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LIVING WORDS

Living Word Lutheran Church

438.9672

April 2023 Newsletter

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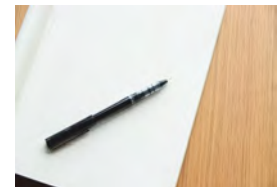
*April Birth/Ann. Calendar

Council President Thoughts

I am sure most of us are disappointed that Pastor Andrew did not accept our call. From what I understand, he is still uncertain where his ministry will take him. We all wish him the best and ask that God continue to work in him. In the mean time, the search committee continues to search for a pastor to lead our church. It is apparent there is not an excess of pastoral candidates in the field. Keep praying that the right pastor and our church can find each other. Pastor Melanie is planning to be gone during most of the month of May. While she is gone, Pastor Bradley Larson will be

delivering our weekly message. Pastor Larson is a retired Lutheran pastor and lives in Louisburg, MN. Pastor Larson subscribes and adheres to the LCMC Statement of Faith in the LCMC constitution. He is further endorsed by the Augustana District of the LCMC. In addition to weekly services, we are working with Pastor Larson to provide additional pastoral services. We will expand on those services in the next news letter. Looking around the church on any day, I wonder how so much gets done. Sunday School, Confirmation Classes, pot luck lunches, fund raisers,

fundamental maintenance of the buildings and grounds to name the obvious ones. Then there are the circle activities, quilting, and meals on wheels to name a few more. Then of course who organizes these and gets them done. As an example, who decides where the spatulas should go? It all gets done, so give thanks to those that get it all accomplished.



Gene Vostad,
Council President



PREPARING OUR EASTER GARDEN

Bring your Easter flowers to the church by Friday April 7, 12 noon. Complete a form found in bulletin or stop by office. The flowers will decorate our altar Easter Sunday.

Pastor Melanie's Message

Saying Goodbye to Winter, Welcome

Dear Church Family of Living Word, Spring seems to be arriving! We are thankful! We have endured a long South Dakota winter with cancellations and difficult road conditions and icy sidewalks and parking lots----things that have kept us away from worship at times, and so many activities we enjoy. It truly makes us more appreciative when weather doesn't offer quite so many challenges.

We have enjoyed our times together in March as we celebrated Camp Sunday on March 19th with Dan from Ingham Okoboji Camp. It was a great day of fun and fellowship during the Pancake Brunch. I want to encourage all of our young people to participate in a camping experience this summer. It is truly a life changing experience! (See more information in a special article in the newsletter.)

We have spent our Wednesday evenings with the **Lenten Study *In the Footsteps of the Savior***, by Max Lucado. Through various parts of the Holy Land, Lucado has helped us focus on "Following Jesus when we doubt; in our storms; when we worry; when we need hope, and when we need grace." Each session stands alone, so join us when we hear Lucado talk with us about grace on Maundy Thursday as we gather for Holy Communion.



I want to encourage you to join in all of the activities of Holy Week beginning on Palm Sunday; Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday; and, then to celebrate Christ's victory over sin and death on Easter Sunday morning! May you find renewed faith and strength as we follow Christ on His journey to the cross!



**In Christian love,
Pastor Melanie**

SIERRA LEONE

Sincere thanks to the Living Word family for the financial support which has paid for the well at Masingbi, Sierra Leone. The clinic director at that rural site is beyond amazed that this church has made a well available for him! When the shipping container from Milbank arrives in early May, it will be placed on a concrete slab to become a clinic building for the health ministry there. It has been insulated and, with the help of Dale Prisinger's welding skills, it is lined with white metal making it perfect for the needs. Thank you, once again, for your kindness and generosity.

The Water Well at Masingbi

January Noisy Change
made it happen!
Thank You Living Word!!!!



REINERS TO SIERRA LEONE

Pastor Melanie and Roger will be returning to Sierra Leone, May 8-28. While they are away, Pastor Bradley Larson will provide pulpit supply for three Sundays. They will be able to help establish the rural outreach clinic in the village of Masingbi; support the research team from University of Nebraska, and the cataract and glaucoma surgical program of Dr. Debby Gess-Ristved. They will also be unpacking the shipping .. container sent from Milbank in late March. They appreciate your prayer support as they work.

CALLING ALL YOUTH - SUMMER CAMP - 2023

Bible Camp experiences are for all ages! There are camps for Junior High and Senior High School youth. There are dedicated Music Camps. Family Camps provide for the entire family---- what a great way to create memories of a lifetime! Also, Ingham-Okoboji offers Elderversity, a two-day experience for those "kids" age 55 and older.

Remember, there are scholarships available to assist with the cost of camp for your young people. If you are interested, please contact the office and we will make every effort to assist you!

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE:

April 2: Palm Sunday

April 6: Maundy Thursday—6:30 Worship

April 7: Good Friday—6:30 Worship

Easter Sunday: 8:30 Youth Breakfast

10:00 Worship



LWLC COUNCIL MEETING March 8, 2023

MEMBERS PRESENT: Gene Vostad, Pastor Melanie, Marty Buttke, Dale Prisinger, Moe Reede, Steve Strege, Rhonda Beckman, Sandy Christiansen, Kelly Peterson, Tina Balling

OPENING: Pastor Melanie gave the opening devotion and prayer.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Rhonda made a motion, and it was seconded by Marty to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE SECRETARY'S REPORT: Moe made a motion, and it was seconded by Sandy to approve the secretary's report. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Steve made a motion to accept the financial report and it was seconded by Moe. Motion carried.

WORSHIP & EVANGELISM: Motion was made by Rhonda and seconded by Marty to approve the Worship & Evangelism report. Motion carried.

YOUTH & EDUCATION: The youth gathering for March was canceled due to weather. A few youth attended the Jesus Revolution movie. The movie was well liked. The youth will serve the meal next Wednesday the 15th. Jessica Lewno has agreed to teach the middle school Sunday school class. A motion was made by Sandy and seconded by Marty to approve the report. Motion carried.

Month of February	Beginning Balance (1/31/23)	Monthly Income plus Interest	Monthly Expenses	Net Gain or Loss	Ending Balance (2/28/23)
General Fund	\$ 154,362.81	\$ 27,629.42	\$ 10,005.49	\$ 17,623.93	\$ 171,986.74
Dedicated Ac-	\$ 55,597.57	\$ 5,479.36	\$ 5,862.86	\$	\$ 55,214.07
Building Fund	\$ 48,613.31	\$ 1,426.59	\$ 3,486.55	\$ (2,059.96)	\$ 46,553.35
Thrivent Finan- cial	\$ 35,841.72	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 35,841.72
(updated quarterly)					
TOTAL CASH BALANCE					\$ 309,595.88

PASTOR'S REPORT: Pastor reported that a different microphone was found, and she has been using that. March 19th is Camp Sunday. Dan from IOLBC will be here to kick off Camp Sunday. Pancakes and sausage will be served after church. The ladies of LWLC have been visiting the shut-ins which is a great help. People are encouraged to bring lilies etc. for an Easter Garden. Motion was made by Marty and seconded by Dale to accept the Pastor's report. Motion carried.

PROPERTY & MANAGEMENT: Marty and Dale reported that the lights have been installed on the cross in the front of the church. We are now waiting on the controller. The plexiglass on the altar will be replaced. Marty will look into the lack of hot water in the women's bathroom. Kelly made a motion, and it was seconded by Sandy to approve the Property & Management report. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS: Living Word received a gift of more land to the north and to the east of the church. We are in the process of discussing how to best make use of it. The council is in the process of establishing an endowment committee comprised of 3-5 people to assist the council in managing endowments. We encourage everyone to come for pancakes and sausage on the 19th to support our youth attending Ingh;am-Okoboji, Big Stone Camp for Christ etc. These camps are a great way for our youth to learn how to have a deeper relationship with our Lord.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING: The next council meeting is scheduled for April 12th at 7pm.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Kelly and seconded by Dale to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was closed with the Lord's prayer.

CONFIRMATION CLASS – 2023

Confirmation for four of our young men will be held on Sunday, May 7th, with Pastor Craig Werling returning for the service. Those in this year's class are: Drew Anderson, Tyler Heinje, Tayton Reede, and Sam Wilson. There will be a Confirmation banquet on Wednesday evening, April 26th at which time the students will present their Faith Statements to their families, sponsors, mentors and instructors. Please keep these young men in your prayers as the time for Confirmation nears.

EASTER BREAKFAST

Make plans to join with the Church Family for the annual Easter Breakfast.

The breakfast will be served by the youth during coffee hour before worship on Easter Sunday. Egg bake, rolls, juice and coffee are on the menu. This is a special part of Easter morning so we are hopeful you will join us!

Thank you!



Youth Group Reactivated

The youth will meet on the 2nd Wednesday of every month. There will be a meal provided at 6:30, with an activity to follow. We are excited to offer this for our youth here at Living Word.

ATTENTION 2023 SENIORS:

Please send the office your senior picture and what you will be doing after graduation. Have it to the office by April 24, so we can put it in the May newsletter. Senior Recognition is May 14.

A Big THANK YOU goes out to Gabe Beckman for constructing a brick fire pit located east of the church parking lot by the crosses. Gabe completed the project as part of his Eagle Scout Requirements. We are thankful for Gabe's gift and wish him success as an Eagle Scout.

LWLC Committee Contacts

2023 Council Members:

President: Gene Vostad, 605-321-9120
Email: gsvostad@tnics.com

Vice President: Marty Buttke, 605-432-4457
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Secretary: Tina Balling, 605-432-5215
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Youth & Education: Rhonda Beckman, 605-924-1132
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Email: mreede97@yahoo.com

Worship & Evangelism: Sandy Christensen, 605-880-4452
Email: sandy@stengeloils.com

Steve Strege: 605-949-0669
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Treasurer/Finance: Kelly Peterson, 605-237-0316
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Property & Management: Dale Prisinger, 605-432-5052
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Marty Buttke, 605-880-8586
Email: mdbuttke@itcmilbank.com

Newsletter/Website: Nancy Kruger, Sandy Christensen, Lisa Aker

Living Word Lutheran Women Officers:

Coordinator: Sue DeJong, 605-949-1982

Vice-coordinator: Marcia Heinje, 605-938-4142

Secretary/Treasurer: Annette Redepenning, 605-432-6688

Mission Action: Gloria Cooley, 605-445-1555

Mission Growth: Karen McCrea, 605-432-6335

Mission Community:

Advisor: Susan Vostad, 605-434-1825

Please note the newsletter may look a little different this month. The design duties are being shared by Nancy on odd months and Sandy/Lisa on even months. Thank you for your understanding!

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**HAPPY
EASTER!**

April 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 PALM SUNDAY 8:45 Sunday School 9:00 Coffee Fellowship 10:00 Worship	3	4 2:00 Impact meeting	5 3:30 Confirmation 6:00 Youth Group @ Pizza Hut	6 Maundy Thursday 9:00 Coffee Fellowship 6:30 Worship Service	7 Good Friday 6:30 Worship Service	8 April Fool's Day
9 EASTER SUNDAY No Sunday School 8:30 Easter Breakfast 10:00 Worship/Communion/ noisy change	10	11 9:00 Quilting	12 9:30 Searchers Bible Study 3:30 Confirmation 7:00 Council	13 9:00 Coffee Fellowship	14	15
16 8:45 Sunday School 9:00 Coffee Fellowship 9:00 May Servant Team meets 10:00 Worship 11:00 Chapel Communion	17	18 9:00 Faith Circle 7:00 Love Circle	19 9:30 Searchers Bible Study 3:30 Confirmation	20 9:00 Coffee Fellowship	21 NEWSLETTER ITEMS DUE	22
23 8:45 Sunday School 9:00 Coffee Fellowship 10:00 Worship	24	25 9:00 Quilting	26 9:30 Searchers Bible Study 6:30 Confirmation Banquet	27 9:00 Coffee Fellowship	28	29
30 8:45 Sunday School 9:00 Coffee Fellowship 10:00 Worship						

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 Alyssa Aker (b.) Kevin Dornbusch (b.) Katie Kruger (b.) Brad & Shirley Zahn (w.)	3	4	5 Janice Johnson (b.)	6 Susan Keeton (b.) Chris Nelson (b.) Randy Redepenning (b.)	7 Ethan Fish (b.)	8 Kevin & Renae Dornbusch (w.) Robert Hornstein (b.)
9	10	11 Gerald Brown (b.)	12 Terry Meister (b.) Kammi Peizel (b.)	13	14 Orlean Lardy (b.)	15 Maci Kasuske (b.) Thea Varpness (b.)
16 Lance Bien (b.) Chuck Liebe (b.)	17	18	19	20	21 Kendall Van Peursesem (b.)	22
23 Gerald & Sharon Brown (w.)	24	25 Mark Veen (b.)	26 Brad Zahn (b.)	27	28	29 Jean Leininger (b.) Nicole Plaga (b.)
30 Zach Aker (b.) Nathan Hansen (b.)						