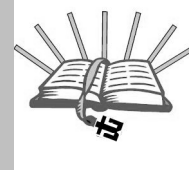


LIVING WORDS

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER



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Living Word Lutheran Church
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What is faith?

- + “Faith is like electricity. You can't see it, but you can see the light.” –Anonymous
- + “Faith consists in believing when it is beyond the power of reason to believe.” -Voltaire
- + “Fear can keep us up all night long, but faith makes one fine pillow.” –Anonymous
- + “There is nothing that wastes the body like worry, and one who has any faith in God should be ashamed to worry about anything whatsoever” - Gandhi
- + “I know God will not give me anything I can't handle. I just wish He didn't trust me so much.” -
Mother Theresa
- + “To one who has faith, no explanation is necessary. To one without faith, no explanation is possible.”
St. Thomas Aquinas
- + “The smallest seed of faith is better than the largest fruit of happiness.” - Henry David Thoreau
- + “Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase.” - Martin Luther King, Jr.
- + Be a sinner and sin boldly, but believe, have faith, and rejoice in Christ even more boldly. – Martin Luther
- + **“Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not yet seen.” Hebrews 11:1**

What wonderful quotes about faith. These quotes don't offer us all the answers as to what faith really is. However, these quotes do begin to help us see what faith looks like to these various people who are quoted. And really that is the point isn't it? Each of us have different faith experiences don't we? For some, our faith is strong and has always been strong. For others, faith is a daily struggle. In sharing our faith, we begin to see more clearly how God is at work in our lives and in the lives of those around us.

The last quote from Hebrews 11:1 is one of Pastor Andrea's and my favorite scripture passages. It paints a beautiful image of what faith looks like and it happens to be the reflection verse for this year's Lenten season. This Lenten season we encourage everyone to commit this passage to memory. Each Wednesday during the season of Lent we will reflect on this verse and we will also hear the faith stories of Noah, Abraham, Moses, the Israelites, and Jesus the perfecter of the Faith. In addition to this part of the service Pastor Andrea and I will be looking for some of our very own members of Living Word to share with us their own faith story. In praying over our reflection verse, hearing various Biblical faith stories, and in sharing in some of our own congregational faith stories, we pray this Lenten season will be a time for us both individually and as a congregation to grow deeper in our own faith.

Each Lenten season we know that it is a practice for some of you to give up something for Lent. This year for Lent, your pastors would like to encourage you to add something to your Lenten journey that will ultimately help you in your faith. It could be that you add the act of morning devotions to your daily schedule. Or maybe you might make a pledge to attend Bible study during Lent. Or maybe you might read a book or join the Spirituality Group. Or maybe you might even feel so called to start a new ministry over the 40 days of Lent that will help to feed the faith of others for generations to come. The possibilities of what we can add to our Lenten journey are endless.

This Lenten season, Faith is our theme. With what assurance and conviction will you approach your faith this Lenten season?

In Christ's love, Pastor Jason and Pastor Andrea

“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.

Many thanks are given for the past Christmas Eve and Epiphany.

“*Thank you*” Living Word Congregation for your generous Christmas Gift given to me Christmas Eve.
“*Thank you*” Living Word Choir for your hard work in preparing & then presenting Christmas music.
“*Thank you*” Living Word Christmas Singers for your time and talent given in honor of the Birthday of our Lord Jesus.
“*Thank you*” Living Word Adult Bell Ringers for your gift of ringing bells to enhance a Christmas Eve Anthem.
“*Thank you*” Living Word Instrumentalists for sharing your talents in praise of our Lord’s Birthday and Epiphany.
“*Thank you*” Living Word Children for making joyous Christmas music with your voices and bells and to the directors of the Children’s music.

Next month Lent begins. With it begins Easter music preparation. I call the Living Word Singers together to form an Easter Singers’ group. We will rehearse after worship on Wednesday nights. Exact rehearsal dates to be published later.

“Let your word be ‘Yes, Yes’ or ‘No, No’;*Matthew 5:37*

When Jesus loved or healed or forgave a person, He didn’t usually surround the act with a lengthy discussion or inquiry. He saw the human need and did the acts of love.

In making promises, especially, Jesus says, “Don’t get too wordy! Just give simple “yes” and “no” answers. Be straightforward, utterly honest.” This is the kind of approach we need to our sacred singing too: a straightforward, from-the-heart tackling of the text and song. We may labor over musical technicalities. We may seek to pump life into our godly songs by breath and beat. But unless we stand together as people whose hearts have been enlightened by the forgiving Christ of Calvary, we will never truly make it the Lord’s song.

Is Christ our Epiphany Lord and King of our lives? Yes or no? Of course, He’s King, and of course He is our King. Sing, then! It will be the Lord’s song.

Living Word Easter Singers, help make our fellowship and singing one big “Yes.”

Wendell Baechler, Organist



LIVING WORD CHOIR FEBRUARY SCHEDULE

Sunday, February 06	8:00 AM	Prayer and Rehearsal
Sunday, February 13	8:00 AM	Prayer and Rehearsal
Sunday, February 20	8:00 AM	Prayer and Rehearsal
Sunday, February 27	8:00 AM	Prayer and Rehearsal
Sunday, February 27	9:30 AM	Anthem

Financial Planning Symposium

Adult Sunday School in February will be a series of discussions about Financial Planning. We will deal with questions of responsible planning and good stewardship in personal finance and support of the Church. Topics will have relevance for people just starting careers, working people who are thinking about retirement, and people who have already retired.

Jim Bampfield has offered to lead the sessions. Jim holds a Master of Business Administration degree. He was licensed in Virginia, Maryland, and the District of Columbia to sell life and health insurance. He was also registered by the Securities and Exchange Commission to deal in investments, including stocks, bonds, mutual funds, and Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs). He did financial planning for families and small businesses. All of his licenses and registrations are currently expired, so he cannot legally sell anything to anyone (nor collect a commission).



One Saturday morning a month a small group of Living Word members leave our church, following detailed driving instructions which direct them to new residents of the Arlington and Lakeland areas.

We are looking for a few more teams (one driver, one direction reader) to go out into the community to meet/greet new residents. If there is no response at the door, we leave a packet of information on their doorstep. Please let the Pastors, Roger Schwartz or Marian Gray know if you can help with spreading the word about Living Word.

Highlights of the January 13, 2011 Congregational Council Meeting and January 23, 2011 Congregational Semi-Annual Meeting

By Mary Buchschacher, Council President

Unlike Congress, the members of Living Word have passed a 2011 budget with no dissensions and on the first vote. The Council with advise and recommendations from the Finance Board spent a couple of monthly meetings working on a budget which is cost conscious while helping to continue moving the congregation toward building our church building. When you look at the Treasurer's report, you will notice that meeting the budget will be a challenge with the current pledges, so if you haven't pledged, please consider doing so.

Treasurer's Report : *See the Treasurer's Report as a separate article.*

Pastors' Report: *Highlights of the month included well attended Christmas Eve services with special Christmas music and the Epiphany Eve dinner and service.*

Boards and Committees:

Youth: *The Children's Bell Choir and Adult Choirs went to the Millington Healthcare Center for Christmas Caroling, where both the residents and the church members enjoyed the afternoon. The Youth Group outing for January was at the Bartlett Bowling Lanes. The Sunday School children are working on Valentines to give to the residents of the Millington Healthcare Center during our planned visit on Sunday, Feb 13. A planning meeting for the next quarter will be in late February.*

Finance: *The Finance Board members reviewed the Mission Investment Fund (MIF) Loan Application Form, for prequalification for the loan for the church building. The funds in the BOW Fidelity Account were approved to be moved into a new MIF fund during an Ad-Hoc Council meeting on January 9, 2011. It is necessary to be an investor in MIF to be able to be approved for a loan.*

Property: *The Sign application was submitted to the City of Arlington on January 11, 2011. We will be on the Design Review Committee agenda in either February or March. This review needs to be completed before we can move forward with having the sign made.*

Highlights of the Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting on January 23,2011:

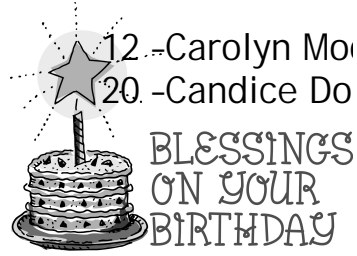
The budget proposed by the Council was passed unanimously with no changes. The New Nominating Committee was elected during the Congregational meeting. Your new members are Jim Bampfied, Beverly Wagner, Susan Hugel and Gene Abbott.

An update of the finances of the Build on the Word Campaign were presented as the three- year mark of the campaign will be in May. As requested during the meeting, Mary Buchschacher will be sending out individual statements showing the pledged amount for the campaign and the amount which was contributed and what the remaining balance is.

A request was made for people to sign up to pay for the bulletin covers and there were volunteers all four quarters.

February Birthdays

1 - Karen Hudspeth
4 - Cheryl Schwartz
11 - Richard Majkrzak
26 - Carter Majkrzak



12 - Carolyn Mori
20 - Candice Do



February

Anniversaries

16 - Ford and Joyce Cornett
17 - William and Lisa Chapman

February Baptisms

1 - Marley Douglas
2 - Alex Buchschacher
18 - Elna Larson
20 - Betty Barnes
25 - Lisa Chapman
25 - Alex Fowler
25 - Cody Sutton
26 - Bev Wagner



Thank you
for your
many kindnesses

☞ A Sincere Thank You ☞

I would like to express my gratitude to our Pastors and members of Living Word who supported me with prayers, cards, your presence at Raymond's service and the meal you provided afterwards.

The caring and concern shown me by my church family certainly helped me make it through a difficult time.

Betty Barnes



Thank you from the Pastors:

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,
Every year Pastor Jason and I are blown away by your generosity to us personally at Christmas. This year was no different. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your financial contribution to our Christmas gift. It was a God send and very appreciated during this difficult economic time! It made us feel appreciated, loved, and thanked. We look forward to all the joys that this year may bring as we work together in Christ's name.
Blessings, Pastor Andrea and Pastor Jason



To my Living Word Family,
Thank you so much for your most generous Christmas gift. You are all truly

a blessing to me and I'm honored to do what I can to help this wonderful church grow.
Pam



LIVING WORD LUTHERAN CHURCH

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We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

Web site address

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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

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