



Volume 2021 Issue 9

Living Word Lutheran Church
Worship address: 2570 Northern Avenue
Mailing address 3880 Stockton Hill Rd. 103-300
Kingman, Arizona

Musings: (noun) contemplation, reflections, thoughts
September musings from Pastor Brandon!

Here we are in September already! The first Monday of the month is Labor Day. It was made a federal holiday by President Grover Cleveland in 1894 as a day of rest to recognize and honor workers and their achievements. It is actually a fitting holiday for us to start September off with here at the church, as we are going to be doing quite a bit of work this month!

We're going to be working on cleaning up the church. We're working on starting Sunday School. We're going to work on approving some church constitution changes. We're going to be working on some outreach at the county fair. We're working on the start of a confirmation program. We're working on starting up some adult studies too. We're working on having a new members class. We'll be working on coordinating and planning the "Giant, Huge, Really Big Yard Sale" at the beginning of October. And then there's all the work that you each do for your families, your jobs, and the kingdom of God on a regular basis already.

It is exciting to be doing all of this work! And yet, as we

Lutherans well know, these works are good to do, but none of them bring us any righteousness, or justification. They don't grant us any merits or grace. We have already been made righteous through faith in Christ, who has justified us by His grace.

And so now, since we have been justified, why then do we do these works? Not to be justified, but for our neighbor who needs our works, and for the Lord. In *The Freedom of the Christian*, Luther wrote:

"We should think of the works of a Christian who is justified and saved by faith because of the pure and free mercy of God, just as we would think of the works which Adam and Eve did in Paradise, and all their children would have done if they had not sinned. We read in Genesis 2 that 'The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it.' Now Adam was created righteous and upright and without sin by God so that he had no need of being justified and made upright through his tilling and keep-

ing the garden; but that he might not be idle, the Lord gave him a task to do, to cultivate and protect the garden. This task would truly have been the freest of works, done only to please God and not to obtain righteousness, which Adam already had in full measure and which would have been the birthright of us all.

The works of a believer are like this. Through his faith he has been restored to Paradise and created anew, has no need for works that he may become or be righteous; but that he may not be idle and may provide for and keep his body, he must do such works freely only to please God."

We have a lot planned this month, and the months that follow. I'm excited for us to work together for the good of Kingman, the growth of the church, and for the Glory of God!

Pastor Brandon



Inside this issue:

September Musings from Pastor Brandon	1
Worship news	2
Dates to Remember	2
Living Word in Action	3
Council information—July	4
Council information—August	5

Special points of interest:

- Sunday School Plans Pg. 3
- Still Small Voice Pg. 4
- Yard Sale Pg. 5

September Scriptures

9/5 Isaiah 35:4-7, Psalm 146, Mark 7: 24-37

9/12 Isaiah 50: 4-10, Psalm 116: 1-9, Mark 9: 14-29

9/19 Jeremiah 11: 18-20, Psalm 54, Mark 9:30-37

9/26 Numbers 11: 4-6, 10-16, 24-29, Psalm 104: 27-35, Mark 9:38-50

Prayer Requests

For continuing comfort and healing

Carolyn Krick, Lelanie Exbom, Pat Bingham, Vern Parsons, Char and Dale Matheny, Carol Wostal, Nick Nichols, Andrew Johnson, David Scroggins

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 Brandon (928-899-9743).



SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING 9/12/2021

A special meeting of our congregation has been called for September 12, following worship. In January, 2021, our congregation voted unanimously to apply for affiliation with AFLC (Association of Free Lutheran Congregations). Upon receiving our application, the AFLC Coordinating Committee reviewed the Living Word Constitution and suggested some changes for us to consider. Your church council met with two Coordinating Committee members in April to discuss suggested changes.

In the following weeks, our pastoral transition process took priority. Now that Pastor Brandon is "settled in", the council is ready to present suggested constitution changes to the congregation. All interested persons are cordially invited to attend this important meeting. Be sure to pick up a copy of changes to be discussed before the meeting on September 12. Voting members will be asked to discuss and approve the suggested changes.

See you there!



CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING

September Dates to Remember

September 1, 8, 15, 22, 29-Men's Bible Study and Fellowship 9 AM @ church

September 2, 19- Blessed and Unstoppable Women's Group, 5:30, place TBD

September 4, 18- Women's Bible Study 9 AM @ church

September 7-**COUNCIL MEETING** @ church 5 PM

September 11- WOW meeting , 11:30 @ church

September 12- **SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS-TENTATIVE DATE**

September 12-CONGREGATIONAL MEETING FOLLOWING WORSHIP

September 19-Pastor Brandon gives a message at Mohave County Fair, 1 PM



SEPTEMBER HELPERS

HAVE YOU SIGNED UP YET?

September 5 Reader-Eileen Pressler, Communion assist-Bev Valentine, Fellowship treats-Eileen Pressler

September 12 Reader-Todd Ormsby, Communion assist-Judy Ormsby, Fellowship treats-Dennie Burgett

September 19 Reader-Rosie Freeman, Communion assist-Alice Jensen, Fellowship treats-Alice Jensen

September 26 Reader Todd Ormsby. Communion assist-Judy Ormsby, **Fellowship treats-OPEN**

LIVING WORD IN ACTION!

There was a great turnout for the **Women Of the Word (W.O.W.)** meeting on August 12th. We started with a "Scripture Seeking" study on the topic of hope. Refreshing our knowledge of locating scripture in the Bible (including a mini discussion on technology convenience) proved interesting and somewhat challenging on some verses. We will continue to have "Scripture Seeking" studies with most of our monthly meetings.

The annual church **GIANT HUGE REALLY BIG** Yard sale will be held Friday & Saturday, October 8th & 9th. W.O.W. will serve as the organizer for the sale but it is a churchwide effort.

W.O.W. is eagerly seeking a chairperson for the sale and volunteers to serve on the yard sale committee. Due to lack of storage, yard sale donations cannot be accepted until the week of the sale, from Monday-Thursday October 4-7th.

In addition to the yard sale, volunteers are needed in several capacities at the church. Volunteers are encouraged to check the sign-up sheets on the back table in the sanctuary to find a place to serve the Lord's house that meets their skills and interests, gifts of the Lord.

The next meeting of W.O.W. will be Saturday, September 11th. Details will be provided closer to the meeting date.



Stay tuned!
You'll be hearing from us.

September Celebrations!



Small Groups Update It's time for us to grow our Small Groups!

Let's form small groups for parents, singles, couples, those who are grieving, crafting, and praying for others. There are many more

reasons to join in a common interest by meeting regularly in a small group.

If you have an idea for a new small group, or are interested in hosting a small group, please reach out to Pastor Scroggins or Pat Toth. Pat will help guide you through your first couple of sessions where you'll learn hosting is easy!

Small Groups Coordinator: Pat Toth - 928-565-1024
or PatriciaAToth@outlook.com

Pastor Brandon Scroggins -928-899-9743
or savedoncross@gmail.com

Alice Jensen Sep 5
Robert Pressler Sep 8
Ronald Valentine Sep 11
Richard Prather Sep 13
Glen Peterson Sep 19
Michael Birnbaum Sep 26



Bob and Eileen Pressler Sept. 13
Richard and Caroline Prather Sept. 15
Greg and Alice Jensen Sept. 18



Sunday School at Living Word!

Living Word will be using the **SEED** Curriculum from SOLA Publishing as Sunday School for our youth. Target date for Sunday School to begin is September 12. **SEED** Curriculum was designed to provide resources for younger and older elementary grades. The lessons will provide a complete Bible overview from Genesis to Revelation in each school year! Weekly lessons will include Bible stories and memory verses as well as age-appropriate work sheets, dramas, coloring pages, etc. The plan is for the youth to participate in Pr. Brandon's Children Messages, then go to Sunday School for their own special lessons! Stay tuned for more information as planning continues!

Living Word Council Minutes-Meeting Summary 7/5/2021

President Bob Pressler, Vice-President Rosie Freeman, Pastor Michael Birnbaum, Pastor Brandon Scroggins, Pastor Assistant Eileen Pressler, Mission Coordinator Alice Jensen & Secretary Sharon Peterson.

Meeting opened with prayer. June Council minutes approved.

Pastor's Report: (Full report attached) Pastor Michael Review of Pastor's care report. Working with Pastor Brandon on transition. Guys will be doing some moving of things around the church offices after Bible Study on Wednesday. Tried to contact Pres. Korhonen (AFLC). Parsonage issues: Painting will start this week in the girl's bedroom. Temporary fix for the side gate. Yard art: Pastor will set some aside for yard sale, remaining will be picked up by interested party. Furniture that is not needed, will be placed on Market Place (Facebook). Pastor has a commercial grade printer/copier/scanner/fax for sale. Motion approved to purchase using memorial funds.

Pastor Assistant: Eileen Pressler (full report attached) Installation/Ordination of Pastor Brandon is being planned for July 11, invitations to

Pastors and other guest have been sent out by email. Pastor Storvick will be taking part of the service. Turkey Dinner to follow. Fellowship time following worship resumed in June, passing of offering plates resumed. Letter of recommendation letter for Pastor Michael was written and read, approved by council, signed by all council members. Biblical Citizenship class has completed and the average attendance was 23. It was a Thrivent event. \$200 honorarium for Pastor Toni was given plus \$150 to our general fund. AFLC update: Council suggested constitution changes sent in June, waiting for response.

President-Financial Report: Bob Pressler (full report attached) Bob checked into the cost to have WOW have their own savings account. WOW would be required to keep and maintain a \$500 balance. Council decided not to pursue. Financial report reviewed and accepted.

Mission Coordinator: Alice Jensen Made contact with Teresa at AAPC, no needs at present. ROOT expressed thanks for support we have given. They are now working with Church on the Street. VBS is

Saturday July 10th. Will include blessing of backpacks. Altar guild request getting a cabinet to store communion cups/trays. Decision to move communion supplies into cabinet in front office.

Council accepted all reports.

New Business: After discussion, council approved Pr. Brandon's pay to have \$700 designated for housing and \$300 designated for education.

Meeting closed with Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted:
Sharon Peterson, Secretary

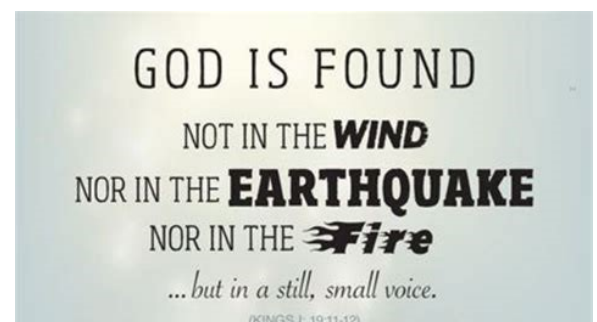


Still, Small Voice

In his message of August 29, Pastor Brandon introduced us to a new worship song. The song is based on 1 Kings 19:11-12, and was written and performed by a new artist, Johan Glidden. Johan says he wrote the song "a couple of years back about hearing God in the silence." The lyrics remind us that God is with us always, even when we're looking for Him in all the wrong places:

I tried to feel You in the earthquake,
I tried to see You in the eye of the storm
But I felt You heal all of my heartbreak,
with a still small voice, a still small voice

And I know Your footsteps, You walk in front of me
And then You carry me every time I fall
You're with me through it all
And I'm not running to the noise
No I'm not running to the noise



Here is the link to this wonderful new worship song:

<https://youtu.be/VLYBex0Jlgo>

Watch, listen and enjoy!

SPECIAL NOTE: In an effort to keep congregation up-to date regarding Council actions, at the August meeting, Council voted to include a synopsis of the last meeting held in each month's newsletter. Please note these minutes are a draft and subject to change until final approval. Below are DRAFT minutes of meeting 8/2/21

Living Word Council Minutes-Meeting Synopsis 8/2/2021-DRAFT

President Bob Pressler, Vice-President Rosie Freeman, Pastor Brandon Scroggins, Pastor Assistant Eileen Pressler, Mission Coordinator Alice Jensen & Secretary Sharon Peterson. Guest Donna Pederson

Pastor Brandon opened with prayer. July meeting minutes approved.

Pastor's Report: Pastoral Care report reviewed. This month: I have been most active with moving into the house and office. Began weekly meetings with Eileen for worship planning. Have begun working with ChurchTrac. Attending Men's Bible Study. As leader Greg is working on balancing projects and Bible Study. Attended VBS. Working on plans for Sunday School, Confirmation program possibly after Labor Day with Rally Day. Planning and scheduling a 1st communion class and recognition in service. Would like to start celebrating milestones with the children (ex: 1st Bibles, prayer for new drivers). Met with Pat Toth about Small Group ministry. Can we consider reschedule council meeting? Council decided on 1st Tuesday of the month at 5:30pm.

Pastor Assistant: Eileen Pressler Installation/Ordination service went very well. 78 in attendance. Suggest a Thank you to Pastor Dan Storvick for his assistance. Council approved purchase of \$200 gift card and all signed a card of Thanks. At the present time the plan is to continue worship using PowerPoint, music videos and Karen on keyboard. Council approved cost to purchase new back up drive for church computer. Additional church keys purchased, completed list of current member

who have a key. Have received 2 requests for updated church directory. Sharon will work on this. Worship assistant sign up sheets posted for balance of 2021, slow response to signing up. Council approved WOW request for Annual Yard Sale to be held October 8-9, with October 4-7 to be set aside for preparation. Discussion regarding setting date for congregational meeting to approve Constitution changes to submit to AFLC for completion of application for affiliation approved by congregation at January 2021 annual meeting.

President-Financial Report: Bob Pressler (full report attached) Paid Pastor Michael for his printer. Will purchase toner. Review was done of full financial report. Report accepted.

Mission Coordinator: Alice Jensen VBS went very well. There were 12 attending children & 13 helpers. 5 youth from our church, 7 were from outside our church. Upcoming events: Thanksgiving/Christmas food boxes. Rosie will apply for Thrivent sponsorship. Discussion was done on process to fill, pay for shipping. Rosie will check with Thrivent to verify they will support this project. Looking at Oct/Nov to have Bunco nights, one for Cornerstone and one for Advice and Aid for Pregnancy Center. Rosie and Sharon will help organize. Advice and Aid is also doing Pathway to Peace. This can be another project to sponsor. Communion supplies have been moved to white cabinet in front office. Pam made covers for all the vessels. Greg purchased an additional shelf for the cabinet.

Council approved all reports.

New Business: Pastor Brandon would like to have the minutes sent out to the council the week of the meeting. After council's review, draft would go out to the congregation. It will keep the congregation/council updated. Brandon will talk to AFLC to see if we fall under their 501C3.

Discussed Covid is on the uprise. Encourage the use of hand sanitizer and masks available. Need to have an official cleaning day. Need to clean up the Nursery so it can be used for Sunday School. Discussion regarding donation of books in Pastor's office to Senior Center and VHS tapes to Annie's Attic. Elk's Lodge contacted Pastor re: possibility of advertising with them in a flyer they distribute at Bingo, as well as on their web site. Cost would be \$258 for 6 months. Council decided not to advertise with Elk's Lodge but Pastor Brandon will investigate advertising on Facebook. Discussion with Pastor regarding his mentors as he continues work toward MDiv. Pastor reported his 3 mentor team members are Pr. Steve Bergeson: ministry mentor, making sure the doctrine is correct, a friend here in town for personal mentoring, regarding are sermons relatable, and helping assure he is keeping a balanced personal life, and a mentor from Sioux Falls Seminary making sure that all education requirements are met. Question was also asked on his office hours. He has not set up office hours yet.

Next meeting: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 5:30 PM Meeting closed with Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted:

Sharon Peterson, Secretary



Look Out! It's Coming!

GIANT, HUGE, REALLY BIG FUNDRAISER YARD SALE:

Living Word Lutheran Church

Friday & Saturday, October 8 & 9, 7am-1pm

Gather up all those items you've been cleaning out of the closets, garage, bookcases, etc. We will be open for yard sale donations to be

dropped off Monday-Thursday 10/4-10/7. Stay tuned for more info!

Sign-up sheets are already available for helpers!

We need **YOU!**



Living Word Lutheran Church



Worship-2570 Northern Ave.
Mail-3880 Stockton Hill Road 103-300
Kingman, Arizona 86409
Phone: 928-753-5952

We're on the web!

www.livingwordkingman.com

Facebook Living Word

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.

