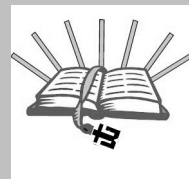


# LIVING WORDS

AUGUST NEWSLETTER



July 26, 2010  
Volume 5, Issue 8

Living Word Lutheran Church  
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“The Spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,  
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit  
of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.”  
Isaiah 11:2

The 2010-2011 School year is getting ready to begin for all students. On that same note, so is Sunday school. This year we at Living Word have met and decided that we will begin our Sunday school program in August this year instead of waiting until after the Labor Day weekend like in the past. Therefore, Rally Day for Living Word will be August 15<sup>th</sup>. Our theme for this Sunday school year is “Journey into God’s Word.” Once again all ages at Living Word will be invited to journey into God’s word each week following worship. Our three Sunday school groups, ranging from elementary to adults, will all be learning more about various bible characters, books of the Bible, and key biblical stories of faith.

The theme “Journey into God’s Word” is a continued part of our Baptismal covenant where we as a congregation and as baptismal participants were entrusted with the responsibility: “...to place in their hands the holy scriptures, nurture them in faith and prayer, so that your children may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace.”  
(Holy Baptism Rite, ELW 228)

This is a promise we made before God and one another and is part of the covenantal relationship we have with God. This means that God also makes promises to us. God’s promises to us in Baptism we know are endless. God’s promises to us are eternal life, being claimed as a child of God, and so much more. But one promise we want to point out that may not be highlighted enough is our

promise to “Journey into God’s Word,” where we are sustained with the gift of the Holy Spirit: the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. These words from Isaiah 11:2 are the words that are prayed as the pastor’s hands are placed on the newly baptized head to sustain them with the gift of the Holy Spirit.

We believe that baptized people grow in the Spirit as we live out our Christian lives of discipleship or as they are also called, students/learners of Jesus. And one mark of discipleship is to read the Bible daily. Sunday school offers the perfect place to begin your week on the right track by going on the “Journey into God’s Word”.

Therefore, let us be the first to welcome all ages to come and join us for our Rally Day festivities to kick off the Sunday school year. Check the bulletin boards at Church for sign-up sheets and volunteer opportunities. We always need more dedicated teachers and assistants for leading the elementary, middle, and high school age groups. Come and let us all grow in our spirit of knowledge as we ... “Journey into God’s Word.”

In Christ’s Love,

Pastor Jason and Pastor Andrea

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“Celebrate the Joyful WORSHIP of Christ regularly”  
...and bring others with you to share ‘the joy’  
-expanded from the “Principals We Live by Mission Purpose of LWLC.

It’s now the long, green, season of “After Pentecost”. Since Pentecost is implied in the Easter event, the Sundays after Pentecost are related to Easter also and form a kind of post-Easter season. These Sundays after Pentecost are often said to represent the time of the church---the time between the earthly ministry of Jesus, which is past, and the consummation, which lies ahead (Advent).

All Sundays of the church year are festivals of Jesus Christ, for they are the weekly celebration of his resurrection. Lesser festivals of the church year are permitted to take the place of “green season” Sundays. On August 15<sup>th</sup> we will celebrate “Mary, Mother of Our Lord”. Why a special day for Mother of our Lord? According to the Scriptures, Mary was present at all of the important events of her Son’s life: in the birth cycle, and the first miracle at Cana, at the cross, at the tomb, with the apostles after the ascension waiting for the Spirit. Except for traditions, nothing is known of her parentage or the place or date of her death. August 15 has been observed since early times as the day of what the Eastern Church calls her “falling asleep,” i.e., her death. Luther retained a special affection for Mary and wrote a splendid exposition of the Magnificat. On this lesser festival Sunday the paraments will be changed from green to white. The color white is associated with festivals of Christ, suggesting gladness, light and joy.

Richard W. Patt writes a choir meditation\* based on Luke 1:46-55 “The Magnificat.” I share it with you now:

Of all the songs recorded in the Bible, perhaps none has been the subject for more composers’ pens than Mary’s song. Called “The Magnificat,” it moved Johann Sebastian Bach to write one of his greatest choral works.

As we remember the day of Mary, the mother of our Lord, there are few better things we could do than focus our attention on her song: “My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.”

Mary shows us that joy in the Savior is what makes for exultant music. She shows us that a grateful and thankful heart will sing the Lord’s song best. She shows us that our singing in church must be coupled with a remembrance and concern for those who live in drabness and poverty and have no song in their heart. She shows us that we are joined in our singing by a glorious company of other worshiping singers.

Mary teaches us to make Jesus Christ the occasion for all our glad songs. We sing, as did she, because the Savior has been promised and even now dwells among us to fill us with good things: forgiveness, peace, hope, love, eternal life.

As we sing, let us always, with Mary, magnify the Lord!

\*From Psallite Devotions and Prayers for Church Choir Singers.

Wendell Baechler  
Organist

Can you believe that Rally Day is just around the corner?

Sunday  
August 15

"Journey into God's Word" as Living Word celebrates Rally Day to begin our new Sunday School year.

Following our service from 10:30-11:30am we will have an intergenerational lesson with games and activities focusing on our "Journey into God's Word."

Then from 11:30 onward, we will meet at the Fowler Home (10510 Bent Laurel Lane North, Lakeland - Travis: 246-1300) for a luncheon, fellowship and pool party.

Don't forget to bring a dish to share\*, your bathing suit and towel.

There will be seating areas at the Fowler's if you do not wish to swim, but would still like to fellowship.

\*Go Challenge Friendly!!





## August Birthdays

- |    |                  |    |               |
|----|------------------|----|---------------|
| 2  | Elna Larson      | 20 | Ted Frazier   |
| 11 | DJ Douglas       | 21 | Amanda Hall   |
| 15 | David Neiswinger | 25 | Althea Woods  |
| 18 | Ashley Fears     | 27 | James Cornett |

## August Anniversaries

- |    |                          |
|----|--------------------------|
| 11 | Al and Joan Hemke        |
| 27 | David and Karen Hudspeth |
| 31 | Travis and Susan Fowler  |



## August Baptisms

- |    |               |    |                  |
|----|---------------|----|------------------|
| 12 | Kristy Baxter | 24 | Michelle Spitler |
| 21 | Lisa Starnes  | 26 | Angela Gwyn      |
| 24 | Betty Pierce  | 26 | Becky Van Dyke   |



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*We're on the Web!*

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LIVING WORD LUTHERAN CHURCH'S  
Mission and Purpose

Living the Word...Spreading the Word.

**Worshiping**  
Celebrate the joyful worship of Christ Regularly

**Praying**  
Pray daily for one another and for the community

**Sharing**  
Be a light in the community by sharing our bounty

**Proclaiming**  
Proclaim Living Word of Jesus Christ in Word and Deed

**Studying**  
Grow in Faith and Knowledge in Study of the Bible

**Welcoming**  
Welcome with love and acceptance ALL people