

November, 2007



Living Word: Caring for all people by boldly sharing God's love throughout the community.

Mission Moment

"Natural Church Development"—sounds a lot easier and smarter than "unnatural" church development. How do we embrace the gifts God has given us and use them for ministry? How do we know what we're good at, and what we need to learn better? How do we meet the longing people have to be connected with the Holy One?

On Wednesday, November 14, Pr. Stephen Kanouse, Mission Director for the Southwestern Texas Synod, will join us to introduce us to "Natural Church Development". There are several steps in this development, and we will be taking these steps on our road to discovering who we are and how we are to be God's people in the world. Come for supper at 6:30, then stay for the conversation as we begin to look at this organic and measurable system for doing meaningful ministry.

(Yes, there's a book! If you want to look at it before Nov. 14, ask Pastor Lori.)

Calendar—November

- 4 Worship, 9:30 — All Saints
Children's Ministry/Adult Ed. 10:45
Confirmation @ Wimberley, 4:00
- 7 Power Night, 6:30
- 11 Worship, 9:30 Pr. Phil R-J, preaching

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING, 10:30

- Children's Ministry/Adult Ed. (after)
- 14 Power Night, 6:30 Pr. Steve Kanouse
- 15 Leadership Team, 6:30
- 18 Worship, 9:30
Children's Ministry/Adult Ed. 10:45
- 21 NO POWER NIGHT
- 25 Worship, 9:30
Children's Ministry/Adult Ed. 10:45

Prayer

Holy God, you have made us in your image and claimed us as your own; now you send us to be your body, to do your work, in the world. Help us to see who we are as people of God, to discover our gifts and interests. Then turn our eyes to those in need, that we may see how to fit those needs with our gifts, that we might be faithful to you by caring for others. Give us courage to discover something new about ourselves!

In Jesus name, Amen.



Sunday, November 11 Congregational Meeting

We will have a meeting after the worship service to approve the work of our vision team and welcome teams, including:

1. Vision Statement

Living Word: Caring for all people by boldly sharing God's love throughout the community.

2. Guiding Principles

1. We follow Jesus, the Living Word of God.
2. God makes a difference in everyone's lives.
3. God's Word is alive FOR us and THROUGH us.
4. The Holy Spirit works through us so we can do God's work in the world.

3. Welcome Statement

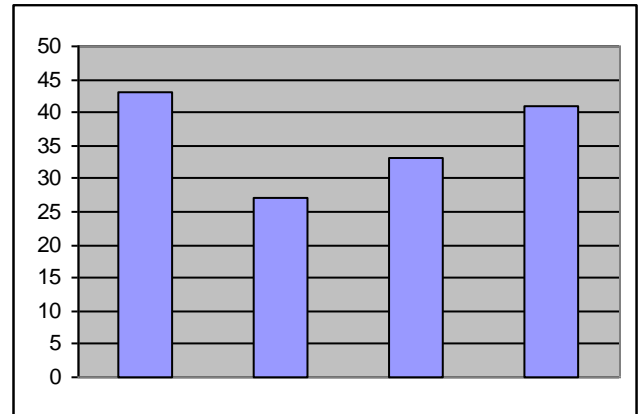
Living in the Word that declares God Creator of ALL, that announces Jesus' gracious coming for ALL, that promises the Spirit will be poured out on ALL, we invite ALL to worship with us in God's loving presence. ALL means ALL!

All races, all national backgrounds,
all economic levels, all educational levels,
all gender identities, all sexual orientations,
all political leanings,
all differently-abled people in mind and in body,
all who are wise and all who are confused,
all who live here and all who are passing through,
all who are religious and all who are seeking,
all who are far off and all who are near,
all who have found love and all who have lost it,
all who are settled and all who are questioning,
all who celebrate this welcome statement and all who fear it,
all who desire to be reconciled in Christ's love.
ALL are welcome in this place!

4. RIC request

For over a year, Living Word has considered becoming a Reconciling in Christ congregation. RIC is a designation, a roster of those congregations and agencies in the ELCA which are intentional about accepting people of all sexual orientations and gender identities. Believing that the gospel of Christ is for all people (as the welcome states), we want to be a place where all people are truly invited to be who they are, including if they happen to be both gay and Christian. (More info at www.lcna.org/ric)

Attendance, October



Simil Justus et Peccator
Sr Hi Youth Gathering
December 28-30
Kerrville
See Pastor Lori for details

WANTED:
BudaFest contact and detail person.
Immediate opening.
See Pastor Lori.

THANKS! For your participation in the Kyle Fair and the Pancake Breakfast. We raised \$64 for the Food Pantry and \$244.33 for Cross Trails. Both amounts will be matched by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. **There's still time** to donate if you didn't have a chance yet...our goal is \$400 for Cross Trails and \$100 for the food pantry.

