

LIVING WORD

Weekly Update

Tuesday, April 14, 2020

Update

“HE HAS RISEN!! HE HAS RISEN INDEED!”

It is our prayer that you experienced the joy of Easter, despite the odd circumstances that we find ourselves in this year. It sure felt strange for the few of us who were at the church, putting out the live-stream services this past week! Having the building empty on Easter was especially alarming. It just did not seem right! And yet, all of us who put those services together felt the Holy Spirit moving. God was at work and His Word went forth to all sorts of places across this country and world. You would be shocked to know the many and various states and countries that were reached by our services and thus the Gospel! We know that some of those people who joined us in worship were led to tune in because of the current situation in the world. God is using this time for revival. God is using this time to draw people to Himself! Because we know that this is true - please pray. Pray that the name of Jesus gets exalted and that through this pandemic the world experiences an incredible revival! Pray for Living Word to be used in powerful ways that bring glory to Jesus name. Pray for your family, friends and neighbors to experience the transforming love and grace that only comes through Jesus! Pray. God is faithful. We are excited to see how God will move in us and through us (all of us) during this incredibly trying and exciting time!

Community

- **Gatherings:** There will be no small groups, Bible Studies or activities meeting on location at Living Word until we are given the all clear to gather in person and in groups.
- **Sunday Worship Services at 10:30AM:** For the foreseeable future, Sunday Worship Services will continue to be available via live stream at 10:30 AM on our YouTube channel LivingWordMarshallMN. www.youtube.com/user/LivingWordMarshallMN
 - You can either join us live for these services or watch them with your family at a later time.
 - Consider subscribing and signing up for notifications to our LivingWordMarshallMN YouTube channel to receive a notification on your computer or mobile device whenever we go live or add a new video. Just so you know, we are adding videos to our YouTube channel for keeping up with other groups (Confirmation, First Communion, Ignite, etc.) so you may receive notifications for videos other than worship services. To make it easier to find your way around, when you go to our channel click on “Playlists” to find videos related to the following specific lists: 2-Minute Faith Breaks, Worship Services, Ignite, Living Word Worship playlist, Confirmation, First Communion, Children’s Ministry. If you’d like any help figuring all this out feel free to call one of us (preferably Greg!! Haha!).
 - Our Sunday Worship Services are replayed on Studio 1 TV in Marshall (Charter channel 180, Vast channel 17) at 11:00AM on Tuesday and 5:00PM on Wednesday and on Cottonwood Access TV (Charter/Spectrum channel 180) at 7:00 PM on Monday.
- **“2 Minute Faith Break” Videos:** We will continue to share these little faith breaks on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday via email, our Facebook page or our YouTube channel.
- **Community Life Groups:** All of our active members and active non-members have been assigned to a Community Life Group consisting of about 10 households. We’ve asked one person in each of those groups to call or communicate with the others. Please let us know if you don’t hear from somebody and would like to be added to a group. Please be open to the communications from these group leaders. We aren’t trying to burden you; we are trying

to make sure that everyone is cared for and lifted up. This will help us all stay connected, check in with every member, receive prayer requests and answer questions.

- Children & Youth: Greg Pavek or Jaci Peterson will be connecting with various groups each week regarding Bible Education, Ignite, Confirmation, 1st Communion. Be watching for communication from them via email, text, Zoom, etc. This information has also been added to the Children's Ministry and Youth Ministry areas on the website.
- Young Adults: Greg Pavek will be hosting a Zoom video call on Tuesday evenings at 7:00PM. The link to join the call is <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/784884197>. Please contact Greg if you have questions.
- Wednesday Evening Online Bible Study "Overcoming Anxiety During COVID-19" by Jonathan Pokluda (hosted by Pastor Kelly): We will gather online via Zoom beginning Wednesday, April 15th at 6:30 PM. The study speaks words of comfort and wisdom, to help Christians navigate the areas of life COVID-19 is affecting. During this series you'll be encouraged in how to overcome anxiety in these troubling days and explore ways you can remain faithful to God and to others. Please contact Pastor Kelly with questions.
Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/2698640500?pwd=SHg1Wm5HRmszSmZEWTVZaVRnUCtadz09>
Meeting ID: 269 864 0500, Password: 325350
- Thursday Morning Online Men's Bible Study: Men will gather online via Zoom beginning Thursday, April 16th at 6:30AM. Men will be reading and studying scripture together as in the past on Thursday mornings. All men are welcome! Please contact Pastor Dave with questions.
Join Zoom Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/2698640500?pwd=SHg1Wm5HRmszSmZEWTVZaVRnUCtadz09>
Meeting ID: 269 864 0500, Password: 325350
- Weekly Updates: We be sending updates like this via email at least weekly. Please look for them, read them and share the information with others, especially if there is somebody you know that doesn't have access to electronic communications.
- "Joy in Motion Christian Exercise": Living Word member, Erin Koch, has been working on an exercise program with Scripture meditation during their extended visit with family in Germany. She has recently put her first video online and is sharing it for those of you that will be blessed by it. Available on YouTube at this link.
<https://youtu.be/yZTa3WSBepQ>
- Marshall Lyon County Library: The local library has accumulated a great wealth of information on their website regarding the community's response to COVID-19. www.marshalllyonlibrary.org/

Pastoral Care/ Prayer

- If you or somebody you know needs physical, emotional or spiritual support please reach out to us.
- We want to pray for you. Please reach out to us with prayer requests! Email us or submit a prayer request via the prayer ministry link on our website <https://www.livingwordmarshall.org/prayer-ministry/>.
- If you'd like us to mail you a "Our Daily Bread" daily devotional booklet, please let us know.
- Now is a great time to spend additional time studying God's Word, watching online Bible studies, etc. Our website has a link to numerous ministry resources including free access to Right Now Media, Bible reading plans, etc.
<https://www.livingwordmarshall.org/resources/>
- We invite you to join in a nationwide call to prayer from 8:00-8:01PM daily.

Encouragement/Devotion

2 Corinthians 4:7-11

7 But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. 8 We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; 9 persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; 10 always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. 11 For we who live are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh.

I've been thinking about these verses the past few weeks, and especially today. They are Easter verses. Paul is reminding us that the resurrection, the life of Jesus, shines through broken lives. In fact, the text tells us that there is a reason for the brokenness...for a body and a life that is imperfect, broken or cracking apart. Paul tells us that this hard

reality, something that we don't like, exists in order to SHOW that the SURPASSING POWER BELONGS to GOD! Whatever is good or true in us, whatever is righteous or whole in us, those things are God working in us. They aren't about us! They are from God and ultimately it is all for God! This is the resurrection power of Jesus shining forth out of the cracked jars that are our lives. Isn't God amazing! Isn't that incredible? We, who get so obsessed with being perfect, looking perfect, acting perfect...discover that the ONLY Perfect One, our Lord, uses what is imperfect in us to reveal Himself through us! This is the power of the resurrection at work in the world. It is hope out of despair and life out of death. It is the resurrection from the cross! Later in the text, in vs. 16 Paul writes this powerful statement: vs. 16 **“So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day.”** We don't lose heart, because God is in us and where God is there you will find hope, strength, peace, joy and love. We don't lose heart because the Holy Spirit is moving in us renewing our hearts and minds and through us renewing others!

It's our prayer that you sense the presence of Jesus' resurrecting power at work in your heart and mind! It's our prayer that you can witness His resurrecting power working through you. The world is longing for hope, truth and life right now! We have it at work in us. Not because we are perfect, but because the Perfect One who conquered sin, death and the Devil lives in our hearts. We pray that He gives you what you need today to be love, grace, peace and joy for others. We pray that Jesus will use all of us, even our cracked broken lives, to reveal to the world the Truth, the Way and the Life that is Jesus, our Risen Savior!!

How to Reach or Connect with Us - Please contact staff via email or cell phone listed below:

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YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/LivingWordMarshallMN>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/LivingWordMarshall/>

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God's Peace ~ Living Word Pastors, Staff & Leadership