

LIVING+WORDS

LIVING WORD LUTHERAN CHURCH

605-438-9672

JUNE 2025 NEWSLETTER

Celebrating Our Seniors!



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Announcements

The Living Word Warriors have been actively fundraising the last couple months as we lead into the big event, June 13 -14 at Lake Farley Park. This event starts at 6pm Friday evening and concludes Saturday morning at 5:30 AM with awards. We are so incredibly blessed by the generosity of your support with each of our activities, in an effort to support our community through It Only Takes a Spark. We are on the home stretch for the 2025 year, but we have many fun ideas moving forward for the 2026 year! If you are not a team member, but are able to attend the event- please join us! Stop by our booth, visit and hang out, walk if you are able, or work the booth if you are able. Just because life is uncertain with schedules sometimes, doesn't mean we wouldn't love to see you and your smile.

We are a new team to this event and will certainly make our church known within the community. I know this is such a busy time of year with many things happening: field work, end of the school year, graduations, 4-H activities, the start to wedding season, among others. Through all the chaos and busy times, I will leave you with a statement I was recently told by a very wise person, "God sees you and knows your intentions." This statement has spoken to me many times through the last few weeks and has helped me to find peace through it. Therefore, I encourage you to join us and participate if you are able, and if you are not able, no worries. Walk in faith knowing that God sees you and knows your intentions.

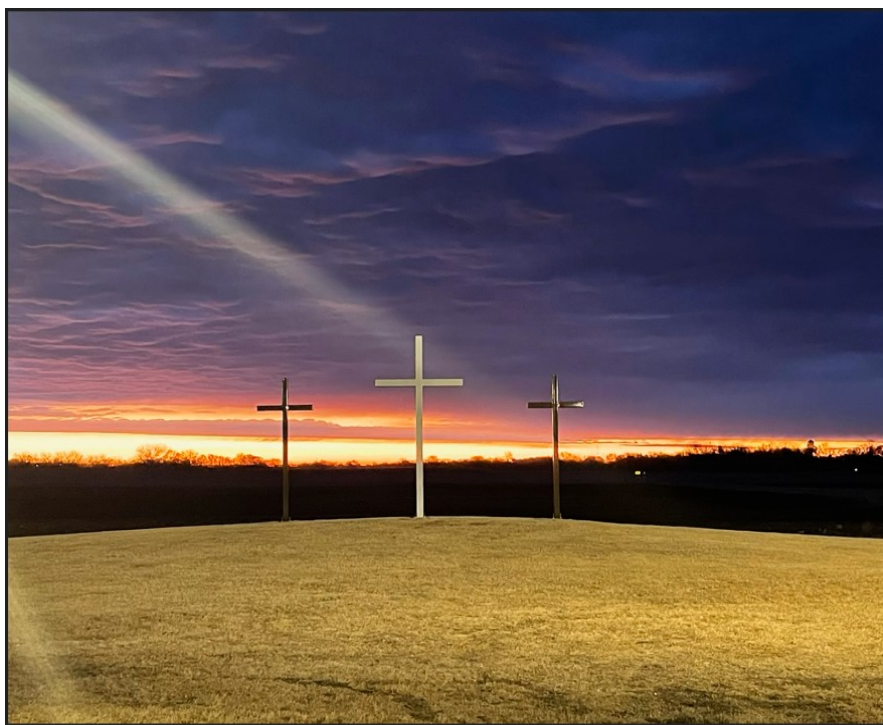
Cancer Team Member,
Laura Dallman



RightNow Media

RightNow Media is a streaming video library of free Bible Studies. We believe the mission of the church matters. And we've seen how God can change lives through video resources.

If you are interested in joining RightNow Media, at no charge, contact Michelle at the church office at 605-438-9672.



"Thank you for making Senior Sunday so special. I appreciate all the kind words and support that I received from the congregation. A special thank you to Pastor Curtis for delivering such a meaningful sermon. Also wanted to thank the quilting ladies for the beautiful quilt. Finally, thank you for the scholarship to Valparaiso University. Thank You."

-Isabella Anderson

HAPPY
Father's
DAY

Thank you Living Word
Church + the congregation
for all of the wonderful
graduation gifts. It is
greatly appreciated.

God Bless,
Mason Meister



I would like to give a big thank you
to the ladies who made me the beautiful
quilt and to everyone who have supported
me. I feel very lucky to be part of such
a generous and caring congregation.
-Elyse Reek

"Women's Connection"

"Women's Connection", an affiliate of Stonecroft Ministries, meeting will be held at Central Church, Milbank, SD on June 17, 2025 at 1:30 – 3:00 P.M. in the church fellowship hall. Tickets: \$5.00 – Refreshments will be served.

Speaker - Suzanne Berg, Mound, MN — "Joy in the Journey"

Special Feature — Raymond Berg, Mound, MN — "Rocking Back in Time" (Minnesota Rock Music Hall of Fame in 2004)

Music - Raymond Berg — Guitar — 50s & 60s music

Come enjoy an afternoon of fellowship together with women in our area

For reservations: please contact: PegDohrer605)949-0311 –

pldohrer@itcmilbank.com.



GUEST SPEAKERS

Erica Varcoe is an LCMC pastor of Table Ministry, a church that got started in a sports bar in Sioux Falls, SD. She also runs the "Hot Mess Moms" Facebook group. Pastor Erica loves making the Bible relatable and has a knack for making Bible stories come alive in fun and unexpected ways.

Lexy Carson is the pastor at Salem and Sauk Valley Lutheran Churches in Osakis, MN. She's really into rural ministry and loves the cozy country vibe of her family's place right on the Sauk River. Her husband is also a pastor in the LCMC-AD and works in Alexandria. Together, they have three children, all under five years old.

Jessica Bergland, a physical therapist and the founder of Empower, is all about helping women learn about mindfulness. She believes in mixing mindfulness with faith to help us find true peace and more joy in the busy world we live in. Jessica will share how we can use Bible verses and prayers along with mindfulness to boost our spiritual, mental, and physical well-being.

The worship offering is designated to the Augustana District Seminarian Scholarship Fund.

2025 FALL GATHERING • AUGUSTANA DISTRICT WOMEN OF THE WORD

SEPTEMBER 20, 2025

Registration Deadline: September 8, 2025

Hosted By New Creation Lutheran Church
295 Coney Street, Perham, MN 56573

AGENDA

8:30 AM ----- Registration 9:00 AM ----- Praise Worship
----- Coffee/Muffins/Fruit 3:00 PM ----- Dismissal

PLACES TO STAY:

GrandStay
Hotel & Suites*
231 Market Drive,
Perham, MN 56573
PH. 888-447-4065

Super 8
by Wyndham
106 Jake St,
Perham, MN 56573
PH. 218-346-7888

COST

In-person \$25.00
Online via Zoom
Individual \$25.00
Church \$50.00

*There is a block of rooms reserved for WOW at the GrandStay.

Questions? Please contact Jennifer Howey at
garden@newcreationperham.org or by calling 218-346-7203

Please make checks payable to **Women of the Word**

Send registration & payment to:

WoW Treasurer c/o Gail Telecky
607 Bluff Street NE, Hutchinson, MN 55350

2025 WOW GATHERING REGISTRATION FORM

Full Name: _____
Address: _____
Town/State: _____
Email: _____
Phone: _____
Church Name: _____
Dietary Needs/Comments: _____

Ingham +
Okobojo
Lutheran Bible Camps

2025 SUMMER SCHEDULE

Okobojo

Jr. High (6-9th) June 8-13
Family Camp #1 June 15-20
Speaker: Rev. Lee Laaveg
Family Camp #2 June 22-27
Speaker: Rev. Scott Rains
Family Camp #3 June 29-July 4
Speaker: Rev. Mike Housholder
Jr. High (6-9th) July 6-11
Family Camp #4 July 13-18
Speakers: Rev. Paul Hennings
Family Camp #5 July 20-25
Speakers: Rev. Jason & Julie Van Hove
Family Camp #6 July 27-Aug. 1
Speaker: Rev. Mark Brandt
Family Camp #7 August 3-8
Speaker: Rev. Nathan Anenson

Ingham

Trailblazers (4-6th) June 15-20
Pathfinders (2-5th) June 15-17
Camp-in-a-day (K-2nd) June 18
Camp-in-a-day (K-2nd) June 19
Trailblazers (4-6th) July 6-11
Pathfinders (2-5th) July 6-8
Camp-in-a-day (K-2nd) July 9
Camp-in-a-day (K-2nd) July 10
Hand-in-Hand (Ages 4-6) July 11
Trailblazers (4-6th) July 13-18
Pathfinders (2-5th) July 13-15
Camp-in-a-day (K-2nd) July 16
Camp-in-a-day (K-2nd) July 17
Hand-in-Hand (Ages 4-6) July 18
Jr. High (6-9th) July 20-25
Sr. High (9-12th) July 27-Aug. 1

**Go to
www.okobojo.org
for more
information or
to register for an
upcoming
summer camp!**



LIVING WORD LUTHERAN WOMEN



Greetings to our Living Word Church Family,

We had a busy month of May with the graduation celebrations. June 8th we will honor our confirmand, Dylan.

Thank you for your continued support of our mission projects. This month we are focusing our efforts on the Beacon House. A “needs list” will be posted on the back table in the case you would like to contribute to this worthy organization.

We are planning a Family Event for July and will post details as we get closer to the date.

The Fall WOW event will be held in Perham this year. It is the one big event hosted by Women Of the Word. It is a one-day event with wonderful worship, music and speakers. A registration form is included in this month’s newsletter. If you are interested in attending or have questions, Sue DeJong is a member-at-large and she would be happy to help you.

God’s blessings to each of you.

Brenda Seehafer

LWLW Coordinator



Youth and Education



Sunday School

Our Sunday School children wrapped up the Easter season with a fun and faith-filled celebration! The Sunday after Easter, the kids enjoyed a movie, popcorn, and a special craft time together. It was a wonderful way to reflect on the joy of Jesus' resurrection while sharing fellowship and creativity.

For our final Sunday School lesson of the year, the children made colorful handprint potholders as a special gift for their moms. Along with this craft, we explored meaningful lessons on how we can honor our parents, tying in both biblical teachings and everyday actions.

During church, we also took time to thank our **prayer partners** for their ongoing encouragement and support throughout the Sunday School year. A basket is available in the fellowship hall for anyone who would like to leave a card revealing themselves to their prayer partner. Some have already shared notes through the mail, and we are so grateful for these beautiful connections. Your prayers truly make a difference in the lives of our toddlers, elementary students, and high school youth!

We also gave a heartfelt thank you to our **dedicated Sunday School staff** for their commitment and care throughout the year. These volunteers made lessons fun, meaningful, and full of God's love. Their time, effort, and passion have made a lasting impact on the faith journeys of our youth, and we are so grateful for each one of them.

We had the honor of celebrating **Katie Kruger** for her many years of service as a Sunday School teacher. Katie has also shared her artistic talents by designing our signs and has faithfully helped with sound and video during service. We are thankful for her dedication and send our best wishes as she begins her next chapter at college. May God bless you, Katie!

Looking ahead, the **Education Committee** will meet in mid-June to begin planning activities for the next school year. If you have any ideas or suggestions for **adult or youth programming**, please reach out to a committee member. We welcome your input and look forward to another great year of growing in faith together!

Dynamic Disciples

Our Dynamic Disciples ended the year with joyful hearts and meaningful experiences!

One of our recent highlights was visiting the residents at **St. William's Care Center**, where the children decorated cookies, played bingo, and made a cross craft with the residents. It was such a blessing to see smiles light up the room as young and old shared laughter, creativity, and companionship. Moments like these remind us how powerful and uplifting intergenerational connections can be.

For our final Wednesday gathering of the season, we took a trip to **Ortonville** for a fun-filled afternoon. The group enjoyed pizza together and then spent time at the arcade. Watching these young people help one another, cheer each other on, and simply enjoy being together was a wonderful way to wrap up our year. The joy on their faces said it all!

It's always hard to say goodbye for the summer, but we're already looking forward to fall! We're excited to introduce a new and engaging curriculum titled "**Jesus on the Farm**" that will help our kids learn more about God's love through hands-on activities, stories, and fun.

Thank you to everyone, parents, volunteers, and our incredible youth—who made this year so special. We can't wait to see what God has in store for us next!







VBS – Trusting Jesus in a Wild World

By the time you receive this newsletter, **Vacation Bible School** will be in full swing at Living Word Lutheran Church—and what an exciting week it will be! We are thrilled to be sharing the message of "**Trusting Jesus in a Wild World**" with our youth through engaging lessons, music, crafts, games, and worship.

This year, we've been blessed with **an incredible turnout**—so many children signed up to participate, an enthusiastic team of volunteers ready to guide them, and countless generous donations that help bring the program to life. **God is so good!**

We can't wait to share photos and updates from our week of fun, faith, and fellowship. Until then, **mark your calendars** for our special **VBS Program on Thursday, June 5th at 7:30 p.m.** Join us in the sanctuary as we celebrate all we've learned and sing the beautiful music that has filled our hearts this week. Everyone is welcome!

A special reminder that our **VBS Mission Project** this year is dedicated to supporting **Hailey Heinje**, a young girl facing serious health challenges. Through our prayers and offerings, we hope to uplift Hailey and her family with the love and care of our church community.

Thank you to everyone who has played a part in making this ministry possible. Your support means the world as we guide our children to trust Jesus—no matter where life takes them.



Pastor's Letter

Getting a ticket on the Titanic back on April 10, 1912 was no simple task. You had to be either very wealthy, or an employee who was on the ship to work. This wasn't a trip for the poor or even middle class. Those who purchased a first-class suite paid 105,000 pounds, or over \$130,000 today.

As the great Titanic began to sink, suddenly first class or third class didn't matter. When life is on the line, it is amazing how little we think of race, or social/economic status. I can imagine the freezing cold water would certainly put everything into perspective, which it did for one Pastor who like everyone else, was staring death in the face.

The Titanic didn't have enough life rafts for all the people, and soon Scottish Pastor John Harper had to make a few decisions. First, was to get his two children onto a raft which he did. But with no room on the lifeboat, and the Titanic sinking fast, he decided to jump into the water next to his children. The water was too rough to hold onto the boat, but the Pastor was fortunate to be one of the people who grabbed a life vest.

As Pastor John was floating around and scanning the carnage, an employee without a vest struggled to stay afloat near the Pastor. He could tell the man wasn't going to last long in the freezing water without a boat or life vest. Then the Pastor asked the man one question: "Do you have faith in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior?". The man replied "no, I have never learned about Him". With that, the Pastor removed his life vest, put it on the employee and smiled saying: "You need this much more than I do, I know what awaits me".

Do you have the confidence in God's promise like Pastor John? Are you so certain of what Christ has done for you that you are ready to be called home?

Years later, that drowning employee graduated from the Lutheran Seminary in Scotland. For years, he preaches about the night God opened his heart and mind and called him to faith, and the night he became Pastor John Harper's last convert.

Be bold in faith! Or as God tells us, "BE STILL, and know that I am God!" God promises all who believe in Christ Jesus, forgiveness of sins, and life everlasting in heaven. Your ticket to heaven has already been paid for you in advance, and His kingdom will last forever. Amen

Pastor Skinner

A Message from our Council President

Hello everyone,

I am writing this letter on the morning of June 2, the day after our congregational meeting and vote. For those of you who were not at the meeting, the results of the vote were as follows: 49 to wait, 15 to proceed with building the south addition, 27 to proceed with building the east addition. Clearly the results show for us to "wait" at this time.

But what does this mean? To be honest, I don't know for sure.

Why do people want to wait? I'm not exactly sure but I am confident that there are multiple reasons.

How long do we wait for? I don't know that either.

But what I do know, is that God tells us to wait upon Him. (When I just now typed that sentence, I first used the word "asks". God *asks* us to wait upon Him. But no, that's not right. He doesn't ask us. He **tells** us.)

And another thing that I do know, is that "waiting" does not mean "to do nothing".

If I can somehow summarize what I think it means to wait, I would say it means to have a patient, confident trust in the Lord. It means to rely on Him and to have a positive expectancy of His promises and His plans for us. It means to daily surrender to Him and to remember that God is in control and He directs our steps.

In my quiet time this morning, these are just some of the scriptures that God showed me.

Hebrews 10:35 So do not throw away this confident trust in the Lord. Remember the great reward it brings you! Patient endurance is what you need now, so that you will continue to do Gods will. Then you will receive all that he has promised.
(Patient endurance is the evidence that you are really committed to Jesus.)

Psalms 27:14

Wait patiently for the LORD. Be brave and courageous. Yes, wait patiently for the LORD. (My bible study notes say: David knew from experience what it meant to wait for the Lord. He had been anointed king at age 16 but didn't become king until he was 30. Waiting for God is not easy. Often it seems he isn't answering our prayers or doesn't understand the urgency of our situation. That kind of thinking implies that God is not in control or is not fair. But God is worth waiting for. Lamentations 3:24-26 calls us to hope in and wait for the Lord because often God uses times of waiting to refresh, renew, and teach us. Make good use of your waiting times by discovering what God may be trying to teach you in them.)

Lamentations 3:25

The LORD is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him.

So in this "waiting time" I ask that you please continue praying for our church, as you continue to love God and love others. Trust that He has the right plan and at the right time. He is preparing us for what He has in store for us.

Love, Jackie



Council Minutes

LWLC COUNCIL MEETING REPORT - May 7, 2025

MEMBERS PRESENT: President Jackie Olson, Pastor Curtis Simonson, Moe Reede, Laurie Maas, Adam McMahon, Steve Strege, Deb Buttke, Sandy Christensen, Tim DeJong and Julie Berger.

OPENING PRAYER: Pastor Curtis gave the opening prayer.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Laurie made a motion to approve the agenda, which was seconded by Moe. The motion carried.

PASTOR'S REPORT: The Impact Team is requesting \$1,000 for Pigs for Pastors and \$1,000 for Bill Moberly. Laurie made a motion to donate the funds. Moe seconded the motion, and the motion carried. Pastor talked about his time at the convention he attended with other pastors, indicating it was a good experience. Beginning in June, we will start having communion on both the first and third Sundays of each month. Adam made a motion to approve the Pastor's report, and Sandy seconded the motion. It was carried.

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Julie will assist on June 1 and Deb on June 15th.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Laurie made a motion to approve the report. Report was seconded by Steve. The motion carried.

BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT: No report.

TREASURER'S REPORT/FINANCE REPORT: Moe made a motion to approve the treasurer's report. Sandy seconded the motion, and it carried.

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT REPORT: Sandy made a motion to approve the report and Steve seconded. The motion carried.

WORSHIP & EVANGELISM REPORT: Sandy made a motion to return to an informal prayer group after church service weekly beginning June 1st for anyone who wishes to join in prayer. Laurie made a motion to approve and Adam seconded. The motion carried. Sandy gave an update on the cancer walk, which includes continuing to sell luminaries and another bake sale. Also, team shirts are available for anyone wishing to purchase. Steve reminded the council that the ushers will be going back to passing the offering plates. Julie made a motion to approve the report. Moe seconded and the motion carried.

YOUTH & EDUCATION REPORT: The church received four scholarship applications. The board reviewed the applications. Each applicant is entitled to receive a \$500 scholarship. Jackie made a motion to approve the scholarships. Tim seconded the motion. The motion carried. The committee is working on a float to be used at various parades this summer. There was discussion regarding thank you/recognition gifts for people who have assisted with church education during the school year. There was discussion regarding middle/high school education. Deb made a motion to approve the report. Steve seconded the motion and it carried.

OLD BUSINESS: Adam made a motion to put the stained glass window project on hold indefinitely due to finding someone within an acceptable price range and work product. A refund would be issued to people that have donated, or they could roll over the funds to keep for a later date. Moe seconded the motion. The motion carried. There was discussion regarding the pledge drive. Moe made a motion to look into financing with the numbers we have to date. Tim seconded the motion. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS: The sound quality of the music on social media was brought up by several people. Jerry has already looked into it and fixes have been made. Thanks, Jerry!

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: June 11, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Julie made a motion to adjourn the meeting with Deb seconding. The motion carried. The meeting closed with prayers from Jackie and the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Berger, Council Secretary

Treasurer's Report

INCOME \$18856.01
EXPENSES \$20806.70

TOTAL -\$1950.69





Name: _____

Phone: _____

S	M	L	XL	2X	3X	4X	5X	TOTAL
				+\$2	+\$3	+\$4	+\$5	
1 District Tri Tee	\$22							
2 District Tri Tee	\$22							
3 Ladies District Tee	\$22							
4 Ladies District Tee	\$22							
5 Jerzees Crewneck Sweatshirt	\$30							
6 Jerzees Crewneck Sweatshirt	\$30							
7 Port Authority Sport Shirt	\$25							
8 Port Authority Sport Shirt	\$25							
9 Ladies Port Authority Sport Shirt	\$25							
10 Ladies Port Authority Sport Shirt	\$25							

11 Richardson 112 Hat
Carmel/Black \$17

12 Richardson 112 Hat
Black \$17

GRAND TOTAL

1 Desert Tan
Heather



2 Navy



3 Green Frost



4 New Navy



5 Khaki



6 Chocolate



7 Coffee
Bean



8 Stone



9 Lime



10 Stone



11 Carmel/Black



12
Black



Ortonville, MN 56278
229 2nd St. NW
320-839-2542

ShowYourPride@ProImagePartners.com

Name: _____

Phone: _____

		S	M	L	XL	2X	3X	4X	5X	TOTAL
						+\$2	+\$3	+\$4	+\$5	
13	Port Authority Soft Shell	\$57								
14	Ladies Port Authority Soft Shell	\$57								
15	Nike Dri Fit	\$51								
16	Ladies Nike Dri Fit	\$51								
17	District Tee YOUTH	\$22								
18	District tee YOUTH	\$22								
19	Jerzees Crewneck YOUTH	\$30								

GRAND
TOTAL

13

Black Charcoal Heather



14



15

Navy



16



YOUTH

17

Green Frost



18

New Navy



19

J. Navy

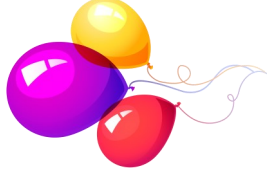


June 2025

June 2025						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Living Word Warriors Bake Sale 9:00 Worship/Communion 5:15-7:30 VBS	2 5:15-7:30 VBS	3 5:15-7:30 VBS	4 5:15-7:30 VBS	5 9:00 Community Coffee 5:15-7:30 VBS	6 7	
8 Confirmation Sunday 9:00 Worship/Communion 10:00 Coffee Fellowship	9	10 9:00 Quilting	11 Feeding South Dakota 6:30 Council	12 9:00 Community Coffee	13 Cancer Walk	14 Cancer Walk
15 Father's Day 9:00 Worship 10:00 Coffee Fellowship July Servant Team meets	16	17 9:00 Faith Circle 7:00 Love Circle	18	19 9:00 Community Coffee	20 21	
22 9:00 Worship 10:00 Coffee Fellowship	23	24 9:00 Quilting	25 Newsletter Items Due	26 9:00 Community Coffee	27 28	
29 9:00 Worship 10:00 Coffee Fellowship	30					

MAY BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY

Happy
Birthday



HAPPY
ANNIVERSARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Hepper, Ryan (b.) Scott & Laurie Maas (w.)	2 Blen, Nathan (b.)	3 Peterson, Donald (b.)	4	5 Robert & Pamela Nelson (w.)	6	7 Veen, Charles (b.)
8	9 Brian & Laura Dallman (w.) McCrea, Karen (b.)	10 Sullivan, Ethan (b.)	11 Quinn, Gwendolyn (b.)	12 Kruger, David (b.)	13	14 Darrel & Cheryl Gullickson (w.) Seehafer, Kristi (b.)
15	16 Berdan, Rachel (b.) Homstein, Barbara (b.) Scott & Jean Leininger (w.)	17	18	19 Bakeberg, Karlie (b.) Christensen, Matthew (b.) Ingber, Gary (b.)	20 Warren & Janice Beck (w.)	21
22	23 Howard & Marcia Heimje (w.) Morsette, Kateri (b.)	24 Dale & Lisa Aker (w.)	25	26 Bradley & Jackie Olson (w.)	27	28
29 Prisinger, Linda (b.) Eugene & Susan Vostad (w.)	30 Van Peurseem, Nanci (b.)					

LWLC Committee Contacts

2025 Council Members:

President: Jackie Olson, 605-949-1386
Email: jackieolsonmk@outlook.com

Vice President: Moe Reede, 605-949-1482
Email: mreede97@yahoo.com

Secretary: Julie Berger, 320-815-9248
Email: jjberger77@gmail.com

Youth & Education: Laurie Maas, 320-305-0887
Email: laurie.a.maas@gmail.com

Moe Reede, 605-949-1482
Email: mreede97@yahoo.com

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

Steve Strege: 605-949-0669
Email: grainbelt01@hotmail.com

Treasurer/Finance: Deb Buttke, 605-467-1458
Email: mdbuttke@itcmilbank.com

Adam McMahon, 320-760-4158
Email: adam.l.mcmahon@gmail.com

Property & Management: Tim DeJong, 605-949-0422
Email: t_dejong54@hotmail.com

Newsletter: Michelle Simonson, 605-438-9672, livingword@itcmilbank.com

Website: livingwordmilbank.com

Living Word Lutheran Women Officers:

Coordinator: Brenda Seehafer, 605-880-1788

Vice-coordinator: Sandy Christensen 605-880-4452

Secretary: Lori Kasuske, 605-949-2032

Treasurer: Annette Redepenning, 605-432-6688

Mission Action: Gloria Cooley, 605-445-1555

Mission Growth: Linda Wagner, 612-201-2110

Mission Community:

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