

## Calendar

### Tuesday

6:30pm - Women's Study at Ruth Olson's

### Wednesday

6:30pm - Faith 'n' Friends

6:30pm - Youth Group

6:30pm - Foundations of Faith Adult Study

### Thursday

7:00pm - WOW (Women of the Word)

Planning Team Meeting

### Sunday

7:40am - Prayer Time

8:00am & 10:45am - Worship Services

9:30am - Sunday School for all Ages

## Looking Ahead

### November 26

Thanksgiving Eve Service at 6:45pm

## Cleaning Ministry Card

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email or Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

My family is interested in being responsible to clean & maintain (check one):

- Narthex  
 Sanctuary  
 East Classrooms & Common Area  
 Nursery  
 No Preference

The responsibility for any of these areas can be shared with another family. Please place this card in the offering plate or on the Welcome Center.

If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Griebel (515-490-0343).

# What's Happening at Living Word & Beyond?

## AFLC Devotional

*"The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."* Psalm 18:2

As David begins Psalm 18, he confesses that God is his refuge. David is writing this Psalm, according to the title, in response to when "the LORD rescued him from the hand of all his enemies, and from the hand of Saul."

David was an expert in responding to attacks from enemies. It wasn't just because he was a skilled soldier in Israel's armies, but because throughout his lifetime he had so many enemies. Foreign armies, King Saul and his supporters, and even members of his own family pursued David at various times during his life.

We too have our share of enemies, and none is greater than the devil. The Bible tells us that he "prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour" (1 Peter 5:8). He is called a murderer and the father of lies (John 8:44), the deceiver (Revelation 12:9), and the accuser of our brothers (Revelation 12:10).

I think we often underestimate Satan as an accuser. No matter what our situation in life, you and I suffer from the same condition: sin. And as sinners, you and I deserve death as punishment for our sin. This is where the devil comes in and accuses us. He accuses us before God, and he accuses our own consciences. He reminds us of our sins and failures constantly, pointing out our unworthiness to be called children of God.

When we experience these attacks and accusations, we need to flee to God as our refuge. But why would we do that when it is God Himself who is angry with us for our sins (Romans 1:18)? Because God poured His wrath on His Son, Jesus Christ, for our sins instead of on us. With Christ as our substitute on the cross, God declares us righteous before Him—He removes our sins as far as the east is from the west (Psalm 103:12).

And so we are permitted to flee to God and to ask for forgiveness (Matthew 6:12). When the devil attacks and accuses us, reminding us of our sins and failures, we can respond as Martin Luther once did: "I admit that I deserve death and hell. What of it? For I know one who suffered and made satisfaction on my behalf. His name is Jesus Christ, Son of God, and where He is there I shall be also!"

Pastor Jason Gudim of Faith Free Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, Minnesota

## Today

8:00am - Worship Service

9:30am - Sunday School for All Ages

9:45am - Long Range Planning Presentation

(see below for more information)

10:45am - Worship Service

10:45am - Christian Education Team Meeting

Children's Sunday School begins in the Sanctuary at 9:30am

Discovering Living Word begins in the East Classroom at 9:30am

Long-Range Planning Presentation in the Sanctuary at 9:45am

## A Clean Start!

From the time that we moved into this building, the church has been cleaned and maintained by a small group of people. Their hard work and dedication has made Living Word a warm, clean and hospitable place of worship for congregational members and guests. We are extremely thankful for their years of service!

However, there is a need for help in this area. We invite other congregational members and regular attendees to participate in cleaning Living Word. We are asking for families to help in this ministry by committing to one year of regular cleaning and care of one designated area of the church.

Many of the areas in the church will continue to be cleaned by the previous families. Are you willing to be responsible for cleaning and maintaining any of the following areas?

- Narthex
- Sanctuary
- East Classrooms & Common Area
- Nursery

Please pray about this opportunity for ministry to fellow believers and guests. If you would like to serve, fill out the tear-off card (lower left of bulletin) and place in offering plate or at the Welcome Center.

## Christmas Program Dates to Remember

Sunday, November 30 -

Christmas Program Rehearsal 9:30 to 10:30

Sunday, December 7th -

Christmas Program Rehearsal 9:30 to 10:30

Saturday, December 13th -

Program DRESS REHEARSAL 9:00 to 10:30

Sunday, December 14th -

Christmas Program 9:30

## Serve Breakfast at The Banquet...

... on Monday December 8th! Sign-up sheet is at the welcome table in the Narathex.

We need:

5 Cooks to arrive at 5:30am

25 Servers to arrive at 6:30am

Age Guidelines:

13 year olds can work in the kitchen

10-12 year olds may only wash tables and carry trays

Under 10 - please use your own discretion or talk

with Christina Smith

## Pray This Week For:

### Recent Request:

Pastor Brandt's PSA numbers went up again according to a recent test. He is scheduled for scans at the Mayo Clinic beginning on November 25. Please pray for him, wife Colleen, and family as they find their rest & refuge in the Lord God.

### Ongoing Requests:

Cancer: Pastor Mike Brandt, Pastor Richard Gilman (grandfather of Sara Oakland),  
Health: Arden and Dottie Egan, Nancy Brekke's mother (Myrtle), Stephanie Person, Mark Joffer & Sherry DeNeui's mother (Shirley)

Other: Dakota Case, Chuck and Jennifer Case, Jerry Kratochvil, Dorene Gaard's brother (Kent Scott), Marv Nelson, Doreen Miller and family, Kelli Moffitt and family, Marianne Siegfried and family, Barb Sperling and family, Lori Grimes and family, Angel Luttman, Randy Marsh's niece

**Baby Coming to:** Craig & Ashley Doeden

### Active Military:

Austin VanMeveren, Garret & Jennie VanMeveren, Clayton VanMeveren

### AFLC Requests:

Praise God for the healthy arrival of Joshua Dan, son of Justo & Patricia Pillman, AFLC missionaries to Ecuador; pray also for wisdom in their ministry work.

**Please send requests and/or updates to [prayer@lwflc.org](mailto:prayer@lwflc.org).**

## Bible Readings

### Week of November 17-23

Monday	Acts 9-11
Tuesday	Acts 12-14
Wednesday	James 1-5
Thursday	Galatians 1-3
Friday	Galatians 4-6
Saturday	Acts 15-16
Sunday	Rest

[lwflc.org/ScriptureReadings](http://lwflc.org/ScriptureReadings)

## Connection Card

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please note an address change

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I'm interested in:

Email newsletter

Living Word blog

Prayer Request Notifications

Please note an email address change

Please place this card in the offering plate or on the Welcome Table. Prayer requests and updates can be sent to [prayer@lwflc.org](mailto:prayer@lwflc.org).

## Pastor's Notes

### Thanks Be To Our God For Grief (Psalm 13)

Someone asked me recently, "When was the last time you heard a sermon on grief?" I thought of one instantly, and of a few others since. But I just said "one" and "a few others" when referring to instruction a topic that is as common as it is essential.

Grieving is common because we all grieve for something - and will in the future grieve again. We live in a fallen world, the fruit of which is sickness, pain, death, rejection, betrayal, heartache... all things that wound us deeply. Grieving is essential in that it is the path through which these wounds are healed, ultimately by God.

If we grieve in the hands of the Living God we will still cry, but our tears will become less bitter and more sweet with the passage of time. Time itself, though, does not heal wounds. If we fail to grieve we remain wounded - and often wound others.

One of the truths I have learned about grief is that the source of that grief matters little. Michele and I went through something several years ago and found people comforting us with words like "I can't imagine what you're going through." But I KNEW what THEY had been through, and in my mind it didn't compare with our trial. Their grief, it seemed to me, was more reasonable than ours. It is not the source of grief, but grief itself that we experience in a time of loss.

I have become more emotionally aware in the past months as we grieve leaving Living Word. We're satisfied that our move is good and Godly, but man, has it been hard. I find myself using life and death metaphors to describe it - and surely that is inappropriate. But as a friend told me, "You're experiencing loss, not death. Both death and leaving are opportunities for loss."

So today I would like to share with you from Psalm 13, a psalm of lament, some lessons from God on the subject of grieving. It's something to embrace, not avoid. And as for that "one message on grief" I referenced in the first paragraph, here it is, from my late friend Jeremy Erickson:

<http://stillhereandstillhis.wordpress.com/2014/06/10/a-hope-to-bank-on/>

Jer helped his loved ones grieve both before and after his death. I hope to say something helpful from Psalm 13, but this message is the finest I know on the subject.

Grieved, but not despairing,

- Pastor Wade

## Visiting us today?

We are so glad you are with us today! Please visit the Welcome Center for more information about Living Word and sign our Guest Register or fill out the form to the right. Join us for fellowship in the Narthex after the service.

Here are some things you might want to know:

- Nursery is available after the Tithes and Offerings portion of the service for children through three years of age.
- Please visit the Welcome Center to learn more about the Christian Education opportunities for children, youth and adults.
- To find out more about our larger church body, the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations (AFLC), please visit the Welcome Table or [www.lwflc.org/FreeLutheran](http://www.lwflc.org/FreeLutheran)

## Sermon Notes

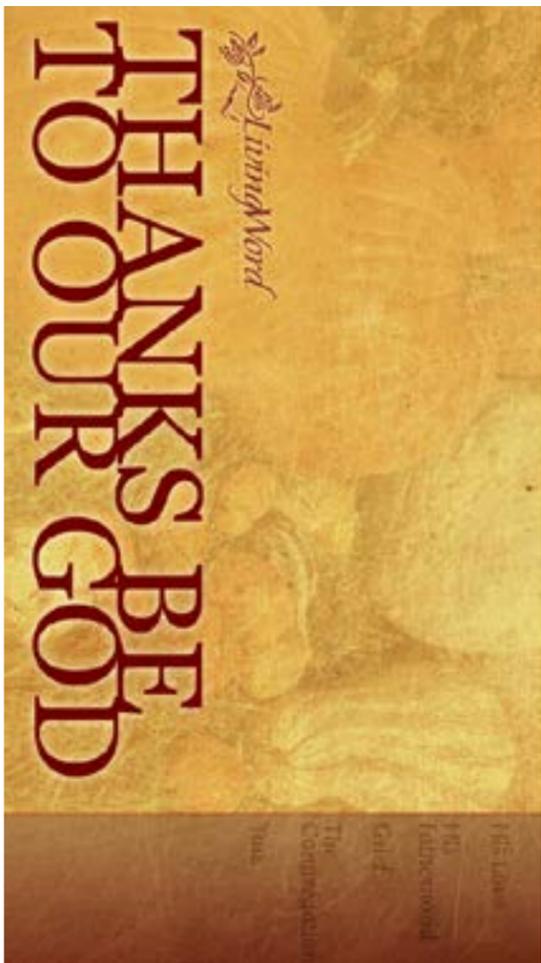
### Thanks Be To Our God For Grief (Psalm 13)

Three ways essentials of good grief

- 1) Acknowledge the \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 1-2)
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_ out to the Living God (v. 3-4)
- 3) Trust in God's \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 5-6)

### Takeaways

- A) Embrace \_\_\_\_\_ grief
- B) Grieving, with \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Thessalonians 4:13)
- C) A confession of \_\_\_\_\_, or a confession of \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Thessalonians 4:14)



# November 16, 2014

**Call to Worship** - Colossians 3:15-17

*Now Thank We All Our God*

*Abide With Me*

**Confession of Sin**

**Absolution / Assurance**

**Confession of Faith** - Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Dedication

**Announcements**

**Tithes and Offerings** (nursery open for children age 3 and under)

**Prayer Time**

**Scripture Readings** - John 11:17-44; 2 Corinthians 1:3-9

**Message:** Thanks Be To Our God For Grief (Psalm 13)

*Be Still My Soul*

*The Solid Rock*

**Benediction**