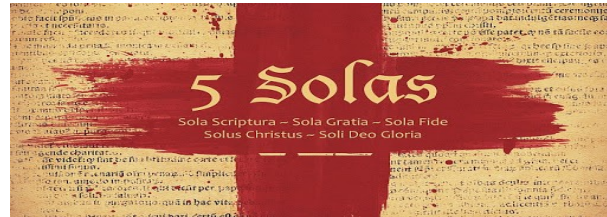




Volume 2020 Issue 10

Living Word Lutheran Church
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Kingman, Arizona

October Devotion- 5 Solas



The Protestant Reformation of the 16th century changed Christianity forever. Roused to action by the corruption and abuses they saw in the Roman Catholic church of the time, visionary pastors and leaders like Martin Luther and John Calvin spearheaded a movement that transformed Christianity and eventually led to the emergence of the Protestant denominations that exist today.

The Reformers were guided by the conviction that the church of their day had drifted away from the essential, original teachings of Christianity, especially in regard to what it was teaching about salvation—how people can be forgiven of sin through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and receive eternal life with God. The Reformation sought to re-orient Christianity on the original message of Jesus and the early church.

The Five Solas are five Latin phrases (or slogans) that emerged during the Reformation to summarize the Reformers' theological convictions about the essentials of Christianity.

The Five Solas are:

- 1. Sola Scriptura** ("Scripture alone"): The Bible alone is our highest authority.
- 2. Sola Fide** ("faith alone"): We are saved through faith

alone in Jesus Christ.

3. Sola Gratia ("grace alone"): We are saved by the grace of God alone.

4. Solus Christus ("Christ alone"): Jesus Christ alone is our Lord, Savior, and King.

5. Soli Deo Gloria ("to the glory of God alone"): We live for the glory of God alone.

Let's have a brief look at each of these five points.

SOLA SCRIPTURA

The Scriptures are our ultimate and trustworthy authority for faith and practice. Every word of the 66 books of the Bible is inspired by God's Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit also helps us to understand and obey Scripture.

SOLA FIDE AND SOLA GRATIA

We are saved solely through faith in Jesus Christ because of God's grace and Christ's merit alone. We are not saved by our merits or declared righteous by our good works. God grants salvation not because of the good things we do, and despite our sin.

God graciously preserves us and keeps us. When we are faithless toward him, he is still faithful. Sola fide and sola gratia express the teaching of Ephesians 2:8: "For by grace you have been saved through

faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."

SOLUS CHRISTUS

God has given the ultimate revelation of himself to us by sending Jesus Christ. Only through God's gracious self-revelation in Jesus do we come to a saving and transforming knowledge of God.

SOLI DEO GLORIA

Glory belongs to God alone. God's glory is the central motivation for salvation, not improving the lives of people—though that is a wonderful by product. God is not a means to an end—he is the means and the end.

The goal of all of life is to give glory to God alone: "Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God" (1 Corinthians 10:31).

As The Westminster Catechism says, the chief purpose of human life is "to glorify God and enjoy him forever."

Adapted from a 2012 internet article by Justin Holcomb, an Episcopal priest

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Special points of interest:

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October Scriptures

10/4 Philippians 4:4-9, Psalm 80:7-15, Matthew 21:33-46

10/11 Philippians 4:4-9, Psalm 23, Matthew 22:1-14

10/18 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10, Psalm 96: 1-13, Matthew 22:15-22

10/25 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8, Psalm 1, Matthew 22: 34-46

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,

As I write this pastor note for the October newsletter, I am on retreat with our men. We have been studying Max Lucado's book *10 Men of the Bible*. It has been a tremendous blessing for all of us. We're learning how God uses us in spite of our past to be tools in His hands for His future. It's a great reminder for all of us! As we begin this Fall together as a church, let's be thinking together of ways that God can use us in His Kingdom work through Living Word Lutheran Church and at the same time rejoice that nothing in the past keeps us from being all that He wants us to be now. Looking forward to seeing everyone's involvement in ministries and small groups this fall!

Pastor Michael

October Special Worship and Fellowship Events

Oct. 7,14,21,28-Men's Bible Study and Fellowship 8 AM at church

Oct. 8-Council meeting 1:30 PM

Oct. 8,15-Women's group "Blessed and Unstoppable" 5:30 PM at church

Contact Bev Valentine for more info- 928-377-2577 or beverlyvalentine@citlink.net

Oct. 17-WOW meeting 11-1 PM Hot Rod Café, see pg. 3 for details

Oct. 24-Pre-Communion Class for Youth 9:30-11 AM at church

Oct 25-NEW SMALL GROUP 2-3 PM at Rosie Freeman's home



There will be a class on communion for young people (3rd grade & up) on October 24th from 9:30-11:30 a.m. at the church. After receiving instruction and understanding the meaning of communion, these young people will celebrate their first communion with the church family on a special Sunday. Please contact Donna Pederson (753-5762) for registration and more information.

NEW Small Group!

Rosie Freeman is leading our newest Living Word Small Group. Mark your calendar to attend the first meeting Sunday, **October 25th, from 2-to-3 PM** at Rosie's home.

Rosie plans to begin each meeting with Bible Study and then share a recipe or already prepared food related to Scripture and/or good nutrition. If you'd like to help name this new group and decide how often they meet, be sure to attend!

Men, women, solo friends, and couples are invited. Feel free to bring your adult neighbors, friends, or family members.

RSVP: Call Rosie at 928-303-3983 to RSVP and to get directions to her home at 3007 Van Marter Court, Kingman. This will be a spiritually uplifting, fun (and delicious!) Small Group so be sure to call Rosie soon!



WOW IN ACTION!

We will meet
on the patio, weather
permitting.



The business agenda will be very light and visiting will be encouraged. All women who attend Living Word are members of WOW so please come and bring a friend.

SEE PAGES 4 & 5 FOR PICS OF THE MOST RECENT WOW EVENT!

Salt Project for Mexico Missions



Thank You and God's blessings to everyone who participated in the Salt drive to help missions in Mexico during the pandemic. W.O.W. was pleased to donate the sum of **\$306.30 to the Well Child International** fund on behalf of the Living Word Lutheran Church family. These coins were collected, in thanks to the Lord for the food we are given and turned pennies, nickels, dimes and dollars into a worthy sum to help our neighbors!



The WOW (Women Of the Word) October social meeting will be held on Saturday, October 17th from 11:00pm-1:00 pm at the Hot Rod Cafe, 2215 Hualapai Mountain Rd, Kingman, 718-1500.

What is a Living Word Small Group?

You're probably hearing people talking about Small Groups on Sunday mornings, but do you know what they are? They're exciting and enriching, and spiritually uplifting!

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.

The Wednesday morning "Men's Bible Study and Fellowship" is a good example of a Small Group focused on Bible Study. There also are Small Groups combining Bible Study with a common interest and prayer. The "Blessed and Unstoppable" women's group led by Bev Valentine provides Christian support for working women.



At Living Word, we are in the process of forming several new Small Groups. These new Small Group leaders are inviting family, friends, neighbors, and whomever they think will enjoy being in a group of from 2-to-10 people. They plan to meet regularly for an agreed upon number of weeks.

You'll learn more about these groups soon.

Small Group leaders don't need to be teachers or experts in theology or the Bible. They're everyday people who love Jesus and want to share God's Word. If you're interested in forming or joining a Small Group, you'll have all the guidance, materials, and support you need. To learn more or get started, contact Pastor Michael or the Small Groups Coordinator, Pat Toth (928-565-1024).

COMING SOON!!

**SMALL GROUP
SAMPLERS!!**



October Celebrations

Oct. 2 Shelley Cleve

Oct. 6 Michael Nielsen

Oct. 9 Brian Burgett

Oct. 22 Pam Burgett

Oct. 29 Donna Kowalske



Oct. 1 Todd & Judy Ormsby

Oct. 14 Ron & Pearl Redmon

Oct. 17 John & Karen Shaffer

Living Word Council Minutes-Meeting Summary 8/3/20

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. July minutes approved.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Michael Birnbaum Being that pastor is spending more time at the church office, he is finding a few members dropping by. This is a very good. Some are coming by for counsel while others are there to just visit. According to the alarm company we can have 10 unique personal codes at no extra charge. First step is to get a list of people who have keys to the church, Eileen said she would work on this. Once we have this list we will discuss further the idea of personal codes for the alarm.

New members will be received on August 30th, Easter in August. Working with Eileen on all options for Easter II. Men's retreat at Pastor's families ranch is September 25-30. We will need a supply pastor for Sunday September 27th. Pastor

gave a full report on Pastoral care.

Pastor Assistant: Eileen Pressler Pastors next Sunday off is September 27th (Men's retreat). Will check availability with Pastor Steve, Pastor Jeff or Pastor Dan.

Easter in August (August 30) we are also planning reception of new members welcome gifts. Council approved. Would like to also do some sort of treats for Easter. Rosie and Eileen will discuss further. Communion distribution will resume during in-person worship.

Vice President-Financial Report: Bob Pressler Council reviewed and approved all reports.

President Report: Ken Bourlier Donna Pederson/WOW would like to purchase flags (American/Christian) for the pulpit area as well as for outside. Council discussed what would be needed. Council approved motion to purchase flags for the pulpit. Not approved flag for outside due to concern about finding volunteers to care for the flag.

Mission Coordinator: Rosie Freeman

Advice & Aid Pregnancy center is planning their Tea in October. Due to COVID, they are not sure if they will be able to work out all the details. We will wait to schedule a Thrivent action team at this time.

Old Business: Media Team Project: Council will purchase a video camera. Bob said he will make the purchase using the specially designated funds that have been donated for this project.

Next meeting September 3, 2020 at 1:30 pm

Meeting was closed with Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted:

Sharon Peterson, Secretary



GIANT, HUGE, REALLY BIG FUNDRAISER YARD SALE OCTOBER 2 & 3



Goodies for Sale!



Am I big enough for school yet?



Shopping is a family affair!



I was here last year and came back to see you this year!



Do these shoes fit??



BAND OF BROTHERS

LAKE ROOSEVELT, WASHINGTON

SEPTEMBER 29, 2020

This Band of Brothers isn't a band that plays music at your local pub or a band you may read about in Rolling Stone Magazine. Like the Emmy & Golden Globe winning 2001 movie *Band of Brothers*, each man here in this photo

had an important role during their time together in Hunter, Washington. Michael Birnbaum was responsible for keeping his men together and safe. Ken carried strong spirit, Bob the brains on calculating, Tim the ears and eyes of a

"hunter", Randy keeping us laughing, Brian the "mechanics brain", and Blues, well, he kept them thinking!

**Photo and article submitted by Blues Reyes after the Men's Retreat.

YARD SALE CREW



Yard Sale raised \$2,326.73

The Red, White & Blue

Have you noticed that Living Word is now flying our national flag?

We thank **Vern Parsons** who dutifully posts and removes the flag each Sunday morning. Vern has a very honorable military background and is seen saluting the flag after it posted.

The flag will also be seen flying on national holidays, thanks to **Shelley Cleve** who has volunteered to serve as our holiday flag person. We thank Vern and Shelley for serving in these positions as we honor our God and Country!

May God bless America!



Living Word Lutheran Church



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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.

Pastor Michael-isms!

During the stressful months of the COVID pandemic, we worshipped together, at first online and more recently in our worship area! Here is a "flash back" to some of the things Pastor Michael has emphasized during his Sunday messages. Enjoy!



"No quarantine can keep us from the virus of sin." 2/16/2020

"We are not always ready for what God wants us to do!" 3/8/2020

"Don't put your expectations on God." 4/26/2020

"God created us to be together." 5/31/2020

"Jesus is still in authority" 6/7/2020

"Say Grace in public!" 6/28/2020

"Pray like a child." 8/2/2020

"Forgiven people are forgiving people. Forgiving people are forgiven people." 8/16/2020

Let God train your heart to forgive." (9/13/2020)

