



### Inside this issue:

"Glory Be To The Father and To The..."	1
June 2026 Calendar	2
Devotional Time/Stewardship Snapshot	3
June Celebrations/Church Contacts	3
Living Word News	4
Preschool News	4
Mission of the Month	5
5-31-2026 Message Outline	6

### PRAYER CHAIN REQUESTS

Please call the office 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

# IN TOUCH

with the ministry and people of Living Word

Volume 35, Issue 22

May 31, 2026

## "Glory Be To The Father and To The Son and To The Holy Spirit"

**On the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity**, we do well to remember that we are pondering a mystery that cannot fit in our minds. So deep is this mystery that we had to "invent" a paradoxical word to summarize it: "Trinity" is a conflation of "Tri-unity," meaning the "three-oneness" of God.

**The Catechism of the Church says**, "The Trinity is One. We do not confess three Gods, but one God in three Persons: ... The divine Persons do not share the one divinity among themselves but each of them is God, whole and entire".

**Scripture also presents** images of the Trinity. Some people are dismissive of reading the Trinity into many of these texts, but the claim here is not that they prove the Trinity, but only that they *hint* at it.

**1. Then God said**, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness ..." (Genesis 1:26). God speaks of himself in the plural using "us" and "our." Right here, at the very beginning in Genesis, there is already a hint that God is not all by himself, but is in a communion of Persons.

**2. In the Old Testament**, a common word used for God is *Elohim*. It is interesting to note that this word is in the plural form, "Gods," but the word is singular in meaning (like news, mathematics and acoustics in English). So it is interesting that one of the main words for God in the Old Testament is plural yet singular.

**3. "And the Lord** appeared to [Abram] who lifted up his eyes; and, behold, three men stood in front of him. ... He ran from the tent door to meet them, and bowed himself to the earth, saying, 'My Lord, if I have found favor in your sight, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves. ...' So they said, 'Do as you have said'" (Genesis 18:1-5). From a purely grammatical standpoint, this is a very difficult passage because it switches back and forth between singular and plural references. The Lord (singular) appears to Abram, yet Abram sees three men; some claim the trio is two angels with God. Then when Abram addresses "them," he says, "My Lord" (singular). The confusing grammar continues as Abram suggests that the Lord (singular) rest "yourselves" (plural) under the tree. Plural or singular ... which is it? Both. God is one, and God is three.

**4. "The Lord stood** with Moses there and proclaimed his name, 'Lord.' Thus the Lord passed before him and cried out, 'The Lord, the Lord ...'" (Exodus 34:5). When God announces his name, he does so in a threefold way: "Lord! ... The Lord, the Lord." There is implicit a threefold introduction or announcement of God.

**5. Isaiah hears the angels say**, "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts" (Isaiah 6:1-3). God is holy, holy and, yet again, holy. Some say that this is just a Jewish way of saying "very holy," but as Christians, it is possible to see yet another hint of the Trinity.

**6. There are many** references to the Trinity in the New Testament. Jesus says, "The Father and I are one" (John 10:30). And have you ever noticed that the baptismal formula uses "poor" grammar? Jesus says, "Baptize them in the name [not names] of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19).

**God is one (name), and God is three (Father, Son and Holy Spirit).**

## June 2026 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 10:00am Push Prayer	3	4	5	6
7 9:00am Adult Bible Study 10:00am Worship Traditional Communion Hymnal Service	8	9 10:00am Push Prayer	10	11	12	13
14 9:00am Adult Bible Study 10:00am Blended Worship Service Flag Day	15	16 10:00am Push Prayer	17	18	19	20
21 9:00am Adult Bible Study 10:00am Blended Communion Worship Service Father's Day  First Day of Summer	22	23 10:00am Push Prayer	24	25	26	27
28 9:00am Adult Bible Study 10:00am Blended Worship Service	29	30 10:00am Push Prayer				



## June Celebrations

 <p><b>June 12</b> George Hostert  <b>June 18</b> Eileen Rhoads  <b>June 23</b> Joe Urbank  <b>June 24</b> Robert Hodo  <b>June 29</b> Kristi Hartz</p>	 <p><b>June 1</b> Diane Chitwood  <b>June 20</b> Paige Hostert  <b>June 29</b> George Hostert</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Happy Anniversary</i></p>  <p><b>June 8</b> Bev &amp; Randy Hodo  <b>June 11</b> Rose &amp; Jim McKinney  <b>June 26</b> Anita &amp; Gray Meier  <b>June 30</b> Deanna &amp; Kurt Meier</p>
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## Church Contacts

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Church Contacts</b>  <i>intouchlwc@yahoo.com</i></p> <p><b>Ministry Support Coordinator, Diana Motel</b>  <i>dianamotel@yahoo.com</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u><b>Leadership Team</b></u></p> <p><b>Neal Hartz</b> - President  <b>Ken Marks</b>—Vice President  <b>Bill Merchantz</b> - Treasurer  <b>Diana Motel</b> - Secretary</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u><b>Members at Large</b></u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Paul Huang</p>
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## Stewardship Snapshot

<p><b>May 17th</b>  <b>21 Worshipped, 20 Communed</b>  <b>2 Watched Online</b>  <b>23 Total Worshipped</b></p> <p><b>Financial Support</b>          \$2,455.00 General Fund Offering  <u>50.00</u> Preschool Offering  <b>\$2,505.00 Total General Fund Deposit</b></p>
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## Devotional Time

### Opportunities to Connect with God 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

**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. We are always looking for people to join us in prayer to our Lord.

**DEVOTIONAL OF THE WEEK** <sup>5</sup> Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long. <sup>6</sup> Remember, LORD, your great mercy and love, for they are from of old. <sup>7</sup> Do not remember the sins of my youth and my rebellious ways; according to your love remember me, for you, LORD, are good. *Psalm 25:5-7*

Lord, we confess our day-to-day failure to be human. Lord, we confess to you. Lord, we confess that we often fail to love with all we have and are, often because we do not fully understand what loving means, often because we are afraid of risking ourselves. Lord, we confess to you. Lord, we cut ourselves off from each other and we erect barriers of division. Lord, we confess to you. Lord, we confess that by silence and ill-considered word. We have built up walls of prejudice. Lord, we confess that by selfishness and lack of sympathy. We have stifled generosity and left little time for others. Holy Spirit, speak to us. Help us to listen to your word of forgiveness, for we are very deaf. Come fill this moment and free us from our sin.

**VERSE OF THE MONTH** <sup>11</sup> For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. <sup>12</sup> It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age. *Titus 2:11-12*

## Living Word News

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** was last Sunday, May 24th immediately after our worship service. We appreciate everyone showing up and listening to Diana present Pastor Murray to the congregation. The vote was unanimous to call Pastor Murray to be our pastor. As always thank you for your support while we try to follow God's plan and will for our church.

**CHURCH COUNCIL** will meet on Sunday after church to work on the package for Pastor Murray and to put together all the papers and have everyone sign them. Please keep them in your prayers along with Pastor Murray and his family while they will have to prayerfully consider the call to Living Word.

**GOD'S GRACE AND COMFORT** to the Erjavec family. Our dear friend and sister in Christ, Barb Erjavec has gone to be with the Lord this past Monday. She is now also with her beloved husband Jerry, and her daughter Karen. Her funeral will be Monday, June 1, 2026. Visitation will be at 9am at Sax-Tiedemann Funeral Home. The funeral service will then begin at 11:00 am. Please join me in keeping her family in your prayers as they say their good-byes to Barb.

**ATTENDANCE TRACKING** Continuing, as we have the past 3 or 4 years, we are trying to keep count of all those who watch the service online. If you could please either sign in with Facebook or very briefly comment at the time that you are watching, and if any are watching with you, we would greatly appreciate it. Also, if you happen to watch it during the week at a more convenient time, please just email us back saying that you had watched, and how many others had watched with you. This way you can get the credit for participating in the service and we can grow our attendance totals in order to reach our endowment fund goals. Thank you for helping us with this effort, again we greatly appreciate any help you can give.

**FINANCIAL SUPPORT** During these very trying and difficult times, like all of us, the offerings for the church have also been suffering and are below the projected budget. Please help us and come to worship so that we can have better attendance totals and that we can reconnect with each other as we worship together. In doing so, we will be able to reach our goals in the attendance achievements for the endowment fund. Thank you as always for keeping us moving forward in these times.

## Preschool News

**PRESCHOOL WISH LIST** on Amazon. Mrs. Diana had created a wish list on Amazon last week. The past few years, Diana has been supplying all of the items that her classroom has needed throughout the school year without being compensated for it. We all know how expensive that can get, so in order to help her out a little, here is a wish list on Amazon. Here is the link to the list she has created: [https://www.amazon.com/registries/guest-view/20NAPMBATD5WA?ref=cm\\_sw\\_r\\_apannggr-subnav-share\\_MNF6H1V8W4DMC469VA9T&language=en-US](https://www.amazon.com/registries/guest-view/20NAPMBATD5WA?ref=cm_sw_r_apannggr-subnav-share_MNF6H1V8W4DMC469VA9T&language=en-US) This isn't mandatory of course, and if you happen to find somethings cheaper elsewhere, then by all means feel free to buy them where the items are cheaper. Some of the items on the list are under \$10. Thank you to the ones who bought some of the items, the children are having a blast with them. As always thank you for your overwhelming generosity and supporting our preschool and their classroom. Even though preschool is winding down this year, don't forget to keep Mrs. Diana and her class room in mind for next year.



## Mission of the Month

**REDEEMING LIFE OUTREACH MINISTRIES** is the Mission of the Month for May. Diana and I had a meeting with one of the Program Managers for their new Illinois Pregnancy Home. Currently they have one lady there with her little baby. They offer educational, spiritual and financial counseling to all of their residents. They help with resume writing, job hunting among many other resources that they offer each resident. They are always in need of not only baby items, but items for the moms too. Gift cards to Walmart, Target and Jewel just to name a few places. They try to keep their costs of living expenses to minimum. Their application process usually takes only a few days provided the applicants are willing and ready for the transition into the Maternity home. Each resident is able to live at the home for one year. They have had a total of 8 residents in the Illinois home in the past 2 years. Their hope is to have a new transitional home in Illinois that will offer the residents an additional 6 months of assistance, their plans would be for it to be located next to the new Residence.



**May 2026 Mission of the Month  
Redeeming Life Outreach Ministries  
operates Christ-centered maternity homes  
to offer love, hope, and a future to single  
pregnant women in crisis.**



June Mission of the Month  
Camp Lutherhaven is a year-round outdoor ministry center dedicated to creating adventurous, fun, faith-building experiences for people of all ages. It's located just 26 miles northwest of Fort Wayne amidst the rolling hills of Northeast Indiana.

**“How Majestic Is Your Name!”***“O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!” Psalm 8:1a***1) How majestic is God’s great CREATION!**

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. <sup>2</sup> Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. <sup>3</sup> And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. <sup>4</sup> God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup> God called the light “day,” and the darkness he called “night.” And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day. <sup>6</sup> And God said, “Let there be a vault between the waters to separate water from water.” <sup>7</sup> So God made the vault and separated the water under the vault from the water above it. And it was so. <sup>8</sup> God called the vault “sky.” And there was evening, and there was morning—the second day. <sup>9</sup> And God said, “Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear.” And it was so. <sup>10</sup> God called the dry ground “land,” and the gathered waters he called “seas.” And God saw that it was good. <sup>11</sup> Then God said, “Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds.” And it was so. <sup>12</sup> The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. <sup>13</sup> And there was evening, and there was morning—the third day. <sup>14</sup> And God said, “Let there be lights in the vault of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark sacred times, and days and years, <sup>15</sup> and let them be lights in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth.” And it was so. <sup>16</sup> God made two great lights—the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars. <sup>17</sup> God set them in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth, <sup>18</sup> to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good. <sup>19</sup> And there was evening, and there was morning—the fourth day. <sup>20</sup> And God said, “Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the vault of the sky.” <sup>21</sup> So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living thing with which the water teems and that moves about in it, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. <sup>22</sup> God blessed them and said, “Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the water in the seas, and let the birds increase on the earth.” <sup>23</sup> And there was evening, and there was morning—the fifth day. <sup>24</sup> And God said, “Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: the livestock, the creatures that move along the ground, and the wild animals, each according to its kind.” And it was so. <sup>25</sup> God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the creatures that move along the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. <sup>26</sup> Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.” <sup>27</sup> So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. <sup>28</sup> God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.” <sup>29</sup> Then God said, “I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. <sup>30</sup> And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food.” And it was so. <sup>31</sup> God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day. **2** Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array. <sup>2</sup> By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. <sup>3</sup> Then God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done. <sup>4</sup> This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

*Genesis 1:1-2:4a***2) How majestic is God’s great COMPASSION!**

<sup>14</sup> Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: <sup>22</sup> “Fellow Israelites, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. <sup>23</sup> This man was handed over to you by God’s deliberate plan and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. <sup>24</sup> But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him. <sup>25</sup> David said about him: “I saw the Lord always before me. Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken. <sup>26</sup> Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest in hope, <sup>27</sup> because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead, you will not let your holy one see decay. <sup>28</sup> You have made known to me the paths of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence.” <sup>29</sup> “Fellow Israelites, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. <sup>30</sup> But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne. <sup>31</sup> Seeing what was to come, he spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, that he was not abandoned to the realm of the dead, nor did his body see decay. <sup>32</sup> God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it. <sup>33</sup> Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear. <sup>34</sup> For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said, “The Lord said to my Lord: “Sit at my right hand <sup>35</sup> until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet.”” <sup>36</sup> “Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah.”

*Acts 2:14a, 22-36***3) How majestic is God’s great COMMISSION!**

<sup>16</sup> Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. <sup>17</sup> When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. <sup>18</sup> Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

*Matthew 28:16-20*