

# GOD WILL ANSWER IN HIS PERFECT TIME

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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

# IN TOUCH

with the ministry and people of Living Word

Volume 34, Issue 34

August 24, 2025

## "God Will Answer in Your Crisis"

Your crisis is coming. If it hasn't already, or if you're not in the middle of one right now, your time will come. And not just one crisis. In His severe mercy, God punctuates our lives in this fallen age with crisis moments of varying degrees, designed for our everlasting good. For thousands of years, God's people have known "times of trouble" and "days of distress," sometimes all too well. And the same continues today. Our Father never promised that our being his would mean we won't have ours. Over and over again, the Scriptures describe the faithful not as those who never saw trouble, but as those who cried out to God in their crises. The men and women we remember as models faced the greatest times of trouble and days of distress. And God heard their cries for help. He was not deaf then — nor is He today — to the voices of his people, however great or humble, especially in crisis.

### In Trouble and Distress

Our God is not just the God who speaks — remarkable as that is — but also, wonder upon wonder, the God who listens. When James calls us to be "quick to hear", he calls us to be like our heavenly Father. We have a Father "who hears prayer", who attends to the voice of our pleas. Our God not only sees all people, but sees his own in a special way, as those to whom he has covenanted himself in love. He hears his people with the ear of a Husband and a Father. He is not bothered or annoyed by our petitions — especially not in trouble and distress. The Psalms in particular celebrate God's eagerness to hear and help his people in their "day of distress" and "time of trouble." David testified that God had been to him "a fortress and a refuge in the day of my distress". He knew where to turn when crisis came: "In the day of my trouble I call upon you, for you answer me". "He will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble". And David knew where to point others: "May the Lord answer you in the day of trouble!". "The Lord is a stronghold for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble".


And not only David, but the psalmist Asaph as well: "In the day of my trouble I seek the Lord". God himself says, "Call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me" (Psalm 50:15). Far from being bothered by our cries for help, God is honored when we turn to Him with our burdens. "Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress". This is not just Israel's story over and over again, but ours as well. Our God is at His best in our crises.

### Behold Our God

This is who our God has been from the beginning. This is the God of Abraham and Isaac. And this is who Jacob, in his many ups and downs, his many strivings and wrestlings, found God to be: "the God who answers me in the day of my distress". The God of Jacob is not like the false gods of the surrounding nations. He is not like the household gods of Jacob's uncle, Laban. And not like the Canaanite gods Jacob's sons would have found as they plundered Shechem. Other "gods" do not answer in the day of distress. They are simply made by human hands and imagination. They don't answer. They do not act. Jacob's life was a succession of crisis moments, and God proved himself faithful as the God who hears and answers. Just as God saw Leah in her crisis and remembered Rachel in hers, he sees, he hears, he remembers, he cares. He is the living God who wants us to turn to Him, to wrestle with Him, not just our circumstances, in our time of crisis.

### His Perfect How and When

In our finitude and fallenness, it may seem to us, at times, that God is hiding himself in our moments of crisis. But if we come before Him humbly, not cherishing sin in our hearts, we can expect that "truly God has listened; he has attended to the voice of my prayer". And yet God hearing doesn't mean he always — or even typically — answers *how* and *when* we expect or want. When we remember our God as the one who answers us in our time of crisis — as he did for Jacob and the psalmists and the prophets — we don't assume that he answers *how* we would do it or exactly *when* we would want. Our God works in His "proper time", in His "due season". He indeed will hear us and answer — but often in ways, and in timing, we did not anticipate. His ways and thoughts are higher than ours, and he does "far more abundantly," not less, than what we ask or think. In Christ, we do not assume that our God isn't seeing us, or hearing us, or answering because our lives are not unfolding according to our plans. Far from assuming He's not answering, we want to receive His severe mercies as his continuing to do His surprising work of unfolding history, and our lives, not according to human expectations, but according to His infinitely majestic plans and purposes. Which we see so clearly in the crisis moment of God's own Son.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>24</b> <b>10:00am</b> <b>Blended Wor-</b> <b>ship Service</b> <b>11:00am Fel-</b> <b>lowship</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>  <b>10:00am</b> <b>Push Prayer</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> <b>5:30—6:30pm</b> <b>Back to School</b> <b>Night</b> 	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>

## Church Contacts

**Church Contacts**

*intouchlwc@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

## Stewardship Snapshot

### August 17th

**21 Worshipped, 20 Communed**  
**5 Watched Online**  
**26 Total Worshipped**

### Financial Support for August 10th

\$1,035.00 Total General Fund Offering

### Financial Support for August 17th

\$935.00 Total General Fund Offering

## 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.

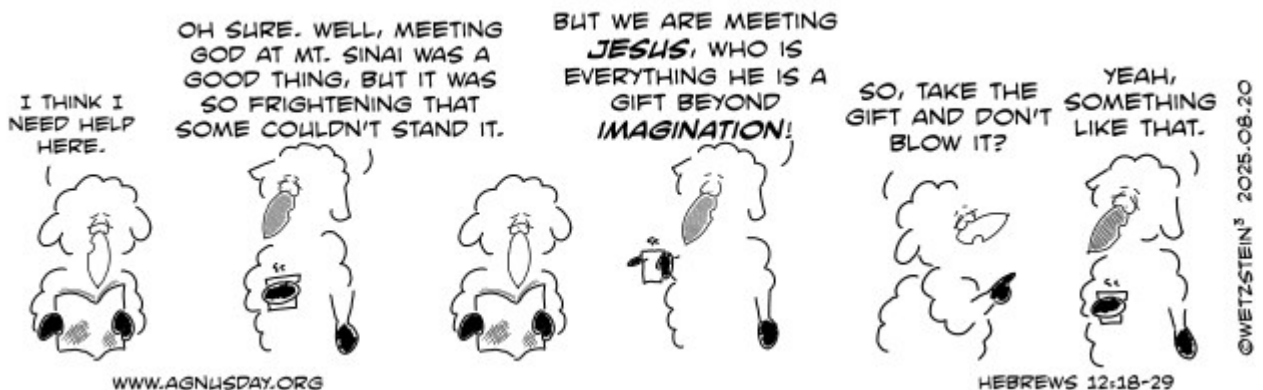
### RADIO & TV OPPORTUNITIES

- **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** <sup>5</sup> So too, at the present time there is a remnant chosen by grace. <sup>6</sup> And if by grace, then it cannot be based on works; if it were, grace would no longer be grace. <sup>7</sup> What then? What the people of Israel sought so earnestly they did not obtain. The elect among them did, but the others were hardened, <sup>8</sup> as it is written: “God gave them a spirit of stupor, eyes that could not see and ears that could not hear, to this very day.” *Romans 11:5-8*

**VERSE OF THE MONTH** <sup>6</sup> Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it.  
*Proverbs 22:6*

**SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY** returns at 9:15am Sunday mornings starting on September 14th. Please see page 4 for the theme of the first Bible study. Please let Neal know if you are interested in joining the class so he knows how many more books to order.





# August Mission of the Month

Our Mission : To provide Christ-centered support and hope to those affected by cancer.



**phil's friends**  
cancer is strong. hope is stronger.

Our Vision: Phil's Friends will expand to a sustainable international organization by implementing new programs, increasing services, expanding volunteer opportunities, and developing needed support for individuals and families affected by cancer.

Our Values: We are committed to carrying out our mission in a Christ-centered, caring culture dedicated to supporting individuals and families impacted by cancer. We adapt to the dynamic needs of the people we serve by acting responsibly, with a sense of urgency, and a passion for excellence. With integrity, our team serves with compassion, respect, and kindness, offering hope and peace to all.

**PHIL'S FRIENDS** is in urgent need of care package items to fulfill the many requests they've receive from patients. Currently, they are especially in need of playing cards and puzzle books to bring comfort and joy to those they serve. Please see the Amazon link below for items on their wish list.

Amazon link: [amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2VVXEbm1KFW14/ref=nav\\_wishlist\\_lists\\_1](https://amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2VVXEbm1KFW14/ref=nav_wishlist_lists_1)

If you are able to help, please see the details below on how to send these items to us:

224-653-8315  
julied@philsfriends.org

Crown Point Hope Center  
1249 Arrowhead Court, Crown Point, IN 46307  
Mondays, 5:00 - 6:30 pm  
Tuesdays, 9:30 - 11:00 am & 2:00 - 5:30 pm  
Thursdays, 9:30 - 11:00 am & 1:00 - 2:30 pm

Addison Hope Center  
1150 N. Swift Road, Unit D, Addison, IL 60101  
Thursdays, 10:00 - 11:30 am & 5:30 - 7:30 pm

Wheaton Hope Center  
213 W. Wesley Street, Unit 104, Wheaton, IL 60187  
Tuesdays, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm & 5:30 - 7:30 pm

Thank you for your compassion and support during this critical time. Your generosity makes a real difference in the lives of those on a difficult journey.

#philsfriends #hopeisstronger #spreadHOPE  
#CancerSupport #cancercarepackage  
#webringhope #philsfriendsministry

**URGENT**

**CARE PACKAGE ITEMS NEEDED**

**Playing Cards  
Puzzle Books**

See our  
AMAZON  
Wishlist

Find more information in the post

**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. I have some phone numbers for the Shelli and Tom Galbert, I'm not sure how current they are.



**PRESCHOOL** is going to start up again in a couple of weeks from now. Diana has been busy getting her rooms together and ready for the little kiddos this month. The Dramatic Arts playroom is all set for their camping adventures, and the classroom is getting set up for the 6 total students that she will have by January. She will be having preschool 5 days a week starting this September, so if you know of anyone who is looking for a wonderful program to sign their little ones up for, please let them know about Mrs. Diana and her preschool program. She will be having her Back to School night will be this coming Thursday, August 28th. She will also be giving a tour to a mom and her 4 year

old daughter on Monday evening. School will be starting on Tuesday, September 2nd.

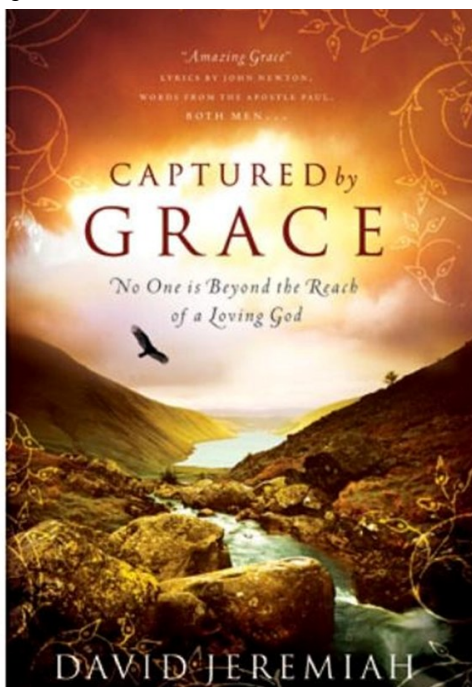
**THE AUGUST COUNCIL MEETING** was this past Thursday, August 21st. Among the topics of discussion were the financials, preschool, new outreach ideas and the Call committee update. Updates from the meeting will be made during the announcements on Sunday morning. We will be doing the tree decorating event at both Brookfield Zoo and Orland Civic Center.

**LOST RING** was found in the church parking lot last week. If you had lost a ring, please come see me in the office.

**CHURCH FLYERS** have been printed out and folded. I want to thank everybody who has stopped by thie past couple of weeks so far to help me fold them. A big thanks goes out to Diana, Neal Hartz, Pat and Dale Johnson, and another member who does not want to be mentioned in the newsletter, lol. Currently, we have done over 4,300 flyers. Once again, thank you for all your help, it has been greatly appreciated.

**CALL COMMITTEE** has received another list from the district. They gave us another two names, we have reviewed the information and planning on calling the pastors to see if they are interested in talking with us.

**CAPTURED BY GRACE** will be the first book that the Bible study classes will begin with. They will do one chapter a week and they should finish up by the start of Advent or shortly there after. The following study will be based on the book, A Life Beyond Amazing.



Join us for Sunday  
Adult Bible Study  
at 9:15 am  
starting Sunday,  
September 14th.





# CHICAGO WOLVES

# LUTHERAN SCHOOLS NIGHT

NOV. 15 OR NOV. 16

THE CHICAGO WOLVES INVITE YOUR SCHOOL TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR LUTHERAN SCHOOLS NIGHT, AS WE HONOR LOCAL LUTHERAN SCHOOLS. ALL STUDENTS, STAFF, TEACHERS, FAMILIES AND FRIENDS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THIS SPECIAL NIGHT.

- SPECIALLY PRICED TICKETS
- FREE CHICAGO WOLVES HATS
- SPECIAL SCHOOL RECOGNITION ON OUR LED MATRIX BOARD
- ZAMBONI RIDES **PENDING AVAILABILITY**
- FUNDRAISING OPTIONS AVAILABLE



FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO TAKE PART IN THIS SPECIAL EVENT,  
PLEASE CALL OR TEXT STEFANIE EVANS AT 847-832-1939 OR VIA EMAIL AT [SKEVANS@CHICAGOWOLVES.COM](mailto:skevans@chicagowolves.com)

[CHICAGOWOLVES.COM](http://CHICAGOWOLVES.COM)



1-800-THE-WOLVES

**THE CHICAGO WOLVES** is hosting a Lutheran Schools Night. Either Saturday, November 15th at 7:00pm or Sunday, November 16th at 3:00pm. The games are at the Allstate Arena in Rosemont, IL. The Wolves are an AHL (American Hockey League) team. They will be playing the Cleveland Monsters that weekend. As I can gather more information, I will include it in future newsletters.



**“In the Day of Trouble”***“Call on me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you.” Psalm 50:15***1) Call on God... He delivers you from EXTINCTION.**

<sup>18</sup> “And I, because of what they have planned and done, am about to come and gather the people of all nations and languages, and they will come and see my glory. <sup>19</sup> “I will set a sign among them, and I will send some of those who survive to the nations—to Tarshish, to the Libyans and Lydians (famous as archers), to Tubal and Greece, and to the distant islands that have not heard of my fame or seen my glory. They will proclaim my glory among the nations. <sup>20</sup> And they will bring all your people, from all the nations, to my holy mountain in Jerusalem as an offering to the Lord—on horses, in chariots and wagons, and on mules and camels,” says the Lord. “They will bring them, as the Israelites bring their grain offerings, to the temple of the Lord in ceremonially clean vessels. <sup>21</sup> And I will select some of them also to be priests and Levites,” says the Lord. <sup>22</sup> “As the new heavens and the new earth that I make will endure before me,” declares the Lord, “so will your name and descendants endure. <sup>23</sup> From one New Moon to another and from one Sabbath to another, all mankind will come and bow down before me,” says the Lord.

Isaiah 66:18-23

**2) Call on God... He delivers you from EXHAUSTION.**

<sup>4</sup> In your struggle against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. <sup>5</sup> And have you completely forgotten this word of encouragement that addresses you as a father addresses his son? It says, “My son, do not make light of the Lord’s discipline, and do not lose heart when he rebukes you, <sup>6</sup> because the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and he chastens everyone he accepts as his son.” <sup>7</sup> Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children. For what children are not disciplined by their father? <sup>8</sup> If you are not disciplined—and everyone undergoes discipline—then you are not legitimate, not true sons and daughters at all. <sup>9</sup> Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of spirits and live! <sup>10</sup> They disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, in order that we may share in his holiness. <sup>11</sup> No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it. <sup>12</sup> Therefore, strengthen your feeble arms and weak knees. <sup>13</sup> “Make level paths for your feet,” so that the lame may not be disabled, but rather healed. <sup>14</sup> Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord. <sup>15</sup> See to it that no one falls short of the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many. <sup>16</sup> See that no one is sexually immoral, or is godless like Esau, who for a single meal sold his inheritance rights as the oldest son. <sup>17</sup> Afterward, as you know, when he wanted to inherit this blessing, he was rejected. Even though he sought the blessing with tears, he could not change what he had done. <sup>18</sup> You have not come to a mountain that can be touched and that is burning with fire; to darkness, gloom and storm; <sup>19</sup> to a trumpet blast or to such a voice speaking words that those who heard it begged that no further word be spoken to them, <sup>20</sup> because they could not bear what was commanded: “If even an animal touches the mountain, it must be stoned to death.” <sup>21</sup> The sight was so terrifying that Moses said, “I am trembling with fear.” <sup>22</sup> But you have come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem. You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly, <sup>23</sup> to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven. You have come to God, the Judge of all, to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, <sup>24</sup> to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

Hebrews 12:4-24

**3) Call on God... He delivers you from EXCLUSION.**

<sup>22</sup> Then Jesus went through the towns and villages, teaching as he made his way to Jerusalem. <sup>23</sup> Someone asked him, “Lord, are only a few people going to be saved?” He said to them, <sup>24</sup> “Make every effort to enter through the narrow door, because many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to. <sup>25</sup> Once the owner of the house gets up and closes the door, you will stand outside knocking and pleading, ‘Sir, open the door for us.’ “But he will answer, ‘I don’t know you or where you come from.’ <sup>26</sup> “Then you will say, ‘We ate and drank with you, and you taught in our streets.’ <sup>27</sup> “But he will reply, ‘I don’t know you or where you come from. Away from me, all you evildoers!’ <sup>28</sup> “There will be weeping there, and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, but you yourselves thrown out. <sup>29</sup> People will come from east and west and north and south, and will take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God. <sup>30</sup> Indeed there are those who are last who will be first, and first who will be last.”

Luke 13:22-30