

## Calendar

### Wednesday

No Wednesday Night Activities

### Sunday

8:40am – Prayer Time

9:00am – Worship Service

10:30am – Sunday School for all Ages

## Looking Ahead

### January 7

Faith 'n' Friends Resumes

## Today:

9:00am - Worship Service

*Please fill out the Connection Card on the reverse side so we can know you were with us today!*

*We'd love to connect with you online as well!  
See below for our most active channels:*

Web: [www.lwflc.org](http://www.lwflc.org)

Facebook:

[facebook.com/livingwordfreelutheran](https://www.facebook.com/livingwordfreelutheran)

Twitter @lwflc

# What's Happening at Living Word & Beyond?

## The Joy of Christmas

by Mrs. Lynn Wellumson, President, AFLC Women's Missionary Federation  
Williston, North Dakota

*"But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart." Luke 2:10*

This verse certainly relates back to Luke 1:34: "And Mary said to the angel, 'How will this be, since I am a virgin?'" Mary knew she was holding the Son of God in her arms. She was entrusted by God to raise His Son. She had heard the prophecies of a coming Savior, a coming King, and she was holding Him in her very own arms. This truth was proclaimed in churches throughout the world just a few days ago. God sent His own Son to die in our place. He was sent to earth with the sole mission of being the propitiation for our sins. Amazing? Miraculous? That, and much more.

Our family sat around the Christmas tree on Christmas Eve and read the amazing account. God loved each one of us so much that He sent His only Son. I looked at each of my children and grandchildren and thanked God for the past year, and pondered while entrusting each one to God's protection, forgiveness, and mercy as they face the uncertainties of this fallen world. We can bravely face a new year because God has gone before us, surrounds us, and will never forsake us.

It is a good thing that we stop other activities once a year to focus on how God sent His gift to us of peace and hope in His Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. May we ponder deeply and not be so busy with the trappings of the season that we miss the awesomeness of this gift. May our stopping to ponder lead us to treasure God's gift in our hearts throughout the year. A familiar hymn by William Dix portrays the wonder so well:

*Why lies He in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?*

*Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.*

*Nails, spear shall pierce Him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;*

*Hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the Son of Mary!*

## Pray This Week For:

### Recent Requests:

Please pray for Joe & Betty Volz's friend's grandson, 8-yr-old Tom Rokahr. Tom has had leukemia for over 2 years and received a bone marrow transplant Wednesday.

### Ongoing Requests:

Cancer: Jan Mobley, Pastor Mike Brandt, Pastor Richard Gilman (grandfather of Sara Oakland)

Health: Arden & Dottie Egan, Nancy Brekke's mother (Myrtle), Stephanie Person, Mark Joffer & Sherry DeNeui's mother (Shirley), Cindy Stevens' father (Cliff Hrdlicka), Dakota Case, Chuck & Jennifer Case, Jerry Kratochvil, Angel Luttmann, Randy Marsh's niece, Elizabeth Dutton, Pauline Wolters

Other: Dorene Gaard's brother (Kent Scott), Doreen Miller & family, Kelli Moffitt & family, Marianne Siegfried & family, Barb Sperling & family, Lori Grimes & family

## Lost and Found Items

Please help us spruce up the physical space at Living Word this holiday season by checking the Lost and Found table in the Narthex for items you may be missing. The table will be there through Wednesday, December 31. Remaining items will be donated or disposed of at that time.

## Give Yourself a Gift!

Ladies, if you'd like to receive the gift of a new friendship in 2015, now is the time to do your shopping! A copy of the book "Face to Face with Elizabeth and Mary" is available for preview at the Welcome Center. This six-week study explores the reciprocal benefits and joys of one generation investing in the next, and will help you form a deeper friendship with one other Woman of the Word. Though we won't begin until January 11, the registration and book order deadline is Monday, December 29. To participate, please complete a pink registration form and place it in the gift box on the desk. For questions, please contact Mallory Hoekman, Carol Barse or Karen Asfeldt.

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

**Active Military:** Austin VanMeveren, Garret & Jennie VanMeveren, Clayton VanMeveren

### AFLC Request:

Please pray for the Home Missions Department as they seek God's direction in the best use of His resources as they build new & support existing congregations in bringing the light of Jesus to the world.

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

## Find Your "Three"

Today's message from Pastor Jim Rasmussen will be highlighting the importance of discipleship in 2015. Jesus' command was clear that we are to go and make disciples of all nations.

Discipleship can take on different forms, from mentoring a growing or mature Christian to coming alongside a brand new believer. It also takes the form of seeking the lost and sharing the news of Jesus Christ with them.

In 2015, you will be hearing language from Living Word's staff that we would like you to find your "three." Identify three people in your life that either do not know Jesus, are not currently active in a church, or were currently active but have left the church for any reason. We would love to see you invite any and all of those people to Living Word, and you will be hearing about easy opportunities to do so in 2015.

## Bible Readings

### Week of December 29 - January 4

Monday	1 John 2 John 3 John
Tuesday	Revelation 1-5
Wednesday	Revelation 6-10
Thursday	Revelation 11-13
Friday	Revelation 14-18
Saturday	Revelation 19-22
Sunday	Rest

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



## Sermon Preview

### Discipleship in 2015 | Matthew 28:18-20

The average Christian loves to take the easy road in their walk with God, but Jesus calls everyone who considers them self a believer to have a focus totally on Jesus, that is be a disciple.

God is calling everyone here today to be a disciple that reproduces. That is that we not only teach someone the true of the Word but that we help them to apply the Word with the understanding that there will be reproduction.

The message today will lay out some of the exacting disciplines that a disciple is required to have!!

*Pastor Jim Rasmussen, AFLC Director of Evangelism*

## Notes



**Discipleship in 2015 (Matthew 28:18-20)**

*A disciple abides in the Word*

*A disciple has love for everyone*

*A disciple bears fruit*

*A disciple hates all except Jesus*

*A disciple carries their cross daily*

*A disciple gives up all their possessions*

## Connection Card

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

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

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

Please note an address change

I'm interested in:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Email newsletter
<input type="checkbox"/>	Living Word blog
<input type="checkbox"/>	Prayer Request Notifications
<input type="checkbox"/>	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).

## 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.
- Sunday School for all ages will resume on January 4th. 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 Center or our web site at [www.lwflc.org/freelutheran](http://www.lwflc.org/freelutheran).



## December 28, 2014

**Call to Worship** Matthew 11:28-30

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

*The First Noel*

*What Child Is This?*

**Confession of Faith:** The Apostles' Creed

**Announcements**

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

**Prayer Time**

**Scripture Readings:** Luke 14:25-33; 2 Cor 5:17-21

**Message: Discipleship in 2015** (Matthew 28:18-20)

*Away In A Manger*

*Angels We Have Heard On High*

**Benediction**