

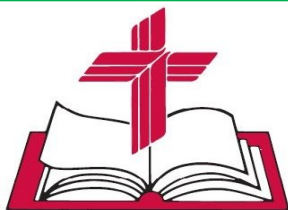
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PRAYER CHAIN REQUESTS

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

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 36

September 7, 2025

"Seek Your Servant, Lord"

The final section of Psalm 119 presents the psalmist as one who has wandered away from God, but cries for understanding and deliverance that he might praise and worship Him. At the opening of this pericope, the author appears spent, with nothing to bring to God but a "cry" for help and "supplication" for grace. He does not look beyond the Lord, but brings his requests directly before Him; literally, "before Your face". He desires God's full attention as he asks for "understanding" and "deliverance" from Him. He asks for "understanding" that he might make sense of his difficulty and know how to respond to it. This is faith in action. He also requests "deliverance" from the Lord, that he might experience His concrete goodness. Both of these requests are given with the twice repeated phrase, "according to Your word." All that he understands about God and could expect from Him was found in the special revelation of His Word. The next two verses express the psalmists desire to praise and sing to God for two reasons: 1) "You teach me Your statutes", "all Your commandments are righteousness". God Himself is his teacher, and what is revealed are His *statutes*. God's *statutes* are His rules that establish the boundaries for living in a right relationship with Him. Those who love God love His statutes, because they remove ambiguity of expectation and illumine the path He sets for us that we might walk with Him. This is reinforced by the appositional clause, "all Your commandments are righteousness". The Lord's commandments are right because they reflect His righteous character, and lead the believer into righteous living. Such revelation is worthy of praise and song to God. The psalmist reveals he's overwhelmed by something in his life, but he does not say what. Using anthropomorphic language, he cries, "Let Your hand be ready to help me". He realizes his own hand cannot do what is needed; so, he appeals to the hand that made him. The ground of his petition rests in the fact that he has chosen God's precepts. He has chosen them, not because there were no others, but because there were none better. The verse follows with the phrase, "I long for Your salvation, O LORD, and Your law is my delight". Here is intentionality with the psalmist, as he requests help from the One whose laws are his delight. The word *salvation* connotes physical deliverance, as the psalmist feels threatened by death. He asks, "let my soul live that it may praise you, and let Your ordinances help me". By answering his request for salvation, God would be able to enjoy continued praise from His servant, and the servant would be able to continue doing what he loves, which is praising God. There is reciprocation here, for he desires to praise God and needs His help in doing so, and when God delivers, it becomes further grounds for praise. The psalmist ends with the statement, "I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek Your servant, for I do not forget Your commandments". Sheep that wander away from the shepherd find themselves without direction and protection, vulnerable to dangers. Even though the psalmist turned away from God's path, His Word was still present in the stream of his consciousness, convicting him of sin and directing him back to the path of righteousness. Furthermore, the psalmist is simultaneously a "lost sheep" that has gone astray, as well as God's "servant" who does not forget His commandments. Believers are made right before God at the moment they trust in Christ as Savior. Their righteous status in God's sight is not because of any righteousness of their own produced by good works; rather, it is because of the righteousness of Christ that is imputed to them freely at the moment of salvation. Though saved, we continue to possess a sin nature and face ongoing temptations from a world-system that was created by Satan and is perpetuated by him and his demonic forces. We will walk in righteousness as we learn and live God's Word, but biblical ignorance, coupled with our sinful proclivity, means we will occasionally wander away from God. But though we wander, we never wander so far that we escape the Holy Spirit Who constantly invades our thinking and reminds us of our need of a Shepherd to pull us back into God's will. The prayer of the saint should always include a sense of helplessness, confession of sin, and acknowledgment that we need God's Word to illumine our paths and mature us spiritually.

This Week at Living Word

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
14 9:15am Adult Bible Study 10:00am Blended Worship Service 11:00am Fellowship	15 9am–Noon Preschool	16 9am–Noon Preschool 10:00am Push Prayer	17 9am–Noon Preschool	18 9am–Noon Preschool	19 9am–Noon Preschool	20

September Celebrations

 Sept 17 David Merchantz	 Sept 14 Jennifer Lange	 Sept 19 Diana & Paul Motel
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Church Contacts

Church Contacts <i>intouchlwlc@yahoo.com</i> Ministry Support Coordinator, Diana Motel <i>dianamotel@yahoo.com</i> Leadership Team Neal Hartz - President Ken Marks—Vice President Bill Merchantz - Treasurer Diana Motel - Secretary Members at Large Paul Huang

Stewardship Snapshot

September 7th 21 Worshipped, 20 Communed <u>4 Watched Online</u> 25 Total Worshipped Financial Support Offering was not counted this week
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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 29 Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. *Ephesians 4:29*

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY returns at 9:15am Sunday mornings starting next Sunday, 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.

SEPTEMBER MISSION OF THE MONTH is The Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch. We will be having our Honey Sunday on September 28th. I will have the honey order forms in the bulletins every Sunday, so you can fill it out and turn it into the office whenever you want to. That way you will have your honey in time for the baking and hot tea season.



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



PAUL IS
REALLY HARD
ON HIMSELF!



WWW.AGNUSDAY.ORG


IT'S NOT ABOUT PAUL -
IT'S ABOUT THE ABUNDANCE
OF GOD'S GRACE!



STILL, WITH SELF-ESTEEM
THIS LOW, WHERE DOES
GOD EVEN **START**?



1 TIMOTHY 1:12-17



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

COUNCIL MEETING was held on Thursday evening. Among the topics they had discussed was paying Diana for being for the 5 days a week now going forward. The financials and also an update from the meeting the Call committee had earlier that day. They also will be advised to the credit from Concordia for the VBS shirts and that I have already taken advantage of some of that credit to order communion wafers. They also discussed the need to have backup counters for the offerings in case of any vacations and/or emergencies that may arise in the future. Any important decisions that had been made at the meeting will be announced at the end of the worship service on Sunday during the announcements.

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. Diaana and Ken has a meeting scheduled with one of them and Pastor Schauer will be sitting in on the meeting in case the pastor has any questions regarding the LCMS procedures and guidelines.

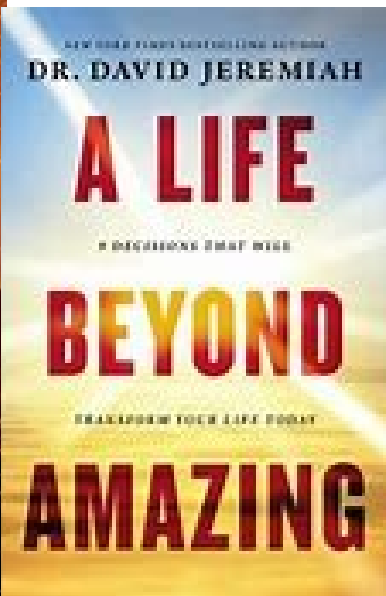
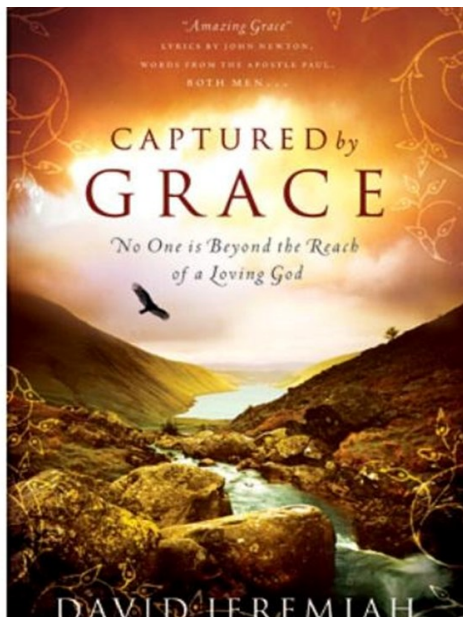
THE CHICAGO WOLVES is hosting a Lutheran Schools Night. Either Saturday, November 15th at 7:00pm or Sunday, November 16th at 3:00pm. The games are at the Allstate Arena in Rosemont, IL. The Wolves are an AHL (American Hockey League) team. They will be playing the Cleveland Monsters that weekend. The tickets will be \$23.00 each and the seats will be located on the lower level at center ice and each ticket will also come with a Wolves hat. We will also have an option to buy a food voucher for a hot dog and soda for \$7.00. As I can gather more information, I will include it in future newsletters. The poster is on the welcome desk in the fellowship hall and also on page 4 of this newsletter.

ORLAND PARK CHRISTMAS TREE will also be purchased this year. Anyone who wants to help decorate the tree can see Diana for more details as to the dates. It's usually around the Thanksgiving weekend.



BROOKFIELD ZOO CHRISTMAS TREE has been purchased and we will be planning on decorating the tree on Saturday, November 8th. Most all of the pre-school families have already shown interest and are very excited for the chance to be able to go to the zoo. The zoo will be giving us 20 free passes to hand out to the families, and we can purchase additional ones for \$10.00 each, which is a huge discount on the admission price. If you would like to go, please let us know by Sunday, October 12th, so we can purchase the additional passes.

CAPTURED BY GRACE will be the first book that the Bible study classes will begin with. The group will be doing one chapter a week, each chapter is basically a different topic, so if you can't make it for the entire book, you won't be behind. 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



DAVID JEREMIAH is the author of both books. *Captured by Grace* teaches us that most Christians know that they are saved by grace, but some of us don't realize that we live by grace everyday. The lessons in the book will show us how we can apply the principles of God's grace to our lives. Please let Neal know if you are interested in joining either of these studies, so he can order enough books for all of us. *A Life Beyond Amazing* shows us how we can be the person God has intended us to be. There is a better to way to experience life for all of us. It uncovers God's strategy for and challenges us to make nine important decisions that will transform our lives.

“According to Your Promise”*“Deliver me according to your promise...”*

Psalm 119:170b

1) According to God's promise, he placed our SHEPHERD.

¹¹ “For this is what the Sovereign LORD says: I myself will search for my sheep and look after them. ¹² As a shepherd looks after his scattered flock when he is with them, so will I look after my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places where they were scattered on a day of clouds and darkness. ¹³ I will bring them out from the nations and gather them from the countries, and I will bring them into their own land. I will pasture them on the mountains of Israel, in the ravines and in all the settlements in the land. ¹⁴ I will tend them in a good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel will be their grazing land. There they will lie down in good grazing land, and there they will feed in a rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵ I myself will tend my sheep and have them lie down, declares the Sovereign LORD. ¹⁶ I will search for the lost and bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak, but the sleek and the strong I will destroy. I will shepherd the flock with justice. ¹⁷ “As for you, my flock, this is what the Sovereign LORD says: I will judge between one sheep and another, and between rams and goats. ¹⁸ Is it not enough for you to feed on the good pasture? Must you also trample the rest of your pasture with your feet? Is it not enough for you to drink clear water? Must you also muddy the rest with your feet? ¹⁹ Must my flock feed on what you have trampled and drink what you have muddied with your feet? ²⁰ “Therefore this is what the Sovereign LORD says to them: See, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹ Because you shove with flank and shoulder, butting all the weak sheep with your horns until you have driven them away, ²² I will save my flock, and they will no longer be plundered. I will judge between one sheep and another. ²³ I will place over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he will tend them; he will tend them and be their shepherd. ²⁴ I the LORD will be their God, and my servant David will be prince among them. I the LORD have spoken. Ezekiel 34:11-24

2) According to God's promise, Christ came to SAVE.

¹² I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, that he considered me trustworthy, appointing me to his service. ¹³ Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and unbelief. ¹⁴ The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵ Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. ¹⁶ But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his immense patience as an example for those who would believe in him and receive eternal life. ¹⁷ Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen. 1 Timothy 1:12-17

3) According to God's promise, Jesus finds his lost SHEEP.

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. ² But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, “This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.” ³ Then Jesus told them this parable: ⁴ “Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn’t he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? ⁵ And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders ⁶ and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, ‘Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.’ ⁷ I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent. ⁸ “Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Doesn’t she light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹ And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says, ‘Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.’ ¹⁰ In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.” Luke 15:1-10

