

LIVING⁺WORDS

LIVING WORD LUTHERAN CHURCH

605-438-9672

SEPTEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2025

*Living Word
Lutheran Church
Welcomes
New Members,
LaDonna Taylor and
Teri and Erik Hjelle*



**Winter
Worship
Hours
Begin on
September
7th!**

What's Inside?

Announcements

Pastor's Letter

LWLW

President's
Message

Council Minutes

Living Word
Warriors

Calendars





Announcements

Mark Your Calendars!

September 7th– Rally Sunday with Potluck Dinner

September 17th– Dynamic Disciples Resumes

**September 21st– Living Word Warriors Cancer Walk Team
Cornhole Tournament**

**September 28th– Mission Sunday Guest Pastor Bill Moberly
Potluck Dinner**

**Living Word
Apparel Orders will
be taken through
September 14th.
Order forms are on
the table in the
Fellowship Hall.**

The CHOSEN®

*Join us on Thursdays at 6:30
for fellowship and discussion as we view*

*Season Three of this historical
drama based on the life of Jesus and those
who knew him.*

Resumes September 18th

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.

*Blessed Be Meals
will
resume in October.*



**Dynamic
Disciples
Resumes
September 17th
at 3:30!**

Quilting resumes in September! Quilters meet at 9:00am on the Second and Fourth Tuesday of every month. Extra hands are needed, and everyone is welcome to join, regardless of skill!

**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

This event is also available at our church via Zoom. Please sign up on the registration form on the table in the Fellowship Hall.

RALLY SUNDAY CELEBRATION

LIVING WORD LUTHERAN CHURCH

September 7

Schedule of Events

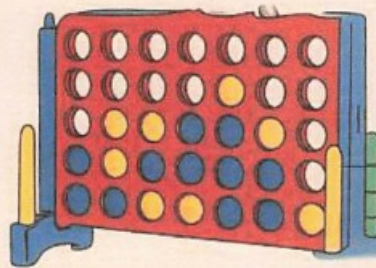
8:45 Morning Snacks

9:00 Sunday School Begins
(ages 3-high school)

10:00 Worship Service
(children will sing during the service)

Children in Grades 3 and 6 will receive Bibles

Following the service there will be a potluck lunch for the entire congregation.



Activities

for all ages will follow lunch:

- Rock Painting
- Face Painting
- Bingo
- Cross Cling Art
- Cornhole
- Inflatables
- Giant Connect 4

Come grow in faith with your church family!

Invite a friend and join us for a joyful time of worship, learning, and fun!

"Women's Connection"

an affiliate of Stonecroft Ministries, meeting will be held at Central Church, Milbank, SD on September 16, 2025 at 1:30 – 3:00 P.M., in the church fellowship hall.

Tickets: \$5.00 –Refreshments will be served

Speaker - Carlotta Rasmussen of Jamestown, ND "Paint and Repurpose"
" Special Feature - StoneCroft Silent Auction Fundraiser

Come enjoy a "Fall Festival " of baked items, homemade candy, and jams,, hand crafted items, produce and other gift ideas.

Music - Piano by Vicki Strege

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

For reservations: please contact:

Peg Dohrer – (605)949-0311 – pldohrer@itcmilbank.com.

Dear Friends at Living Word,

I want to thank you for all of your thoughts and prayers since I fell in front of our Living Word Church in Milbank in February of 2023.

I was so sure I would be all better in a short time, but God had other plans. It looks like I will be using a walker as long as I'm able to get around. God knows best, I'm so thankful for every day I get to be with you. Again, thank you for all of your prayers and love shown me. Please Continue!

In Christian Love,
Carol Forster



Living Word Lutheran Church,

From all of us at Beacon Center, we are so grateful for your continued support in our fight against domestic violence. Our federal funds have been drastically reduced so your gift comes at a much needed time!

Grateful,
Donna Marchand
Executive Director

A NOTE OF THANKS-

A good time was had by all on August 21 as the result of the ladies of my LWLW Circle organizing a birthday party for me for my 98th.

We had not just one cake but two! You can't beat that! One cake was a nicely decorated cake donated by a dear friend of my son Douglas, Dr. Don Reed of Dallas, TX. Also, we enjoyed three lovely floral bouquets. A large one with balloons was given by my son Douglas' two daughters, Suzanna of Chicago and Allison of Michigan.

People who attended my party brought a variety of treats and sweets. In a way, my son Craig was also in attendance with us, since he was called to Heaven by his Savior Jesus Christ on August 21, 2021. We were a congenial group and enjoyed the fellowship together at St. Williams.

Thanks to all who made my day very special!! Lil Colberg

LIVING WORD LUTHERAN:
THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR
\$540.⁸² INVESTMENT IN SPREADING
GOD'S WORD WITH OUR AREA YOUTH
BY SUPPORTING FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN
ATHLETES. WE ARE EXPECTING 120+
AT OUR FCA FOOTBALL CAMP ON 7/14.
GOD BLESS YOU! - MILBANK FCA

Dear Living Word Congregation,

Thank you all for the blessing you have been to me during the past 3-4 years as I've come to play piano for your beautiful worship services. I always felt so loved and welcomed by you all! I have also been encouraged by the way you value music as a gift God gives us to praise Him. The gorgeous grand piano and the resonant acoustics of your sanctuary brought joy to this musician's heart! As a strings teacher, I had a need for a church with good acoustics and a nice piano to host my studio recitals; and you had a need for a pianist; to God be the glory for providing for us all in such a wonderful way by bringing us together!


I have also been blessed by three different ministers and their strong biblical teaching: Pastor Kent Grothe, Pastor Melanie Reiners, and now Pastor Curtis. I have seen God continue to provide for Living Word, and I have no doubt He will answer prayer for more musicians to help with worship.

You will always have a special place in my heart!

With gratitude,
Elizabeth Schulte



Pigs for Pastors: Help Us Hog the Spotlight for a Good Cause!

Oink oink! The Sunday School kids are on a *mission*—and it involves pigs! This year, our mission project is **Pigs for Pastors**, where children (and the whole congregation!) can help support pastors overseas by donating funds to provide pigs. Yes, *real pigs*! 

Why pigs? Because a pig can help a pastor earn an income, support their family, and even help feed others in their community. Talk about a ham-tastic way to make a difference!

Want to help? **Trot on over to the pig and barn by the church office**, where you can drop your coins, cash, or checks. Every little bit helps—and this little piggy wants to go to *market* to support a mighty mission!

Let's bring home the bacon for a great cause—and *have fun doing it!*



Living Word showed up full force to walk in the Corn Festival Parade. A big thank you all of the families that came out to help.



Thank you so very much to Colby Weber, Sue and Tim DeJong, Teri Hjelle, and our talented Vicki Strege who turned out to make a joyful noise unto the Lord with Pastor Curtis during Vespers Services at the local Care Centers. EVERYONE is welcome to join us in song and service. If you are interested in assisting, let the office know and we will call on you!



A Message from our Council President

Hello everyone,

Fall is definitely here and with it brings a change in seasons. For those of you with children, August and September bring a change from your summer schedule and into a school-based activity schedule. I hope church and Sunday School is a part of that as well. I remember as a teenager often asking my parents on a Saturday night "Are we going to church tomorrow?" I will admit I was usually hoping for a "no" in their reply but instead would hear "I suppose, we always do." I will also admit that I usually showed up to church with a bad attitude or I was more concerned about seeing my friends instead of anything being taught in Sunday School. But now looking back on those years I can say that I am very grateful my parents (and grandparents) who made church a priority and made me go each week. Seeds were planted and God was working within me during those formative years and I didn't even realize it at the time.

September 7 is Rally Sunday here at Living Word Lutheran Church. It will be a day full of children's energy and education, teacher installation (thank you for volunteering for this very important ministry!!), and fellowship during our potluck dinner after church. This is also a great time to invite someone to church! Do you know of any kids whose family currently doesn't attend church? Would you be willing to reach out to them and tell them about our Rally Sunday, inviting their kids to come? You could even take it one step further and offer to pick the kids up and give them a ride to church.

Although I have a general idea of what the word "rally" means, I felt prompted to look up an actual definition. A rally is a large gathering of people for a common purpose; to show support for a particular opinion, person or cause. Of course this reminded me of the Great Commission and the importance to keep our eyes on Jesus. It also reminded me of our church's Mission Statement and Vision Statement. It states our common purpose is to include:

- * uphold the Bible as God's inerrant and holy Word
- * grow in our faith and knowledge of that Word
- * be a faithful witness, boldly sharing the message of forgiveness of sins and salvation in Christ
- * become a grace-filled community of believers
- * to live a life that exemplifies an unfaltering faith in God
- * to live a life that is in obedience to his Word
- * to show loving concern for others.

I don't know about you but I know that I fall short in living out this vision statement! I could give many examples but my space is limited and now I'm out of room. 😊 But I will share that this shows me my need for Jesus and why I want to keep my eyes on him. As a church who rallies together for a common purpose, let's remember who God is as we trust and worship Him. May all glory be given to Him! Love, Jackie



Council Minutes

LWLC COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – AUGUST 13, 2025

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

Pastor Curtis opened up with prayer.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

PASTOR'S REPORT: Pastor reported Feeding SD went well this past month. This month he has made several pastoral visits to nursing homes, hospice patients, the homebound etc. as well as delivering at-home communion. Rally Sunday is Sept. 7 and Mission Sunday is Sept. 28. Pastor was interested in the Council's thoughts about Gideons coming to speak. Consensus was they have been doing fine and we want to continue to have them come. Our church will have a float in the Cornfest parade this coming weekend. New members will be welcomed during the Aug 24 church service. Pastor said he will be doing/teaching MS and HS students for youth education but will also have assistance from congregation members. Notice of Vesper service and chapel communion will be posted in bulletin, announced by Pastor and put in/on the monthly calendar. Pastor is going to talk to the seminary school regarding their recommendation on how best to handle privacy issues when meeting with someone in his office. Pastor's seminary education is progressing nicely with approximately 2 years left. Pastor gave the Council permission to be in contact with the Seminary regarding his school and progress. Conflict resolution creation is underway and when Pastor gets a draft finished he will email to all council members for opinions/proofing. The flyers posted in church was revisited and Pastor agreed that if it is something new he will run it by council. If it is something the church has allowed before, it is fine to post. The issue of who covers for Pastor at hospitals when he is gone/not available was addressed. Pastor will inquire at Ministerial Association for direction.

Sandy volunteered to find out if anything special was to be done for new members on New Member Sunday. Deb motioned to approve Pastor's report. Steve seconded the motion and it carried.

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:

August 17- Jackie Olson, Deb and/or Marty Buttke

September 7- Jackie Olson, Sandy Christensen, Moe Reede

September 21- Tim DeJong

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

TREASURER'S/FINANCE REPORT: Deb explained that the church received information about donating to Samaritan's Purse. It was decided to pass that on to the Mission Board. Steve seconded and motion carried.

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT: Tim reported the LW sign along Highway 15 needs painting, the entrance lights timer needs to be checked and he will be meeting with Dale Prisinger to check on the furnace for the fall/winter. Adam McMahon has resigned from the council. Deb motioned to approve property management report. Steve seconded it. Motion carried.

WORSHIP & EVANGELISM: Sandy reported that the Blessed Be Meals will be returning in September. Council agreed that the church will provide the containers. She also reported that since late July the Cancer Walk team has raised more than \$5,000 by being part of the drawings at the Wharf at Big Stone Lake. Rhonda Beckman has been to all of these drawings as a representation. The Corn Hole tournament is set for September at Living Word. Laurie motioned to approve worship and evangelism report. Moe seconded. Motion carried

YOUTH & EDUCATION: Laurie reported about purchasing playground equipment with funds that have been dedicated for youth. There was discussion and agreement to continue forward with the process of getting bids for dirt work and equipment. Sunday School will be starting on Rally Sunday, Sept. 7. During that church service the youth will be singing, the 3rd and 6th graders will receive their Bibles, and the installation of Sunday School teachers will also be held. A potluck dinner will be held after church. There are 2 students who will be beginning first year Confirmation this year. Laurie and Sandy will be locating a month-long calendar at the entrance of kitchen. Laurie is ordering the calendar. Steve motioned to accept the youth and education report. Tim seconded the motion. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS: Any old business was covered in Pastor's report.

NEW BUSINESS: The money donations from Sunday morning coffee hours have been approximately \$300 and given to youth for many years. After discussion of a variety of areas, Sandy made a motion to have the money donations during the months of September & October to be used for the 2025 Live Nativity. Steve seconded. Motion carried. In October the issue will be revisited with additional options.

Discussion was prompted on the question of whether or not non-specified memorial donations (from funerals) should continue to automatically go into the general fund or not. It was suggested that we have a line item in our financials specifically for "Memorial money". It was also suggested that a "Wish List" of church needs could be composed. This would allow family members of the deceased to have a say in where they would like their memorial money to be used, if they have a preference.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: September 10, 6:30 pm

ADJOURNMENT: Steve motioned the meeting be adjourned. Moe seconded. Motion carried. Jackie closed the meeting by leading us in praying the Lord's prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Sandy Christensen, Council member (standing in for Julie Berger)

LIVING WORD LUTHERAN WOMEN



LWLW hosted a wonderful "Paint Night" After a delicious supper, we were able to choose from a variety of wooden crafts and signs and paint to our heart's content. A great time was had by all who attended .



The September mission for the Living Word Lutheran Women is to offer support to Access Ministries in Watertown.

We will be using any monetary gifts to buy gas and grocery cards for Access Ministry to distribute as they see the need. There is a container on the back table if you would like to participate.

with this mission.

Thank you!

Thank you to all who donated to our August Mission Project. We were able to gather

15+ comforter sets, more than ten sets of bedsheets, and several pillows and handmade quilts and blankets for Sleep In Heavenly Peace of Watertown.

Did you know....
We have greeting cards available (single or boxed) in the Fellowship Hall.
We also have the new catalog of RADA knives. They have an expanded inventory- it's not just knives anymore. If you would like to order, Marcia has a catalog.



Cancer Team News



Our team is active and thriving, but are always looking for more people to join our team. We appreciate the active muscle of members, but also equally appreciate the behind the scenes muscle. It takes everyone to make things work. If it is in your heart to participate, please reach out to Laura Dallman or Lois Norris, this year's captains.

September 21st will be our first big event of the 2025-26 year. We will be hosting a Cornhole Tournament at Living Word paired with a concession stand and a bonfire to close out the day. If you like to throw bags and have a little competitive edge, there are prizes for a kids' bracket and also for the adults' bracket. Please call the church office to sign up your 2 person team. If you aren't a cornhole kind of person, it will still be a fun family day with a 50/50 raffle, music, and other fun. Mark your calendars and come join us!

Along with the event coming up September 21st, we will be offering the opportunity to purchase this year's t-shirt and a couple other fun novelty items. Each year we will select a new bible verse to be featured. This year's verse is Joshua 1:9- "Be strong and courageous, do not be afraid, do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." These items offered are not just for the committee members, but for all of our congregational members and are in an effort to raise funds for It Only Takes A Spark Cancer Walk. We are working towards the new year already, so mark your calendars- June 12-13, 2026.

As I have mentioned before, we have big plans this year and are already planning another event for November. If you have any talents or hobbies you are keeping a secret- please don't! We are looking for people to share those talents and be showcased at our November event. Don't worry, you don't have to make a speech or stand up and do a presentation. I am simply looking for your talents through items you make or create. Maybe you are a painter, crochetter, quilter, needlework artist, baker, welder, or woodworker. Any talent is welcome, reach out to Laura or Lois on how your God given talents can be showcased.

Hope to see y'all come out for our September 21st event, start time is 1 PM.

Walking by faith and tripping constantly,

Laura Dallman
Living Word Warriors' Captain

Cornhole Tournament Fundraiser!

Supports the Living Word Warriors



2 person adult team: \$50
2 person kid team: \$30
Prizes for adult and kid brackets available!

*Adults: Winner & Lower Brackets
(prior cash payout)
*Kid Bracket & teams needed (optional)

Sunday, Sept. 21st, 2025 - start time: 1PM

Living Word Lutheran Church- Milbank, SD

Registration prior is encouraged, but not required. Register by calling 605-686-9423



A concession stand will be open all day. A bonfire and s'mores will follow the tournament with music.



50% kept for the
Living Word Warriors
50% goes to one lucky
winner!



*MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN
THE WINNER HAS 1 WEEK TO
CLAIM IF NOT CLAIMED THE
WINNINGS WILL REMAIN WITH
THE LIVING WORD WARRIORS

\$5 / ticket

Tickets sold Sunday, September 14 & September 21.

The winner will be announced Sunday, September 21st towards the end of the Cornhole Tournament.



Fundation for the Living Word Warriors Cancer Team.
Proceeds will be given to It Only Takes A Spark Cancer Walk.



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September 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Labor Day Office Closed	2	3 1:00 Impact	4 9:00 Community Coffee Fellowship	5	6
7 RALLY SUNDAY 8:45 Sunday School 9:00 Coffee Fellowship 10:00 Worship/Communion/Bibles	8	9 9:00 Quilting	10 4-5 Feeding SD parking lot 6:30 Council	11 9:00 Community Coffee Fellowship	12	13
14 8:45 Sunday School 9:00 Coffee Fellowship 10:00 Worship	15	16 9:00 Faith Circle meets 7:00 Love Circle meets	17 3:30 Confirmation 3:30 Dynamic Disciples	18 9:00 Community Coffee Fellowship	19	20
21 Pastor Bill Moberly here 8:45 Sunday School 9:00 Coffee Fellowship 10:00 Worship 9:00 October Servant Team meets	22	23 9:00 Quilting	24 3:30 Confirmation 3:30 Dynamic Disciples NEWSLETTER ITEMS DUE	25 9:00 Community Coffee Fellowship 6:30 The Chosen Resumes	26	27
28 8:45 Sunday School 9:00 Coffee Fellowship 10:00 Worship	29	30				

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY

Happy
Birthday



HAPPY
ANNIVERSARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Berdan, Daniel, Daisy Rae (b.) Strege, Steve (b.)	2 Fenner, Janice (b.)	3	4 Greg & Lori Kasuske (w.) Nelson, Joanne (b.)	5 Balling, Tina (b.)	6
7 Busack, Carter (b.) Christensen, Roger (b.) Weber, Colby (b.)	8 Anderson, Linda (b.) Marty & Deb Buttkie (w.) Nolting, Bergen (b.) Sime, Brock (b.)	9	10 Bruce & Linda Larson (w.)	11 Olson, Jackie (b.) Ramsey, Timothy (b.) Van Peurse, Grant (b.)	12 Anderson, Isabella (b.)	13 Donald & Terry O'Connor (w.)
14 Nolting, Trevor (b.)	15	16 Forster, Carol (b.) Jamie & Hope Pekelder (w.)	17 Campbell, Harmony (b.) Harold & Beverly Zeigler (w.)	18	19 Hansen, Richard (b.) McMahon, Adam (b.) Wilson, Mason (b.)	20 Vostad, Susan (b.)
21 Gary & Marsha Meister (w.)	22	23	24 Richard & Sandra Hansen (w.)	25 Ronald & Linda Anderson (w.) Busack, Lacey (b.) Sandvig, Jack (b.)	26	27
28 Hallquist, Karen (b.)	29	30 Dornbusch, Renae (b.) Schwandt, Melanie (b.)				

LWLC Committee Contacts

2025 Council Members:

President: Jackie Olson

Vice President: Moe Reede

Secretary: Julie Berger

Youth & Education: Laurie Maas

Moe Reede

Worship & Evangelism: Sandy Christensen

Steve Strege

Treasurer/Finance: Deb Buttke

Property & Management: Tim DeJong

Newsletter: Michelle Simonson

Website: livingwordmilbank.com

Living Word Lutheran Women Officers:

Coordinator: Brenda Seehafer

Vice-coordinator: Sandy Christensen

Secretary: Lori Kasuske

Treasurer: Annette Redepenning

Mission Action: Gloria Cooley

Mission Growth: Linda Wagner

Mission Community:

Advisor: Marcia Heinje

Pastor: Curtis Simonson

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Pastor Curtis Simonson

