b>2</b> Labor Day Office Closed 	<b>3</b> 9am-Noon Preschool Begins 	<b>4</b> 9am-Noon Preschool	<b>5</b> 9am-Noon Preschool	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 9:15am Adult Bible Study 10:00am Blended Worship Service  Grandparents' Day	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 9am-Noon Preschool  10:00am Push Prayer	<b>11</b> 9am-Noon Preschool	<b>12</b> 9am-Noon Preschool	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 9:15am Adult Bible Study 10:00am Blended Communion Worship Service	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 9am-Noon Preschool  10:00am Push Prayer	<b>18</b> 9am-Noon Preschool	<b>19</b> 9am-Noon Preschool  7:00pm Council Meeting	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 9:15am Adult Bible Study 10:00am Blended Worship Service First Day of Fall 	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 9am-Noon Preschool  10:00am Push Prayer	<b>25</b> 9am-Noon Preschool	<b>26</b> 9am-Noon Preschool	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 9:15am Adult Bible Study 10:00am Blended Worship Service	<b>30</b>	 <p style="text-align: center;">                         I WISH YOU AND YOUR FAMILY A VERY  <b>HAPPY FIRST DAY OF FALL.</b>                          THIS IS THE SEASON OF LOVE AND PEACE.                     </p>				

## September Celebrations

<div style="text-align: center;">  <p><i>Birthdays of the Month</i></p> </div> <p><b>Sept 5</b> Noah Hostert  <b>Sept 5</b> Dwight Hostert  <b>Sept 8</b> James Boehm  <b>Sept 17</b> David Merchantz</p>	<div style="text-align: center;">  <p><i>Happy Baptism Birthday!</i></p> </div> <p><b>Sept 1</b> Jodi Kempke  <b>Sept 3</b> Kyle Motel  <b>Sept 14</b> Jennifer Lange  <b>Sept 23</b> Jesse Meier  <b>Sept 30</b> Dwight Hostert</p>	<div style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>Happy Anniversary</b></p>  </div> <p><b>Sept 4</b> Delores &amp; Joe Urbank  <b>Sept 6</b> Pam &amp; George Hostert  <b>Sept 19</b> Diana &amp; Paul Motel</p>
--	---	---

## Stewardship Snapshot

**Church Contacts**  
*intouchlwlc@yahoo.com*

**Ministry Support Coordinator, Diana Motel**  
*dianamotel@yahoo.com*

Leadership Team

Neal Hartz - President  
 Ken Marks—Vice President  
 Bill Merchantz - Treasurer  
 Diana Motel - Secretary

Members at Large

Paul Huang

**August 25th**

15 Worshipped  
 3 Watched Live  
10 Watched Later  
 28 Total

Financial Support

**Offering wasn't counted this week**

## 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

**VERSE OF THE MONTH** <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 wild flowers 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.

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY** usually meets every Sunday morning in the conference room from 9:30 to 9:55. Please join Pastor Lee and the others every Sunday as they learn about the Word of God.

## Preschool News

**PRESCHOOL** is now closed for the summer months. She has 4 students enrolled for next fall already, she had a tour earlier this summer with a new family that has registered their daughter for the fall semester of 2025/2026 school year. Please keep Mrs. Diana and our preschool in your prayers for additional growth and opportunity. Also please let everyone you know what a wonderful program she has, and how their children will flourish in our preschool. Fall semester is only a couple of short weeks away, and Diana is hoping to have our preschool grow into a larger class again this year. In order to help our preschool out, she will be having a very yummy fundraiser. Nothing Bundt Cakes is partnering with us in an effort to help raise money for our preschool. Please see the flyer below for the promotion. All orders will be due by 11/6 and they be ready for pickup on November 18th. Remember you can always freeze them for an extra week to have them for dessert for your Thanksgiving dinner. It's very easy and yummy all at the same time, and there are many delicious varieties and flavors to choose from. It will only be their bundtlets that will be for the fundraiser, each bundtlet is \$6 and comes in their traditional flavors.



# The Sweetest Way to Support Living World Lutheran Church and Preschool

Fundraiser Cake Flavors Available:

- Chocolate Chocolate Chip | Red Velvet | White Chocolate Raspberry
- Lemon | Confetti | Classic Vanilla | Carrot
- Snickerdoodle | Strawberries & Cream | Gluten-Free Chocolate Chip Cookie

**Individual Bundtlet Cost: \$6**

## Mission of the Month



Thank you for your support of  
Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch.



## Living Word News

**MOWING OPPORTUNITIES** are still available if you are interested and able to help our mow crew. We currently have about 4 people who have volunteered to help us out each week. Neal was able to sell our standup mower and bought a new sit down riding mower with a steering wheel, so it is much easier to use, so hopefully we will be able to get a few more volunteers to make it easier for everybody. This is a huge help for us to save money.

**TRANSITION TEAM** has the Call documents for Pastor Koschmann all signed, copied, sealed and mailed. Once he has had a chance to receive and review the documents, Diana will also send a letter notifying his church as to us extending a call to him. Please join me in keeping Pastor Koschmann and his family along with his church, Holy Cross in Los Gatos, CA in your prayers as he hopefully and prayerfully considers accepting our Call.

**GOD'S BLESSINGS** to Joe and Delores Urbank on their 70th wedding anniversary this coming Wednesday, Sept. 4th. It is such a joy to see how happy you two always are. You're such an inspiration to us newlyweds of only 30-some years of marriage under our belts, lol. God bless the both of you on such an accomplishment in your life's journey. We of course made sure we celebrated with cake and goodies and balloons too.

**PRAYER REQUEST OF THANKSGIVING** for Pastor John as he is in the regular assisted living building. He was reevaluated this week. He has expressed that he is up to having visitors and phone calls again. He is walking around more, he is still very leery to want to go out as he doesn't want to take the risk of falling again. Please keep him and his family in your prayers as they are very concerned about Pastor John, as we all are, and are very thankful for his improved condition. If you would like to send cards or well wishes or to call him, here is the complete address: John Bucka, C/O Victorian Village, **Rm #108**, 12600 Renaissance Circle, Homer Glen, IL 60491. Phone number for Victorian Village is 708-578-7091, so just ask for Pastor John Bucka when they answer. Pastor Lee and Elaine had visited with him last Sunday and gave him communion and prayed with him. They said that he is in good spirits and alert throughout the day, he is still struggling with having dizziness and falling, but other than that he is doing well.

**VISIT BEING PLANNED** to see Pastor John for his birthday. His birthday is October 3rd, so we will either go to Victorian Village either the Sunday before or the Sunday after. Please see Diana and/or Beverly if you would like to go. We would like to give Victorian Village a heads up prior to bring a caravan of people there. Pastor John will be 88 this year.

**“Direct My Footsteps”**

Psalm 119:133 says: *“Direct my footsteps according to your word; let no sin rule over me.”* Today we too pray, *“Direct my footsteps...”*

**1) “Direct my footsteps according to your DECREES.”**

4 Now, Israel, hear the decrees and laws I am about to teach you. Follow them so that you may live and may go in and take possession of the land the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. <sup>2</sup>Do not add to what I command you and do not subtract from it, but keep the commands of the LORD your God that I give you. ... <sup>6</sup>Observe them carefully, for this will show your wisdom and understanding to the nations, who will hear about all these decrees and say, “Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.” <sup>7</sup>What other nation is so great as to have their gods near them the way the LORD our God is near us whenever we pray to him? <sup>8</sup>And what other nation is so great as to have such righteous decrees and laws as this body of laws I am setting before you today? <sup>9</sup>Only be careful, and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them fade from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them.  
Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

**2) “Direct my footsteps according to your POWER.”**

<sup>10</sup>Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. <sup>11</sup>Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes. <sup>12</sup>For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. <sup>13</sup>Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. <sup>14</sup>Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, <sup>15</sup>and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup>In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. <sup>17</sup>Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. <sup>18</sup>And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people. <sup>19</sup>Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, <sup>20</sup>for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.  
Ephesians 6:10-20

**3) “Direct my footsteps according to your HOLINESS.”**

<sup>14</sup>Again Jesus called the crowd to him and said, “Listen to me, everyone, and understand this. <sup>15</sup>Nothing outside a person can defile them by going into them. Rather, it is what comes out of a person that defiles them. <sup>16</sup>If anyone has ears to hear, let them hear.” <sup>17</sup>After he had left the crowd and entered the house, his disciples asked him about this parable. <sup>18</sup>“Are you so dull?” he asked. “Don’t you see that nothing that enters a person from the outside can defile them? <sup>19</sup>For it doesn’t go into their heart but into their stomach, and then out of the body.” (In saying this, Jesus declared all foods clean.) <sup>20</sup>He went on: “What comes out of a person is what defiles them. <sup>21</sup>For it is from within, out of a person’s heart, that evil thoughts come — sexual immorality, theft, murder, <sup>22</sup>adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. <sup>23</sup>All these evils come from inside and defile a person.”  
Mark 7:14-23

***I like how that guy thinks, with his stomach, lol.***

JESUS ISN'T A  
FAN OF  
OLD TESTAMENT  
LAW, IS HE?



WWW.AGNUSDAY.ORG

NO REGULATION  
CAN EVER FULLY  
EXPRESS GOD'S  
WILL FOR HUMAN  
LIFE.



AND JESUS WANTS TO MOVE  
US FROM REGULATION TO  
RELATIONSHIP.



AND PAVE THE WAY  
FOR THE INVENTION  
OF THE BACON  
CHEESEBURGER!



MARK 14:14-23

© WETZSTEIN 15-08-26