



Volume 2020 Issue 11

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

November Devotion-

A story of Persistence

Here is a part of the Thanksgiving story you may not know. While the first Thanksgiving was celebrated in October of 1621, it was not until October of 1777 that all 13 colonies celebrated Thanksgiving, for the first time. At one point, our first president, George Washington, proclaimed a National Day of Thanksgiving, but conflict and difficulties among the colonies put an end to its observance.

It was a magazine editor, Sarah Josepha Hale, whose work led to the celebration of the Thanksgiving holiday we observe today. Hale wrote letters to governors and presidents, and editorials in magazines, books and newspapers, promoting the observance of Thanksgiving. In 1863, after 40 years of letter writing and campaigning (that's not a

typo, she really wrote letters for 40 years), Hale's persistence paid off and President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed a National Day of Thanksgiving. Since then, every president has supported Thanksgiving. Forty years of dedication, persistence and passion, all to make sure that this country would celebrate a National Day of Thanksgiving each year. Impressive.

We can learn from Hale's perseverance. It took her 40 years to accomplish what she set out to do. Just like her story, the Christian faith is often described as a marathon, not a sprint. Each day of our life is another day to choose between right and wrong, to help someone in need, to read our Bible and pray. As Paul reminds

us in Philippians 3:12-14, Christians are called to persevere, to press on. Sometimes it can feel like an unrewarding task. It is hard, but important, to look to God for the BIGGER plan.

What if Hale had chosen to give up after one year or ten years? Her goal would have been left unfinished. Press on towards the call of Christ! Endure! But be forewarned, just like Sara Josepha Hale, it may take 40 years to see the fruit of your labor!

Think about it:

- Are there areas in our lives that require this kind of perseverance?



I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

— Philippians 3:14

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"Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. —

Philippians 3:12-14

November Scriptures

11/1 1 John 3:1-3, Psalm 34: 1-10, 22; Matthew 5: 1-12

11/8 Romans 3: 19-28, Psalm 46, John 8: 31-36

11/15 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11, Psalm 90: 1-12, Matthew 25:14-30

11/22 Ephesians 1: 15-23, Psalm 95: 1-7, Matthew 25: 31-46

11/29 1 Corinthians 1: 3-9, Psalm 80: 1-7, 17-19, Mark 13: 24-37

Prayer Requests

For continuing comfort and healing

Carolyn Krick, Lelanie Exbom, Donna Kowalske, Pat Bingham, Vern Parsons, Char and Dale Matheny, Barbara McCord, Floyd Morris, Carol Wostal, Lula Stroud, Andrew Johnson, Mary Geihlsler

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).



Dear LW Family,

Understandably, some of our members would like to have a better “feel” for my weekly/Sunday schedule, particularly our newer members who were not here when Living Word first called me to be your pastor. Here are some basics of our working agreement which has been in place since I came to serve Living Word in 2017. My salary is a half-time salary for an experienced Pastor. This translates to 26 Sundays and 26 weeks “on duty” (out of 52 annually). I currently provide 46 Sundays of worship leading and preaching per year because I feel it doesn’t work for a pastor to only lead the church every other Sunday – consistency in “the pulpit” is essential. I will, however, have to begin taking my 26 weeks of “weekdays off” to accommodate my other work with Well Child International, grandkid time, and, at this point in time, visits with my ailing sister. In my weekday absences Eileen Pressler, as Pastoral Assistant maintains a list of pastors “on call” for emergencies. Thanks for your patience! Speaking about schedules, what a busy time we have in our growing little church this fall! Groups for starting, our attendance is back up over 40 where it was before COVID-19 along with beautiful new First Communion candidates last Sunday, and our church finances are back on track! God is good! Bring a friend this Sunday!

Pastor Michael

November Special Worship and Fellowship Events

Nov. 1-All Saints Sunday, Dedication of Flags for worship area, Commissioning of Small Group Leaders

Nov. 4, 11, 18, 25-Men’s Bible Study and Fellowship 8 AM at church

Nov. 4-Council meeting 1:30 PM

Nov. 5, 19-Women’s group

“Blessed and Unstoppable” 5:30 PM at IHOP

Nov. 7-Men’s Bible Study, 10 AM, Denny’s 3300 E. Andy Devine

Nov. 8-Reformation Worship

Nov. 12- Small Group Sampler, 7 PM, 3690 Miller, all invited!

Nov. 15-God’s Healing Meal Small Group, 2-3 PM 3007 Van Marter

Court

Nov 21-WOW meeting 11-1 PM

Brunch Pot Luck at church

Nov. 22-

Thanksgiving

Worship, Annual

Thanksgiving Din-

ner following worship

Nov. 29-First Sunday of Advent



WOW IN ACTION!



W.O.W. met for lunch on Saturday, October 17th, on a sunny patio at the Hot Rod Café. Nine members attended. Although the lunch was a social meeting, the members discussed serving cake and drinks at the celebration of First Communion of several of our youths on October 25th, the success of the Annual Yard Sale and a **W.O.W.** Christmas Party for the mem-

bers, which Rosie Freeman and Jan Davis volunteered to plan. Thanks Rosie and Jan!

W.O.W. also recognized and thanked Mary Ann Mallory for her dedicated service to the church and the **W.O.W.** group since she will soon be moving to the Pinetop area to live close to her daughter. A great time was had by all.

The November meeting of **W.O.W.** will be at the church on Saturday, November 21, with a brunch potluck, 11 am - 1 pm. All women who attend Living Word Lutheran Church are members of **W.O.W.** Join us in support of our church events and activities -- bring a friend!

W.O.W. Christmas Party

Living Word Lutheran Church

Saturday, December 12th,

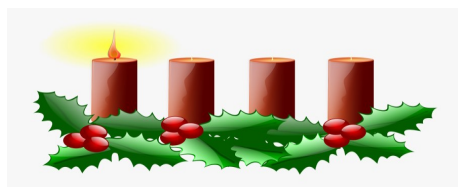
11am-1pm

White Elephant Gift Exchange



Games & Potluck Lunch

Signup sheet on back table



Advent? Already??

We're still recovering from Thanksgiving!

Advent is the four weeks before the celebration of the birth of Jesus. **November 29** is the first Sunday in this season this year and we will light the first of the four candles surrounding the white Christ candle. The candles symbolize joy, hope, peace and love.

This time before Christmas is a time of anticipation and waiting for the gift of this holy season. If we pay attention, God will surprise us with his presence. If we wait in stillness, we will find

him in unexpected places like a manger in Bethlehem.

Honoring this time by our attention and slowing down prepares our hearts for Christmas. Celebrating this time slows us down to recapture what we are seeking – Emmanuel – God with us. Advent is a gift. A time of behold the wonders of this expectant time of year. Embracing the themes of hope, joy and preparation we hear God clearer in his message of love and salvation in the birth of his son.

Advent invites us to slow down and enjoy the hope and miracle that each day of life brings us. Instead of overeating on carbs we really don't need, we fill our deepest emptiness with God.

We reset our internal watch to God's time. We hear His voice instead of

the constant barrage of buy, buy, buy. Honoring this time reminds us of the lessons in waiting, the joy in anticipation, the pricelessness of hope.

Preparing our hearts for Christmas isn't just another item to accomplish on an already overflowing to-do list. This time of the year leads us to pause, to breath and to capture those simple moments – a smile, the twinkling of a candle, the smell of cookies baking, the laughter of children, the ringing of the bells and the soothing melodies of the music we only hear once a year.

Observing Advent focuses our perspective on what is most important in our lives. It also deepens our experience of Christmas.

Look ahead with us to Advent worship!

November Celebrations

Nov. 1 Sharon Peterson

Nov. 6 Rosie Freeman

Nov. 11 Mac LaSoya

Nov. 13 Tieg Masterson

Nov. 15 Carol Nichols

Nov. 22 Ron Redmon



No November Anniversaries

Living Word Council Minutes-Meeting Summary 9/3/20

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

Meeting opened with prayer. August minutes approved.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Michael Birnbaum Men's retreat is looking good. There are 10 men signed up to attend. Moving to leave LCMC is best for Living Word. Congregational meeting is Wednesday Sept 9th, 2020. Jewish Voice Ministries event with Rabbi Zimmerman, Tuesday of Holy Week, request for funds to publicize and subsidize. \$350 for normal pastor fee and a freewill offering to be taken and given to them. Could be a Thrivent action program. Feel that we need to form a "Future Committee" to study future options for affiliation (to replace LCMC). Pastor had phone meeting with Pastor Lyndon Korhonen, Pres of AFLC. He could visit with us in Nov, early Dec or Jan. He would only ask that we send a gift to the 'presidents travel fund',

to defray expenses to come out to Kingman.

Pastor Assistant: Eileen Pressler Pastor's next compensated Sunday off is 9/27. Easter in August (8/30/20) was a success. Reception of new members and fellowship following worship was successful. The RETURN (Sept 26, 2020) Living Word is approved as a host site for simulcast. Currently waiting for schedule for the day. Orders placed for Flags for WOW, also ordered gloves and masks. Motion to pay sales taxes for full order approved. \$100 Gift from Soroptimist in memory of their member Marie LeRoy was received. Acknowledgement letter was sent.

Vice President-Financial Report: Bob Pressler Placed a call with RE-MAX to find out when we could sign the lease. Ordered and received camera from Amazon. Media Fund account still has \$107.75 still available. Sharon created You Tube Channel. Reports approved

Mission Coordinator: Rosie Freeman Advice & Aid Pregnancy Center has canceled their Tea. They are planning on do-

ing a silent auction event on Facebook in November. Rosie will contact ROOT to see what the needs are for back to school.

Old Business: American Flag display outside: The Jensen's donated a flag to be mounted on the front side of the church. Ken will mount it and WOW will be in charge of getting someone to put it up and take it down on Sundays and special holidays.

New Business: Special Congregational Meeting 9/9 Proposed Constitution/Bylaws revisions approved. Next meeting October 8, 2020 1:30 pm Meeting closed with Lord's Prayer. Respectfully submitted by Sharon Peterson, Secretary



Thank you!

Everyone who worships with us in person and all of you supporting us online deserve a big thank you! Your gifts supporting the ministries of Living Word Lutheran Church have been generous and we continue to operate in the black!

In spite of COVID, our work continues and we are beginning to look forward to planning for 2021. We are growing, and have added new members! We

are expanding worship opportunity with the addition of several new Small Groups! We purchased new equipment that allows us to record our worship service. We continue to support our local missions, pay our rent monthly, and support our Pastor.

We encourage all to continue financial support in one of several ways:

1-Drop your offering in one of the offering plates at the rear of the church.

2-If you are not able to attend worship in person, mail a personal check to our mailing address:

Living Word Lutheran Church
3880 Stockton Hill Rd. 103-300
Kingman, Arizona 86409

3-Contribute on a regular basis as several of our members do by using Bill Pay through their bank. Contact your bank to set up Bill Pay services. Tell your bank how often you want to contribute and the amount of your offering. The bank will generate an electronic check deducted from your checking account and mail it directly to our Living Word mailing address and even pay the postage!

As more opportunities come our way, your continued gifts of time, talent, and finances will help us to fulfill the work God sets before us. We look forward to 2021 with excitement and anticipation for what God will do in, with, and through us!



Living Word Small Groups focus on Bible Study. They're an easy way to study God's Word while sharing time with others who are also interested in growing in their faith.

Check out the chart and information below about Living Word Small Groups.

There's a Small Group that's just right for you!

Host	Description	Meeting Day(s)	Time AM-PM	Location
Ken Bourlier 928-715-3322	Bible Study – men	Wed.	8-10 AM	LWLC
Blues Reyes 928-715-9519 with Pastor Michael	Bible Study – Men “Ten Men of the Bible”	Saturdays starting Nov. 7	10 AM	Denny's, 3300 E Andy Devine (by Pilot Truck Stop) Breakfast on Your own
Beverly Valen- tine 928-377-2577	“Blessed and Unstoppa- ble” Women's Group for professional women	1 st & 3 rd Thurs.	5:30 PM	IHOP
Rosie Free- man 928-303-3983	God's Healing Meal – Bible study and Scripture -related food	1 Sunday each month	2-3 PM	3007 Van Marter Court
Donna Fergu- son 928-715-9660	Women's Bible Study based on Christian litera- ture	Every Wed., Beginning in January	3:30 PM	Black Bridge Brewery
Host needed	Bible Study – women “Ten Women of the Bi- ble”	Sat.	AM	LWLC
Host needed	Couples Bible Study			

GOD'S HEALING MEAL

Rosie Freeman's new Small Group met for the first time Sunday, October 25. The group prayed together; enjoyed a slice of Scripture cake; and read the Scripture passages that matched the ingredients used to bake the cake's recipe. After a little brainstorming, the group decided to call themselves “God's Healing Meal.” They'll meet one Sunday a month from 2-to-3 PM. Their next session will be Sunday, November 15th.

Call Rosie at 928-303-3983 if you're interested in joining or sampling her group. Don't forget God's Healing Meal is open to everyone. Feel free to invite a neighbor or friend.

TEN MEN OF THE BIBLE

New Saturday morning men's Bible Study! Several of the men who attended the Men's Retreat in Washington State will continue studying Max Lucado's “The Ten Men of the Bible.” This is a men's Small Group welcoming men from throughout the greater Kingman area.

Led by Blues Reyes with Pastor Michael, the Band of Brothers will meet weekly at 10 AM beginning November 7th. The group will be meeting at Denny's, 3300 E. Andy Devine. For more information, call Blues Reyes at 928-715-9519.

SMALL GROUP SAMPLER!!

OPEN TO EVERYONE - A one-time only sampler. Mark your calendar to attend **November 12th, 7 PM, 3690 N Miller Street, Kingman**. Bring your spouse, a neighbor, or your bestie as we spend an hour experiencing an in-home Small Group Bible Study led by Pastor Michael. This is a great opportunity to satisfy your curiosity about what Living Word Small Groups are all about. Call Pat Toth at 928-565-1024 with questions or for directions.

There's a second way to sample a Small Group. Call the host to RSVP that you'd like to attend their next meeting. After you've sampled the group, you might decide to join, host your own group, or sample another group. With an RSVP, you're welcome to sample every Small Group.

Living Word Lutheran Church



Worship-2570 Northern Ave.
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We're on the web!

www.livingwordkingman.com

Facebook Living Word



Almighty God, who hast given us this good land for our heritage; We humbly beseech Thee that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of Thy favor and glad to do Thy will." – Franklin D. Roosevelt

Good mashed potato is one of the great luxuries of life.

Lindsey Bareham

Reflect upon your present blessings — of which every man has many — not on your past misfortunes, of which all men have some. Charles Dickens

We should certainly count our blessings, but we should also make our blessings count. Neal A. Maxwell

We must find the time to stop and thank the people who make a difference in our lives. John F. Kennedy

On Thanksgiving I will stop to give thanks that my family is safe and healthy, especially because I realize that, following the tragedies of this year, it is all too real a possibility that they might not have been. Bobby Jindal

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.

