



IN TOUCH

with the ministry and people of Living Word

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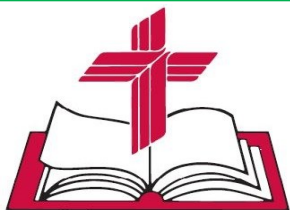
"Learning to Listen to God"

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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

16301 South Wolf Road
Orland Park, IL 60467

livingwordorland.org
intouchlwlc@yahoo.com

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
Mon - Fri 9 am - 2 pm

SUNDAY SCHEDULE
9:15 am Adult study






Jesus told His disciples, *'I have much more to say to you, but right now it would be more than you could understand. The Spirit shows what is true and will come and guide you into the full truth'* (vv. 12-13). Jesus spoke these words to men He had spent the previous three years with. Now, wouldn't you think if Jesus was with us in person, day and night for three years, we would have learned all there is to know? Not so. In fact, Jesus tells us to stay tuned, because He always has something to say to us about every new situation we face. But there are certain things He will only reveal to you when He knows you're ready to handle them.

God wants to speak to you on a one-to-one basis, to lead you step by step to the good things He has planned for you. He cares about the tiniest details of your life. So, never hesitate to take what you consider small things to Him, after all, everything is small to God! He cares about the desires of your heart. He wants to reveal truth to you that will set you free from fear and worry. **His plan to share** an intimate relationship with you was in place long before you were born. He *'marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. God did this so that they would seek him'* (Acts 17:26-27). Now think about it: if God planned your life in such minute detail before you were even born, isn't it important for you to learn how to listen to Him? **People think they** can't hear from God, when in reality, there are things they *already know* He wants them to respond to, and so far they haven't done it. The quicker you do whatever the Lord has already told you to do, the sooner He will reveal the next step to you. His promise is, *'If you willingly obey me, the best...will be yours.'* Hearing from God is something you only develop with practice, especially if you're a talker! That's why He says, *'Be still, and know that I am God'* (Psalm 46:10). Our flesh is full of energy; we always want to be *doing* something, and it can be difficult for us to be still. Don't just talk to God when you need something; spend time listening. He will open up many issues if you will just be still before Him. You say, 'I don't think I have ever heard God talk to me.' Maybe that's because you haven't learned to listen! When you ask God for something, tune your 'receiver'. Even if He doesn't respond at that very moment, rest assured He will in due time. You may be doing some ordinary task when He decides to speak to you. And if you have honored Him by learning to listen as you fellowship with Him, He will speak to you at exactly the right time. Perhaps you have spent years going your own way. If so, don't despair; it's not too late to change direction. If you're willing to obey God, He will guide you on the exciting journey of learning to hear from Him every day of your life.

When you pray diligently and believe you have heard from God, but then you start asking other people what *they* think, you're honoring their opinions above God's. That kind of mindset will prevent you from developing a relationship where you constantly hear from Him. You need to trust Him. If you have made bad decisions in the past, this can be difficult. But you must learn to listen to God without constantly needing reassurance from others. The Bible says: *'The anointing (the sacred appointment, the unction) which you received from Him abides [permanently] in you; [so]...you have no need that anyone should instruct you....His anointing teaches you concerning everything and is true...so you must abide in (live in, never depart from) Him'* That does not mean you don't need teaching and instruction when it comes to understanding God's Word; it means you have God's Spirit living inside you and that He will guide and direct you personally.

You might have to ask somebody for advice from time to time, but you need not constantly go to other people and ask them about decisions you're making for your life. If you're ever going to develop the ability to listen to God and be led by His Spirit, you must start making your own decisions – and trust the wisdom God has deposited in your heart. The devil wants you to think you're not capable of hearing from God. Don't believe him. The Holy Spirit who dwells inside you will give you confidence, comfort, and counsel for your life. So, learn to listen to Him.

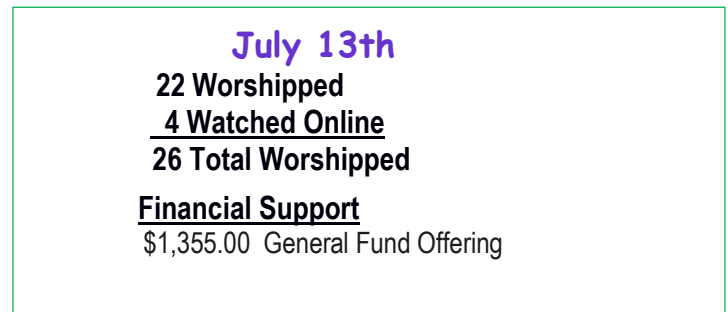
July 2025 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
20 10:00am Blended Com- munion Wor- ship Service 11:00am Fel- lowship Time	21 VBS 9am- Noon  12:30pm Council Meeting	22 VBS 9am- Noon  10:00am Push Prayer	23 VBS 9am- Noon 	24 VBS 9am- Noon 	25 VBS 9am- 1:00pm 	26

July Celebrations



Stewardship Snapshot



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 ²⁴even us, whom he also called, not only from the Jews but also from the Gentiles? ²⁵As he says in Hosea: "I will call them 'my people' who are not my people; and I will call her 'my loved one' who is not my loved one," ²⁶and, "In the very place where it was said to them, 'You are not my people,' there they will be called 'children of the living God.'" ²⁷Isaiah cries out concerning Israel: "Though the number of the Israelites be like the sand by the sea, only the remnant will be saved. ²⁸For the Lord will carry out his sentence on earth with speed and finality." ²⁹It is just as Isaiah said previously: "Unless the Lord Almighty had left us descendants, we would have become like Sodom, we would have been like Gomorrah." *Romans 9:24-29*

VERSE OF THE MONTH ⁶Then I heard what sounded like a great multitude, like the roar of rushing waters and like loud peals of thunder, shouting: "Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns. ⁷Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready. *Revelation 19:6-7*



Lutheran Church Charities is planning to deploy to the Texas Hill Country this week to BE THERE to offer HOPE TO THE HURTING after catastrophic rains, rapid rises in river levels, and massive flash flooding overwhelmed multiple communities over the July 4 weekend, taking the lives of more than 100 people, including at least 28 children at campgrounds along the Guadalupe River basin.

Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod Texas District President Rev. Dr. Jon Braunersreuther and Texas District Disaster Response Coordinators Julie Tucker and David Ricks have invited LCC to lend Disaster Response expertise and bring K-9 Comfort Dog, Hearts of Mercy & Compassion ministries, and LCC Care Teams trained in Spiritual First Aid™ to the Texas Hill Country to provide physical, emotional, and spiritual care to those affected by the still-unfolding tragedy.

LCC volunteers in Texas and Oklahoma are standing by to mobilize and travel to affected areas.

Search and rescue operations continue with around-the-clock response from local, state, and national first responders. Hundreds of officers and support staff are working in Kerr County and the surrounding region.

LCC is calling on its supporters to pray for families and individuals affected, as well as LCC's preparations to serve the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS) Texas District, plus working alongside LCMS pastors and congregations participating in community care efforts, including Kerrville, Boerne, San Antonio, and Houston. Also, please pray for weather conditions to allow for ongoing recovery efforts.

LCC President/CEO Rev. Chris Singer has been in communication with LCMS district officials, while the directors from all four LCC ministry areas are reaching out to pastors in the region, as well as LCC volunteers poised to help.

"The scope of this tragic disaster is large and so many families are facing the devastating reality of lost loved ones," Rev. Singer said. "Lives have been upended and torn apart. They need our prayers and our urgent help right now."

LCC is preparing to BE THERE with them, ready to offer emergency assistance, tangible support, and most importantly, the comfort and hope found only in Jesus Christ.

LCC can provide this assistance because of faithful, generous donors and volunteers who are willing to support and serve.

Your earnest prayers and kindhearted assistance are greatly appreciated by the many people overwhelmed by the trauma and pain, as well as those who are responding with help.

LCC makes visits with LCC K-9 Comfort Dog ministry teams, places hearts and crosses at memorials and vigil sites, and provides free disaster response assistance as a reminder to hurting communities that people across the nation love and support them. LCC seeks to provide those impacted by tragedy with opportunities to process their grief and receive messages of love and hope, ultimately finding solace in the peace of Jesus Christ.

Thanks to you, Lutheran Church Charities will BE THERE as long as necessary to provide the mercy, compassion, presence, and proclamation of Jesus Christ to those who are struggling, suffering, and in need.



Mission of the Month

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CHILDREN'S MINISTRY specifically VBS will be our Mission of the Month for July. VBS is fast approaching and as always, they will be busy making their crafts and snacks everyday. Thank you everyone for all of the stuff you have donated, it was a huge help and greatly appreciated. The cash that was left over after buying the last one or two things will be deposited into the VBS Fund for all of the goodies for next year. As always we really appreciate all of your help and support for this ministry. All supplies will need to be here at church by July 20th.

VBS 2025 is next week. We have 61 kids signed up for it. Thank you to Trinity for letting us use all of their decorations from their VBS a couple of weeks ago. Also I want to give a big shout out to all the helpers that suffered thru the extreme heat on Tuesday and Wednesday working on the playground and mowing the grass. Thanks goes out to Neal Hartz, Ed Baidis, Jim and Sandy Boehm and George Hostert. Between all of their hard work, all of those weeds were pulled in the playground, the playground was also roto tilled and the grass was mowed. Thank you for all that had work guys and gal. This year we will be renting a tent, so that there will be shade and shelter from the saun and hopefully not from any rain, lol. It will be here all week long.



MOWERS NEEDED we now have two working mowers, it would be greatly appreciated if we could get more volunteers for the mowing ministry. For right now, Neal Hartz and George Hostert has been doing the fronts and sides of the church yard. Ed Baidis does the back field, plus the sides and front sometimes. I know in the past year or two, we've had a few others come out when they could and take care of the mowing. I will print out the mowing schedule once again for this year, so our other mowers can choose the days that best works for them. If we can get at least 4 volunteers, it will only be once a month that you would have to do it, or less if we have any periods of drought. Our old mower was found out to be 23 years old, and in need of many repairs. My apologies if I forgot to mention anyone to thank and recognize in previous newsletters, it was never my intention to overlook all you do for us. Thank you all for everything that you do for our church, it is greatly appreciated.

COUNCIL MEETING for this month will be held on Monday, July 21st, following the first day of VBS. Among the topics of discussion will be the financial updates, and off us receiving the final two COVID Employee Relief Fund checks and how they will be put to use. The call Committee will have an update as to the status of the Call extended to Pastor Ford. If there is anything that you would like to bring to the council, please see Diana, Ken, Neal or Bill with that request. Also, I would like to thank the members of the council for their diligence and hard work they went thru working on obtaining the Federal Employee Retention Credit, that will help our church in many ways.

CONGRATULAIONS to Nick and Erica Bonnar. They had a little boy, Waylon born on May 19, 2025, and he will be baptized here at Living Word next Sunday, the 27th. It will be so good to see the Bonnar family here again.

PLEASE KEEP THE GALBERT FAMILY in your prayers. Last Friday their house caught on fire and basically lost everything. In a matter of minutes everything they had went up in flames. Clothes, furniture, electronics, photos and other vital necessities were all lost, and sadly one of the family's dogs had not survived the fire either. Fortunately they are all safe no one was home, but the loss of everything was devastating. There is a Go Fund Me page for the family if you would like to help them out. Braden will need to replace everything that he was going to take with him to college and Paige was getting ready to go on a Clean Water Mission in Malawi. Last known, they were trying to seek temporary housing during the time it will take for them to collect on the insurance and relocate.

THANK YOU NOTE was received via email this past week from Lutheran Church Charities. It reads, *"Hi Living Word Lutheran Church, On Thursday, July 10, 2025 your gift to Lutheran Church Charities was made successfully. Thank you for your generous gift to Lutheran Church Charities! Your support helps us be there in times of trouble and bring HOPE to the hurting through LCC's Disaster Response, Hearts of Mercy & Compassion, Human Care, and K-9 Comfort Dog ministries. As Scripture reminds us: "God comforts us... so we can comfort others." (2 Corinthians 1:3-4)." It is signed, "May Christ's love be yours, Rev. Chris Singer, President/CEO."* I have printed out the email and it is posted on the bulletin board next to the office.

BALLET 5:8 DANCE COMPANY dropped off some information and cards for a dance camp and dance that they are hosting. All of the information is below. The first set of dates for each dance camp was unfortunately in June, but there are two others that kids can attend.

Ballet 5:8 invites you to an evening of vibrant new works featuring dancers from our 2025 Summer Intensive alongside the Ballet 5:8 Professional Company.

Fresh choreography. Powerful storytelling. Artists on the rise.

THE FUTURE IS NOW
Friday, July 25 | 7:00 PM
Lincoln Way East High School
Frankfort, IL

Tickets start at \$15
Reserve yours at ballet58.org/tickets

SCHOOL OF BALLET 5:8

MOANA
DANCE CAMP
Ages 6-9
JUNE 16-20
FULL DAY
AUGUST 11-15
HALF DAY

SCHOOL OF BALLET 5:8

BLUEY & BINGO
DANCE CAMP
Ages 3-6
JUNE 23-27TH
HALF DAY
AUGUST 4-8TH
FULL DAY

REGISTER!

7-20-2025 Message Outline

“I Will See”

“I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living...”
Psalm 27:13

1) I see the PROMISE of the Lord.

The LORD appeared to Abraham near the great trees of Mamre while he was sitting at the entrance to his tent in the heat of the day. ²Abraham looked up and saw three men standing nearby. When he saw them, he hurried from the entrance of his tent to meet them and bowed low to the ground. ³He said, “If I have found favor in your eyes, my lord, do not pass your servant by. ⁴Let a little water be brought, and then you may all wash your feet and rest under this tree. ⁵Let me get you something to eat, so you can be refreshed and then go on your way—now that you have come to your servant.” “Very well,” they answered, “do as you say.” ⁶So Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah. “Quick,” he said, “get three seahs of the finest flour and knead it and bake some bread.” ⁷Then he ran to the herd and selected a choice, tender calf and gave it to a servant, who hurried to prepare it. ⁸He then brought some curds and milk and the calf that had been prepared, and set these before them. While they ate, he stood near them under a tree. ⁹“Where is your wife Sarah?” they asked him. “There, in the tent,” he said. ¹⁰Then one of them said, “I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife will have a son.” Genesis 18:1-10a

2) I see the PROCLAMATION of the Lord.

²¹Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of^f your evil behavior. ²²But now he has reconciled you by Christ’s physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation— ²³if you continue in your faith, established and firm, and do not move from the hope held out in the gospel. This is the gospel that you heard and that has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven, and of which I, Paul, have become a servant. ²⁴Now I rejoice in what I am suffering for you, and I fill up in my flesh what is still lacking in regard to Christ’s afflictions, for the sake of his body, which is the church. ²⁵I have become its servant by the commission God gave me to present to you the word of God in its fullness— ²⁶the mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, but is now disclosed to the Lord’s people. ²⁷To them riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. ²⁸He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ. ²⁹To this end I strenuously contend with all the energy Christ so powerfully works in me. Colossians 1:21-29

3) I see the PRIORITIES of the Lord.

³⁸As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. ³⁹She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord’s feet listening to what he said. ⁴⁰But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, “Lord, don’t you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!” ⁴¹“Martha, Martha,” the Lord answered, “you are worried and upset about many things, ⁴²but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her.” Luke 10:38-42



**PROPER
PERSPECTIVE**

MARY & MARTHA

Luke 10:38-42