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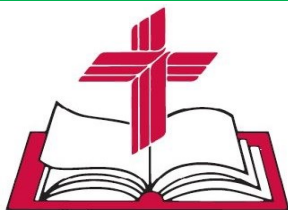
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PRAYER CHAIN REQUESTS

Eleanor Galik
for immediate prayers



Living in the Word...that the
Word may live in others.

Living Word Lutheran Church

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Orland Park, IL 60467

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CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
Mon - Fri 9 am - 2 pm

SUNDAY SCHEDULE
9:15 am Adult study

IN TOUCH

with the ministry and people of Living Word

Volume 33, Issue 39

October 6, 2024

"Handling Temptation"

Jesus said, 'A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers'. Jerusalem represented the place of God's favor, whereas Jericho was cursed by Joshua when God leveled its walls. The road connecting the two cities was teeming with robbers, so was this man's intention to travel part of the way, then get off? The Bible doesn't say, but one thing we do know is God goes to great lengths to keep us from going down the road to temptation and getting hurt. And even with all His safeguards in place, we still manage to get into trouble.

First, you stop listening to the promptings of His Spirit.

Second, you're unwilling to pray about certain desires with a submitted heart.

Third, you're not interested in talking to a trusted friend who will hold you accountable.

Fourth, you don't want to know what the Bible says about the matter. You have unilaterally decided to quench the Spirit so you can indulge your fleshly impulses.

Remember, there is always free food on the end of a fishhook, but while temptation promises freedom, it ends up costing you. David's affair wrecked his family. Real freedom isn't about having the liberty to gratify your every appetite; it's about refusing to become a slave to unhealthy desires. The battle against temptation is noble, but if all you do is struggle to repress your desires, eventually they will wear you down. You need to maintain a clear mental image of the kind of person God wants you to be and cooperate with His Spirit to become that person.

Ever notice when you're hungry, everything on the menu looks good? Similarly, when your soul is dissatisfied, sin looks tempting. That's why you must always be spiritually self-aware and monitor your level of soul-satisfaction. On the dashboard of your car are lights that tell you how hot the engine is running or when you're about to run out of oil. They're sometimes referred to as 'idiot lights', because only an idiot would ignore them. The main light on the dashboard of your heart is your 'soul-satisfaction' light. That's why in the Bible there are so many Scriptures that call us to joy: 'The joy of the Lord is your strength.' 'You will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand' (Psalm 16:11). 'With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation' (Isaiah 12:3). 'Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete' (John 16:24).

So, why do otherwise intelligent people keep getting snared? Because when we're dissatisfied with our lives, we're vulnerable to temptation. And the deeper our level of discontent, the more susceptible we are. We were made for soul satisfaction; we can't live without it. And if we don't find it in our relationship with God, we will look for it in all the wrong places. Paul says, 'The kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit' (Romans 14:17). Note the words 'joy in the Holy Spirit'. The secret to joy lies in Spirit-directed living – it always has, and it always will.

In the Lord's Prayer, Jesus taught us to pray, 'Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.' Understand this: Satan is always trying to lead you into temptation, whereas the Holy Spirit who lives within you is always trying to deliver you from temptation. It is informative that while the devil is named the tempter, he is also named the accuser. 'For the accuser of our brothers and sisters, who accuses them before our God day and night, has been hurled down'.




There is no such thing as fair play with the devil. As soon as he gets you to give in to temptation, he will switch hats and try to convince you that because you have yielded to it, you're beyond God's grace and redemption. But Satan is a liar, and there is no truth in him. It's only when you deny your sin and reject God's mercy that you're beyond redemption.

Some people are delivered from temptation instantly; others battle it for a long time before finding deliverance and victory. It's never a matter of God's unwillingness to extend grace to us but of our inability to receive it. So whether you come the easy way or the hard way, as long as your desire is to come to God, 'He will also provide a way out' (1 Corinthians 10:13).

This Week at Living Word

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6 9:15am Adult Bible Study 10:00am Worship Traditional Communion Hymnal Service	7	8 9am–Noon Preschool 10:00am Push Prayer	9 9am–Noon Preschool	10 9am–Noon Preschool	11	12

October Celebrations

 Oct 11 Jill Goebel	 Oct 8 Dave Holloway Oct 9 Joe Urbank	Happy Anniversary  Oct 10 Bill & Abby Merchantz
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Stewardship Snapshot

September 29th

18 Worshipped
3 Watched Live
10 Watched Later
31 Total

Financial Support

Offering was not counted this week

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

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 Keep on loving one another as brothers and sisters. ² Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it. *Hebrews 13:1-2 (NIV)*

DEVOTIONAL OF THE WEEK Furthermore, just as they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, so God gave them over to a depraved mind, so that they do what ought not to be done. They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. - *Romans 1:28-29a (NIV)*

Since the Fall, Satan has continued to draw people toward independence from God—that is, disobedience. Eventually God gave us over to our depraved minds, and bad things happened—and we did it to ourselves. But when we realize, by God's grace, what the cause of our problems really is, He is there to welcome us back to fellowship with Him. Praise God!

LIVING WORD ENDOWMENT FUND (as of 9/30/2024)

The current value of the fund is \$186,382.39 invested in Thrivent funds. Current market value exceeds cost of investments by \$44,827.97. Since inception (10/12/05), the Fund has earned interest and dividends totaling \$56,573.69. Of this, \$28,286.85 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	44,827.97
	<u>Dividends and interest</u>	<u>56,573.69</u>
	Total market value	\$186,382.39



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

Living Word News

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.

THANK YOU to all of you who signed and had me sign for you the birthday cards for Pastor John for his birthday. He still needs to be in our prayers. We will keep you posted as to his health and any plans for a visit in the upcoming months. Thank you for both your patience and understanding in this matter,

HONEY SUNDAY FORMS were due this past Sunday. If you would still like to order a bottle or two of honey, please let me know, the order has not been sent in yet, so we can still accept requests for honey. Thank you as always for your generous support. This mission not only helps the Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, but helps us out a little as well.

TRANSITION TEAM and the church council will be meeting with President Buss from NID and Pastor Schauer on Sunday, November 24th. We have asked President Buss to be able to meet with us so we can discuss the availability of seminary students graduating in the spring and the possibility of shared ministry with other churches. We will also be discussing some other options that have been brought to our attention last year from Pastor Price from Trinity Lutheran in Lisle. We will keep you informed as the meeting draws closer and of any further updates or developments that we get. If there is something you would like us to address with President Buss, please let any of the members of the council or Call Committee know.

A LETTER WAS RECEIVED from Carolyn Wagenaar late last week. It reads, "Dear Bev, I pray this finds you well and sending my love to all Living Word. I keep the church in my prayers each day that our Lord will guide and direct it. Enclosed find a check with stipulated amount on check." It is signed, "Yours in Christ, Carolyn Wagenaar". The actual letter can be found on the bulletin board next to the office. Thank you so much for everything Carolyn, and all of us want to send our love and prayers to you as well. God Bless! We miss you dearly.

THANKS TO ELDER BILL for filling in for Pastor Lee last Sunday and on October 27th, which will be Reformation Sunday. Bill also would like to have a pot luck meal that day. I really like Bill's ideas, lol. There will be more information announced and sent out to everyone, remember to bring your appetites that day.

POT LUCK MEAL BEING PLANNED for the last Sunday of the month in October. As I stated above, Head elder, Bill Merchantz suggested we could have a pot luck after service on Reformation Sunday. I will have a sign up sheet so everyone can let us know how many will be coming and the goodies that they will be bringing.

Preschool News/Mission of the Month

PRESCHOOL is in full swing. She has 4 students enrolled for this fall, 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. 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. This will also be our Mission of the Month for October. Please see the flyer below for the promotion. All orders will be due by 11/6 and they will 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. There will be order forms in the bulletins each week. Please make sure you share these with your family and friends also. They also make great little treats for yourself even if it's just an ordinary day and not for a holiday.



NOTHING *bundt* CAKES®

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

Honor Flight for Peter Wasilkoff

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ATTENTION!! MAIL CALL!!

THIS IS A SURPRISE!

CALLING ALL FAMILY AND FRIENDS of Peter Wasilkoff

Help us honor and celebrate your veteran's military service in the WWII, Korean War, or Vietnam War

On October 18th – 20th, Peter Wasilkoff will be joining other WWII/Korean/Vietnam Veterans on an escorted tour to Washington D.C. sponsored and fully paid for by Honor Flight Southern Nevada.

The three-day trip focuses mainly on visiting the World War II Memorial and other Washington D.C. landmarks such as the Korean War Memorial, Vietnam Wall, Lincoln Memorial, Marine Corps War Memorial and others, as time permits. Transportation arrangements include a police escort to the memorials where people stop and wave to the veterans along the way in recognition of their service. Saturday night the veterans will attend a banquet in their honor, as well as other special surprises throughout the weekend. Two days are spent in travel to and from Washington D.C. On the return flight home, the HFSN volunteers will present each veteran with a large envelope containing cards and letters from friends and loved ones. The idea is to simulate "Mail Call" just like they had when they were away from home during their time of military service.

HERE'S WHAT WE ARE ASKING YOU TO DO:

Please write a card or letter to express your appreciation for their service to our country. Mail your cards and letters to:

**Honor Flight Southern Nevada
6720 Hualapai Way Suite 145-#176
Las Vegas, NV 89149**

Bottom left corner of envelope, please write the name of the veteran you are writing. Your correspondence will be put in a larger packet which will be given to and only be opened by your veteran.

The flight leaves on Friday October 18th, so please mail any cards/letters no later than October 7th. If you have questions, please contact Donna Silva, Team Leader (702) 338-1719, Please share this information with others so they may participate in sending a card or letter!

**NO gifts, please we do not have room to take them on the flight,
Cards and letters ONLY - thank you!**

Honor Flight Southern Nevada is a non-profit organization founded in June 2013, as a part of the national Honor Flight Network. Our mission is simple: to fly our World War II, Korean War and Vietnam War veterans to Washington D.C. to visit the memorials that stand in their honor, at no cost to veterans.

**Please go to their website to find out more about the program and the organization that sponsors this event or to make a tax-deductible donation. <http://honorflightsouthernnevada.org>
Honor Flight Southern Nevada, Honoring Those Who Served!**

10-6-2024 Message Outline

“Blessed Are All Who...”

Psalm 128 says: *“Blessed are all who fear the Lord, who walk in obedience to him.”* How do we obey God and receive his blessing...?

1) I will be blessed if I obey God's order of CREATION.

¹⁸The LORD God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him.” ¹⁹Now the LORD God had formed out of the ground all the wild animals and all the birds in the sky. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. ²⁰So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds in the sky and all the wild animals. But for Adam no suitable helper was found. ²¹So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and then closed up the place with flesh. ²²Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man. ²³The man said, “This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called ‘woman,’ for she was taken out of man.” ²⁴That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh. ²⁵Adam and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.

Genesis 2:18-25

2) I will be blessed if I obey God's order of SALVATION.

²We must pay the most careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away. ²For since the message spoken through angels was binding, and every violation and disobedience received its just punishment, ³how shall we escape if we ignore so great a salvation? This salvation, which was first announced by the Lord, was confirmed to us by those who heard him. ⁴God also testified to it by signs, wonders and various miracles, and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will. ⁵It is not to angels that he has subjected the world to come, about which we are speaking. ⁶But there is a place where someone has testified: “What is mankind that you are mindful of them, a son of man that you care for him? ⁷You made them a little lower than the angels; you crowned them with glory and honor ⁸and put everything under their feet.” In putting everything under them, God left nothing that is not subject to them. Yet at present we do not see everything subject to them. ⁹But we do see Jesus, who was made lower than the angels for a little while, now crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. ¹⁰In bringing many sons and daughters to glory it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through what he suffered. ¹¹Both the one who makes people holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters. ¹²He says, “I will declare your name to my brothers and sisters; in the assembly I will sing your praises.” ¹³And again, “I will put my trust in him.” And again he says, “Here am I, and the children God has given me.”

Hebrews 2:1-13

3) I will be blessed if I obey God's order of CONNECTION.

²Some Pharisees came and tested him by asking, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?” ³“What did Moses command you?” he re-plied. ⁴They said, “Moses permitted a man to write a certificate of divorce and send her away.” ⁵“It was because your hearts were hard that Moses wrote you this law,” Jesus replied. ⁶“But at the beginning of creation God ‘made them male and female.’ ⁷‘For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, ⁸and the two will become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two, but one flesh. ⁹Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.” ¹⁰When they were in the house again, the disciples asked Jesus about this. ¹¹He answered, “Anyone who divorces his wife and marries another woman commits adultery against her. ¹²And if she divorces her husband and marries another man, she commits adultery.” ¹³People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them. ¹⁴When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. ¹⁵Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.” ¹⁶And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them.

Mark 10:2-16