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**The Newsletter Deadline is the 20th of the month.**

**Please email to:**  
[ewpressler@suddenlink.net](mailto:ewpressler@suddenlink.net)

**or share with her on Sunday morning**



### MAY DEVOTION

#### What is Pentecost? Why does it matter?

**Pentecost** celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit 40 days after Easter. (Acts 2:1-31) Before the events of the first Pentecost there were followers of Jesus, but no movement that could be meaningfully called "the church." From an historical point of view, Pentecost is the day on which the church was started; from a spiritual perspective, Pentecost is the church's birthday since the Spirit brings the church into existence and enlivens it.

Liturgical celebrations of Pentecost are rich and varied. A main sign of Pentecost is the color red. It symbolizes joy and the fire of the Holy Spirit. This custom has extended to the congregation wearing red clothing in celebration. Other common symbols of the Holy Spirit are the dove or flames.

On Pentecost, Peter stood up and preached his first sermon. He interpreted the events of that morning in light of Joel's prophecy that God promised to pour out his Spirit on all flesh, empowering diverse people to exercise divine power. This would be a sign of the coming "day of the Lord" (Acts 2:16-21; Joel 2:28-32).

***So, then, what difference does it make for us today that the first Christians were filled with the Holy Spirit so long ago on the Jewish festival of Pentecost?***

What happened on the first Pentecost continues to happen to Christians throughout the world today, though usually not in such a dramatic fashion. Christians are meant to live in the presence and power of the Spirit of God. The Holy Spirit helps us to confess Jesus as Lord (1 Cor 12:3), binds us together as the body of Christ (1 Cor 12:12-13), and helps us to pray (Rom 8:26). The Spirit guides us (Gal 5:25), helping us to live like Jesus (Gal 5:22-23).

The Spirit could have been poured out on the followers of Jesus when they were not gathered together. Instead, it was received by the followers of Jesus grouped together. This gathering became the first Christian church. New believers in Jesus were baptized. They, along with the first followers of Jesus, shared life together, focusing on teaching, fellowship, breaking of bread, and prayer. They shared their belongings so that no one was hungry or needy. As these first Christians lived out their new faith together, "the Lord added to their number those who were being saved" (Acts 2:47).

But the fact that the Spirit was given to a gathering of believers is not incidental. It underscores the importance of the church in God's work in the world. Paul observes that the church is God's temple and that the Spirit dwells in the midst of the church.

Pentecost is a vivid illustration of the truth that is found throughout Scripture: the community of God's people is central to God's work in the world. Pentecost invites us to consider our own participation in the fellowship, worship, and mission of the church. It is a time to renew our commitment to live as an essential member of the body of Christ, using our gifts to build the church and share the love and justice of Christ with the world.

Adapted from an internet article by Mark D. Roberts on [patheos.com](http://patheos.com)

## Prayer List

*For continuing comfort and healing-*Carolyn Krick, Lelanie Exbom, DeMuri Family, Donna Kowalske, Pat Bingham, Brooke Moser, Judy Ann Krenning, Cathy Bain, Pastor Robyn Bezanson

If you know of someone who should be included in the monthly ongoing prayer list, or you yourself would like to be included, please contact Pastor Michael (509-710-3283).

## Combined Mission and Youth Report



### Sunday School/Youth

Due to the different dates of Spring Break at the local schools and vacation plans, Sunday School classes and Youth activities have been rather sporadic. Hopefully Sunday School will continue on a regular basis through May. Plans are being considered for a celebration of Pentecost Sunday. The youth will meet the end of April for a lunch in the park and to talk about summer plans

### **Need Something to Do??**

- Pray for Living Word Mexico Mission Trip May 14 through May 18.
- A faith camp will be held in the Williams area this summer for persons with disabilities and volunteers are needed to help with the camp. Contact Rosie Freeman for more info.
- Donna Pederson would like to organize a church team to cook & serve dinner on a bi-monthly basis at Cornerstone mission. Contact Donna for more info.
- See Pastor's note (pg. 6) to sign up for one of the many "volunteer" opportunities right at our church!



## Vision/Mission of Living Word Lutheran Church

### **Vision Statement**

Our vision is to be a welcoming, scripturally based community intentionally serving Christ through missions.

### **Mission Statement**

Living and growing in faith together as a spirit filled church with the Word of God as our foundation and reaching out through missions showing the Love of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, to Create a hunger in others to embrace the Word of God, salvation through Jesus Christ and guidance of the Holy Spirit.

**MAY EVENTS AT LWLC—JOIN IN WORSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP**

5/2, 5/9, 5/16, 5/23, 5/30 Men's Bible Study and Fellowship 8 AM

5/3 DAY OF PRAYER, Kingman City Hall, Noon

5/6, 5/13, 5/20, 5/27 Women's Bible Study 9 AM Women of the Bible

5/6 Church Council meeting after worship 11:30 AM

5/8 7th Anniversary of Living Word Lutheran Church

5/10 Allen-Flores Wedding Rehearsal 10 AM

5/11 Allen-Flores Wedding 10 AM

5/13 MOTHER'S DAY

5/14-5/18 Mexico Mission Trip

5/19 WOW Meeting, Crafts at the church 11:30 AM

5/20 **PENTECOST WORSHIP-Wear red!**

5/20 Church Picnic Walleck Ranch Park 12:30-3:30



**May 20**  
**12:30-3:30**  
**Walleck Ranch**  
**Park**

**TICKETS \$5 Adults**  
**\$3 Children**

**Hamburgers**  
**Hot Dogs**

**Beverages provided**



Bring your lawn chairs and your favorite picnic dish to share! Sing along with favorite worship songs.

Each ticket purchased comes with one Bingo Card.

**BINGO— GRAND PRIZE \$25 Cracker Barrel Gift Card**

***BONUS-1st 10 tickets sold receive an extra Bingo Card***



Red and orange-  
symbols of flames!

The colors symbolize the  
joy and fire of the Holy Spirit.

Find your brightest red or  
orange colored clothing to wear  
on Pentecost Sunday.

Join us in worship to  
celebrate the coming of the Holy  
Spirit on May 20.



### BIRTHDAYS

Cara Masterson	May 18
Pam Nomann	May 26
Bob Allison	May 31

### Anniversaries

Gary and Donna Ferguson May 15



### W.O.W Women of the Word:

Ten members met for lunch at the El Palacio Restaurant on Saturday, April 21st. Preparation and serving of lunch on Thursday, April 26th, at Living Word for the upcoming meeting of the KEMA group (Kingman Evangelical Ministry Association) group, of which Pastor Michael is a member, was discussed. Members volunteered to bring sandwiches, side dishes, drinks, dessert and to arrange setup/cleanup for the meeting. Also, the group discussed having a Father's Day Men's Breakfast in June. The next meeting of W.O.W. will be on Saturday, May 19th at the church. Rosie Freeman will lead a craft workshop on creating wooden crosses for the yard sale in the fall. All women of the church are warmly invited to participate. Come spend some time with your Christian Sisters!

### **Update on Brooke Moser (Pastor Stan and Julie Simonik's daughter)**

Dear Friends, We hope you had a wonderful Easter celebration!

Brooke is scheduled to have the 12th (final!) chemo treatment this Wednesday, April 4th. Prior to that, she will be meeting with her surgeon about possible two surgeries in the near future, with the goal of reconnecting the "plumbing." Right now she has to deal with the colostomy bag. She says that the chemo side effects, beside tiredness, are causing numbness in her fingers, which creates an added burden.

Thank you so much and God bless you for joining us with your prayers for Brooke. She is very brave and has handled this challenge with strong spirit and optimism. She is very grateful, as we are, for all the prayers in the powerful name of Jesus that are arriving at God's throne of grace. HE IS STRONGER THAN CANCER! May the Lord surround you with His favor! Julie & Stan Simonik



## LIVING WORD LUTHERAN CHURCH (SUMMARY APRIL 14, 2018)

President Bob Allison, Pastor Michael Birnbaum, Vice-President Ken Boulter, Pastor Assistant Eileen Pressler, Treasurer Arlene Allison, Mission Coordinator Rosie Freeman & Secretary Sharon Peterson.

Bob opened with prayer. Minutes from April meeting approved.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor Michael Birnbaum

Pastor has been in conversations with Deacon Ken from Good Shepherd Lutheran Church regarding the possibilities of renting worship space Good Shepherd. After more discussion a motion was made to have President Bob Allison and Vice President Ken Boulter contact the appropriate leaders of Good Shepherd to discuss the possibilities of renting from them. Motion passed.

**President's Report:** Bob Allison

Very happy and pleased on how well the St. Paddy's Dinner/Bingo Night went as well as the Pancake Breakfast for Easter.

**Treasurer:** Arlene Allison

Reviewed the report. As discussed prior, Arlene reported all line items with zero balance will be removed from the report. Report approved.

**Mission Coordinator:** Rosie Freeman

The 4 missions: AAPC, ROOT, ANNIE'S ATTIC & CORNER STONE. What projects do we want to do, quarterly or monthly? Just a brief overview of the missions, there will be more in-depth discussion for our afternoon session.

**Pastor Assistant:** Eileen Pressler

2 people have been given access to ChurchTrac database, Donna Pederson and MaryAnn Mallory.

We are still holding off on when to schedule Chamber of Commerce Ribbon cutting. Showed us some discount cards and would like suggestions on how to use them.

4/26 KEMA meeting and luncheon will be hosted by Living Word. The women of the church are hosting the lunch. 5/3 is a day of prayer and Pastor will be part of this, noon at Kingman City Hall. Report approved.

**Old Business:** No old business for discussion

**New Business:**

Discussion on creating a "Wedding Policy". Things to consider, cleaning before and after. Honorarium for Pastor, facilities fee (rehearsal/wedding), power point etc. Pastor, Rosie and Eileen will work on sample policy for next Council meeting. MaryAnn Mallory received sample of ink pens that might be used as gifts for visitors. The ink pen barrels light up and she suggested slogan of "The Light of Christ". Council approved purchase of pens, up to \$250. Eileen will talk with MaryAnn and ask her to place order. This could be a Thrivent project since it will be used for community outreach.

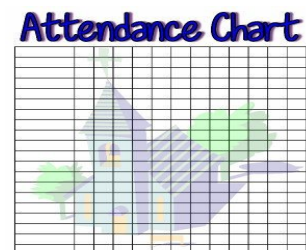
Next council meeting is scheduled for Sunday May 6<sup>th</sup>, 11:30 am

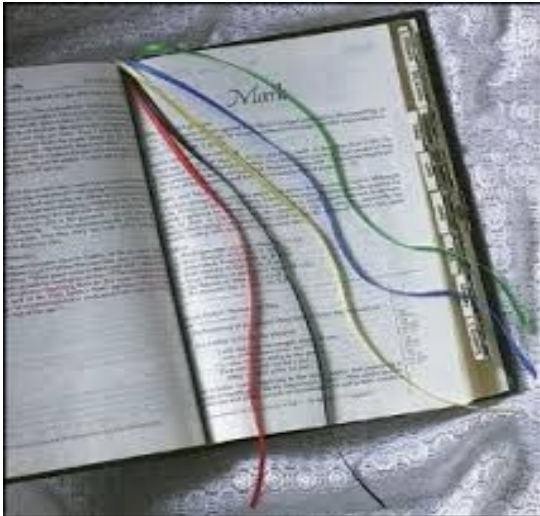
Council closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Sharon Peterson



FULL FINANCIAL AND  
ATTENDANCE REPORTS FOR  
EACH MONTH AVAILABLE FOR  
REVIEW IN OFFICE. STOP AND  
TAKE A LOOK!





## 5/6 Readings

Acts 10:44-48  
Psalm 98  
John 15:9-17

## 5/13 Readings

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26  
Psalm 1  
John 17:6-19

## 5/20 Readings

Acts 2:1-21  
Psalm 104:24-35  
John 15:26-27,  
16:4-15

## 5/27 Readings

Isaiah 6:1-8  
Psalm 150  
John 3:1-17



From the Pastor

Dear LW Family, As our church grows, ministry needs grow with it. This means we will be needing help in several areas in the months to come. Are you gifted in or just have a simple desire to serve in any of these areas? : children's ministry (both Sunday mornings and for a mid week program, work with Pastor in helping the needy in our area to get access to services they may need, planning fellowship events, gathering supplies for our mission efforts. Additionally, we'll be offering training starting in June in area to assist with worship: communion assistants, altar guild, readers, ushers, etc. Remember: every member gets a job!! :)

**Q (from a member):** *How is it that some people still dwell in guilt after communion?*

**Answer:** Holding on to guilt is probably the most common problem that results in pastoral counseling. We sometimes seem to be determined to hold on to guilt even after we receive Holy Communion and KNOW our sins are forgiven. I think part of the reason is because we think that by "feeling guilty" and robbing ourselves of peace we are somehow "paying the price" for our sins. Martin Luther did this before he read and studied Romans and God, through His Holy Spirit, "shook him up" and made him realize God's grace is just that – GRACE!! We can do nothing to deserve it or earn it—not even by "beating ourselves up" with guilt (Luther actually flagellated himself !)

God gave us the sacrament of Holy Communion to give us an actual EVENT of forgiveness, a moment, Biblically speaking, when we can KNOW FOR SURE He is not only present but actually forgiving our sins—the Bible says so!

*Pastor Michael*

## Have a question?

Submit it to Pastor Michael by email:  
[michael@islonline.org](mailto:michael@islonline.org)

See the answer in the next newsletter!



## Tidbits!



### Arts, Crafts, Woodworking, Etc. WE NEED YOU!

We're collecting handmade items for an arts & crafts area at the church yard sale in the fall. If you have a favorite hobby or skill in making handcrafts and would make 5 items to donate that would be wonderful. For more information or if you have questions, please call Karen Shaffer at (775) 513-8367 or catch her around the church keyboard on Sunday morning.

**CHURCH PHOTOGRAPHER NEEDED**-to take pictures during church activities and send by text or email to Eileen for the newsletter. The pay is cheap but the work is fun! Please contact Eileen-usually at the soundbooth each Sunday!

### Easter at Living Word



**Abigail**

**Claudia**

**Gomer**

Everyone knows the biblical name "Mary"  
But do you know who these women are?

Each one is in the Bible and played an important part in the work of the Lord....some Old Testament, some New Testament!

Join us on Sunday mornings at 9 AM for Women's Bible Study led by Eneida Birnbaum.

"Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love."

— Mother Teresa