

# Living Word Lutheran Church

The 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

July 8, 2018



**“And he called the twelve and began to send them out two by two and gave them authority over the unclean spirits.”** *Mark 6:7*

**PASTOR:** The Rev. Gary Jepsen

**Sunday Morning Worship Service at 9 am at the Meridian Habitat & Community Center**

(Children's Sunday School and Adult Bible Study available during the school year)

14422 Meridian East Puyallup, WA 98374

**LWLC Office:** 11707 101<sup>st</sup> Ave E, Bldg. B 253-445-4292 Hours: 9:00am-3:00pm, M-F

**Mailing address:** PO Box 732005 Puyallup, WA 98373

[www.LivingWordLutheranChurch.com](http://www.LivingWordLutheranChurch.com)

**Mission Statement:** “We, God’s people of Living Word Lutheran Church, grounded in Holy Scripture, are called to follow and share the inspired Word of God in Christ, to live as faithful and obedient servants, reaching out to all people with the love of Jesus Christ.”

**Motto:** “Grace Alone, Faith Alone, Word Alone.”

Affiliated with LCMC (Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ)

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/July 8-14, 2018**

This week's activities:

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>9:00 am</b> <b>10:15 am</b>	<b>Worship Service</b> <b>Coffee Hour</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>6:30p.m.</b>	<b>Monthly Board Meeting (walk-ins welcome)</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	<b>LWLC Prayer for Guidance meet at the LWLC Office</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	<b>Men's Ministry Breakfast at Denny's Restaurant</b>

*The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God by Ardis Kilber  
in memory of her husband, Martin and daughter, Tracy.*

**Today's Worship Assistants**

**Set up/Tear Down (Team 1)**- Bill Zavadil, Andy Anderson, Skip Whelan, Dennis Krumwiede, Rick Fields, Larry Vollmer, Alex Burdick, Gary Heintz; **Ushers** - Kaye Sims, Tom Groce; **Acolyte**- Viviana Vashchenko; **Lector**-Pastor Gary Jepsen; **Sound System**-Ron Johnson; **Tellers**-Bonnie Socey, Judy Krumwiede; **Altar Setup/Take Down**-Mary Vollmer, Lorraine Stargel; **Coffee Hour**-Linda Kupka, Jan Halverson; **Communion Setup/take down**- Sharlene Parker, Valerie Claiborne; **Communion Assistants**- Lorraine Stargel, Nancy Martin, Sharon Johnson; **Communion Bread**-Gayla Fenimore; **Parking Lot**-Dennis Krumwiede; **Julian Estates Worship Leaders**- Dave & Judy Ostendorf

**Next week's Scriptures:**

Amos 7:7-15    Psalm 85    Ephesians 1:1-14  
Mark 6:14-29

**LWLC FINANCIAL REPORT**

Last Sunday's Offering:

Last Sunday's Attendance:

**Destination devotions**

Planning a summer trip? Take along a Scripture passage befitting your vacation to use for devotions and prayer time (all NIV below):

- **In the mountains:** "The mountains and hills will burst into song before you" (Isaiah 55:12).
- **At a lake, perhaps on a fishing trip:** "They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. 'Come, follow me,' Jesus said, 'and I will send you out to fish for people'" (Matthew 4:18-19).
- **Near an ocean or river:** "Let the sea resound ... let the rivers clap their hands" (Psalm 98:7-8).
- **In the desert:** "They looked toward the desert, and there was the glory of the LORD appearing in the cloud" (Exodus 16:10).
- **In the woods:** "Blessed is the one ... whose delight is in the law of the LORD .... That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season" (Psalm 1:1-3).
- **In the flatlands:** "'My food,' said Jesus, 'is to do the will of him who sent me .... I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest'" (John 4:34-35).
- **On a "staycation" close to home:** "Love the LORD your God .... These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. ... Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road .... Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates" (Deuteronomy 6:5-9).

**SPECIAL CONGREGATION MEETING WILL BE HELD TODAY ON THE FOLLOWING:**

C5:03.d. congregational board limitations. the congregational board is specifically limited in the following areas, 1. May not buy, sell, or encumber real property unless so authorized in a meeting of the congregation."

**Do you authorize the congregational board to enter into a contract on behalf of Living Word Lutheran Church to commit it to purchase property for the church and to allow the board president and vice president, together, upon approval of the entire board, to execute the contract?**

Yes                  No

***Please silence all electronic devices, including cell phones, upon entering the sanctuary.***

**Living Word Lutheran Church**  
*Order for Worship*

**When you hear the bell, please be seated for the announcements.**

**Announcements**

Please sign the attendance register and pass it down the row.

***Our worship begins with the prelude. "Let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe." (Hebrews 12:28)***

**Prelude**

**Opening Hymn**

***"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"***

**LBW #526**

***We Worship with Confession.***

Pastor: Remembering our baptism into Christ Jesus, we gather as we are to live in the name of the Father, and of the (†) Son, and of the Holy Spirit.      Congregation: **Amen.**

P: If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. Let us confess our sin to God who is faithful and just and who has promised to forgive our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for personal reflection and self-examination.*

P (facing altar which symbolizes God's presence): *Most Merciful God...*

**C: have mercy on us. We confess to You that we have sinned against You in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not trusted You with our whole heart; we have not loved one another in deed and in truth. In Your compassion forgive our sin and uphold us by Your Spirit that we may live and serve You in newness of life through Jesus Christ our light and our truth. Amen.**

P: (*facing the congregation declares God's grace*): With joy, I proclaim to you that Almighty God, rich in mercy, abundant in love, forgives you all your sin and grants you newness of life in Jesus Christ.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

We are sent to make disciples of all nations (Matt. 28:19). We begin by sharing the peace of the LORD with one another.

***We Worship with the Setting from "Now the Feast and Celebration"***

*Now the Feast and Celebration, by Marty Haugen. © 1990 by GIA Publications, Inc. ARR. Reprinted under onelicense.net # A-717731*

P: The grace of our LORD Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.      **C: And also with you.**

***Kyrie***

Cantor: In peace, in peace, Let us pray to the...  
**C:**      ***LORD, have mercy, Christ, have mercy, LORD have mercy.***

Cantor: For the reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all let us pray to the. . .

**C:**      ***LORD, have mercy, Christ, have mercy, LORD have mercy.***

Cantor: For Your people here, who have come to give You praise, for the strength to live Your Word, let us pray to the. . .

**C:**      ***LORD, have mercy, Christ, have mercy, LORD have mercy.***

Cantors: Help, save and defend us, O God.

**C:**      ***Amen.***

## Now the Feast

Refrain:

**Now the feast and celebration,  
all of creation sings for joy  
to the God of life and love and freedom:  
praise and glory forevermore!**

1. **Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain,  
whose blood has freed and united us  
to be one great people of God. (Refrain)**

2. **Power and riches, wisdom and might,  
all honor and glory to Christ, forever. (Refrain)**

3. **For God has come to dwell with us,  
to make us people of God;  
to make all things new. (Refrain)**

P: *The LORD be with you.*

**C:** *And also with you.*

**PRAYER OF THE DAY** (All pray):

**O LORD our God, in the mystery and majesty of Your will, You called all things into existence by the power of Your Word. And then, when we had gone astray, You sent Your only Son, Jesus Christ our LORD, to win for us eternal life and to reveal Your plan to unite all things in Him. Forgive us when we doubt and go astray; remember us according to Your mercy through our Savior Jesus Christ, for He lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

### We Hear and Read God's Word

**This reading is from the Prophet Jeremiah, the 23<sup>rd</sup> chapter.** (ESV).

God gave this prophecy to Jeremiah first as a warning to religious leaders of all times, from ancient to the modern times, "Woe to you if you give my people a false message that scatters them and leads them astray." Thus, says the Lord, "I will attend to you for your evil doings." But there is also a promise, that God will raise up a branch (a descendent – Jesus!) of David to save His people. Pr. J.

The Prophet Jeremiah declares the word of the Lord: <sup>1</sup>"Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture!" says the LORD. <sup>2</sup>Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who care for my people: "You have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. Behold, I will attend to you for your evil doings," says the LORD. <sup>3</sup>"Then I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the countries where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. <sup>4</sup>I will set shepherds over

them who will care for them, and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall any be missing," says the LORD. <sup>5</sup>"Behold, the days are coming," says the LORD, "when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and He shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>6</sup>In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely. And this is the name by which He will be called: 'The LORD is our righteousness.'"

(Here ends this lesson.)

**This reading is from Paul's Letter to the Ephesians, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.** (ESV).

We cannot fathom the depth of the revelation and insight that was given to the Apostle Paul (Acts 9:1-7; 2Cor.12:2-4). What we do know is that in the verses below, Paul gives us a glimpse of what he received - the plan and purpose God has revealed and accomplished in Christ for us and for all of creation. Thanks be to God! Pr. J

The Apostle Paul writes: <sup>1</sup>Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, to the saints who are also faithful in Christ Jesus: <sup>2</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, <sup>4</sup>even as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before Him. <sup>5</sup>He destined us in

love to be His children through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of His will, <sup>6</sup>to the praise of His glorious grace which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup>In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace <sup>8</sup>which He lavished upon us. <sup>9</sup>For He has made known to us in all wisdom and insight the mystery of His will, according to His purpose which He set forth in

Christ <sup>10</sup>as a plan for the fulness of time, to unite all things in Him, things in heaven and things on earth.

<sup>11</sup>In Him, according to the purpose of Him who accomplishes all things according to the counsel of His will, <sup>12</sup>we who first hoped in Christ have been destined and appointed to live for the praise of His glory. <sup>13</sup>In Him

you also, who have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and have believed in Him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, <sup>14</sup>which is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of His glory.

(Here ends this lesson.)

***We Worship by Confessing Our Faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed***

**I BELIEVE** in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

**I BELIEVE** in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our LORD. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day He rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I BELIEVE** in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**Hymn of the Day**

***“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”***

***LBW #328, vs.1-5***

**The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 6<sup>th</sup> chapter (ESV). **C: Glory to You, O LORD****

Jesus sends out His followers, then and now, commanding them to preach the gospel of repentance and to perform mighty deeds in His name. The Church of Christ, in spite of its human fallibilities has been an incredibly positive force on the world. The gospel has been preached, education for all people was embraced and it flourished, and health care in the form of hospitals and such spread throughout the world. May God bless our efforts as we seek faithfully to carry on the work of Christ in our time and community. Pr. J

<sup>7</sup>And He (Jesus) called the twelve and began to send them out two by two and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. <sup>8</sup>He charged them to take nothing for their journey except a staff – no bread, no bag, no money in their belts – <sup>9</sup>but to wear sandals and not put on two tunics. <sup>10</sup>And he said to them, “Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you depart from there. <sup>11</sup>And if any place will not receive you and they will not listen to you, when you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a

testimony against them.” <sup>12</sup>So they went out and proclaimed that people should repent. <sup>13</sup>And they cast out many demons and anointed with oil many who were sick and healed them.

(The Gospel of our LORD.)

**C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

***“Has God Got Plans for You!”***

**Pastor Gary Jepsen**

***We Worship in Thanksgiving by Offering Our Gifts***

**Offertory**

*The offering is received.*

The congregation stands as the ushers bring the offering forward.

**As The Grains Of Wheat**Refrain:

**As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill were gathered into one to become our bread; so may all Your people from all the ends of earth be gathered into one in You.**

1. **As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst, may we share the presence of Your love. (*Refrain*)**
2. **Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come when all creation shares this feast with You. (*Refrain*)**

*We pray together the offering prayer:* P: Merciful God, **C: everything in heaven and earth belongs to You. We joyfully release what You have entrusted to us. May these gifts be signs of our whole lives returned to You, dedicated to the healing and unity of all creation, through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**Prayers of the Church** (Each petition ends with “LORD, in Your mercy”; the congregation responds, “**Hear our prayer**”.)

**We Worship by Receiving Our LORD in His Holy Meal**

**The Great Thanksgiving** (*Spoken*):

P: *The LORD be with you.*

**C: And also with you.**

P: *Lift up your hearts.*

**C: We lift them to the LORD.**

P: *Let us give thanks to the LORD our God.*

**C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P: It is our duty and delight... (*Here the minister continues with the preface:*)

**Holy, holy, holy are You, God of power and might;  
Heaven and earth are filled with Your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest!  
Blessed is the One who comes in Your name.  
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest!**

**The Words of Institution & The LORD’S Prayer**

**Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

**(Please be seated)**

**Holy Communion:** Lutherans believe the LORD’s Supper is a holy sacrament in which Christ comes to us with His grace, love, compassion, and forgiveness. The crucified and risen Christ is present in, with, and under the bread and wine – He promises: “This is my body... This is my blood”. Therefore, the Apostle Paul says we should examine ourselves lest we eat or drink in an unworthy manner (1 Cor. 11:27ff.). Martin Luther wrote, “Anyone who does not believe these words (‘this is My body given for you... this is My blood shed for you.’), is neither prepared nor worthy; for the words, ‘FOR YOU’ requires simply a believing heart.” Therefore, all (including children who have received instruction) who believe in Jesus Christ as Savior and LORD and who see His presence in the sacrament are welcome to commune with us.

As you come forward for communion, you are invited to dip your fingers in the water of the baptismal font and then make the sign of the cross on your forehead as a reminder of Christ’s claim upon you through your baptism.  
(For those with gluten allergies, we now have gluten-free wafers available for Communion on the Baptismal Font.)

## Lamb of God

1. *Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us, mercy on us, mercy on us.*
2. *Lamb of God, You break the chains of hatred and fear: have mercy on us, mercy on us, mercy on us.*
3. *Lamb of God, You are the way of justice and peace: have mercy on us, mercy on us, mercy on us.*
4. *Lamb of God, You are the way of mercy and love: have mercy on us, mercy on us, mercy on us.*
5. *Lamb of God You take away the sin of the world: grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.*

### Communion Hymns:

**“Beautiful Savior”**

**LBW #518**

#### “Softly and Tenderly”



1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for you and for  
2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for you and for  
3 Oh, for the won - der - ful love He has prom - ised, prom - ised for you and for  
me. See, on the por - tals He's wait - ing and watch - ing,  
me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not His mer - cies,  
me! Though we have sinned, He has mer - cy and par - don,  
*Refrain*  
watch - ing for you and for me.  
mer - cies for you and for me? "Come home, come home!  
par - don for you and for me.  
You who are wea - ry, come home." Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,  
Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, "O sin - ner, come home!"

Text: Will Thompson, 1847-1909  
Tune: THOMPSON, Will Thompson, 1847-1909

**“Break Now the Bread of Life”**

**LBW #235**

P: May the grace of our LORD Jesus Christ and the gifts of His body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

#### Post Communion Canticle

*Praise to You, O God of mercy,  
Thanks be to You forever!  
Raising high the weak and lowly:  
Thanks be to You forever!*

*From of old You loved and sought us,  
Thanks be to You forever!  
Truth and justice You have taught us:  
Thanks be to You forever!*

*Strong is Your faithfulness,  
Strong is Your love, rememb'ring  
Your covenant of life with us.*

*Praise to You, O God of mercy,  
Thanks be to You forever!  
Raising high the weak and lowly:  
Thanks be to You forever,  
Thanks be to You forever!*

The Post Communion Prayer

**C: Amen.**

The Benediction (Pastor)

The congregation sings the **3-fold "Amen"****On Our Way Rejoicing!****Closing Hymn**

Verse 1

*Go, my children, with my blessing, Never alone.  
Waking, sleeping, I am with you; You are my own.  
In my love's baptismal river  
I have made you mine forever.  
Go, my children, with my blessing -You are my own.*

Verse 2

*Go, my children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.  
Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure.  
Here you heard my dear Son's story;  
Here you touched him, saw his glory.  
Go, my children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.*

**"Go My Children with My Blessing"**

Verse 3

*Go, my children, fed and nourished, Closer to me;  
Grow in love and love by serving, Joyful and free.  
Here my Spirit's power filled you;  
Here his tender comfort stilled you.  
Go, my children, fed and nourished, Joyful and free.*

Verse 4

*I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace;  
I the Lord will smile upon you And give you peace;  
I the Lord will be your Father,  
Savior, Comforter, and Brother.  
Go, my children; I will keep you And give you peace*

Text: Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda 1919- 2008; © 1983 Jaroslav J. Vajda. Used by permission. Tune: Welsh melody, 18th Century; public domain.  
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**We Worship By How We Live During the Week**

*P: Go in peace; serve the LORD! C: Thanks be to God.*

**Postlude**

Musician: Mary Kaye Owen      Choir Director: Dan Owen

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**Thank you for worshipping with us this morning!**

*If you are a visitor, please sign the Guest Book. We encourage you to pick up a 'Welcome' packet at the Visitor's Table to introduce you to our church. Coffee hour will follow the worship service. Please join us.*

**Next Week's (July 15) Worship Assistants**

**Set up/Tear Down (Team 2)**-Ron Heilman, Gary Gjerstad, Joe Burdick, Jim Gronhovd, Daryl Olson, Ron Johnson, Larry Vollmer; **Ushers**-Zale Wood, Carole Williams-Wood; **Acolyte**-Hannah Vashchenko; **Lector**-Ron Johnson; **Communion Setup/takedown**-Nancy Martin, Lorraine Stargel; **Communion Assistants**-Lorraine Stargel, Mary Vollmer, Dave Ostendorf; **Communion Bread**- Gayla Fenimore; **Sound System**-Andy Anderson; **Tellers** -Larry Vollmer, Judy Krumwiede; **Coffee Hour**- Laura & Kallan Burdick, Irene Feller; **Altar Setup/Take Down**- Sue Fields, Yvonne Olson; **Flowers**-Mike & Gayla Fenimore; **Parking Lot**-Owen Loshbough; **Julian Estates Worship Leaders**-Sharlene Parker, Skip Whelan

**Dr. Williams**

A doctor, who had devoted his life to helping the underprivileged, lived over a liquor store in the poor section of a large city. In front of the liquor store was a sign reading *Dr. Williams Is Upstairs*. When he died, he had no relatives and he left no money for his burial. He had never asked for payment from anyone he had ever treated. Friends and patients scraped enough money together to bury the good doctor, but they had no money for a tombstone. It appeared that his grave was going to be unmarked until someone came up with a wonderful suggestion. They took the sign from in front of the liquor store and nailed it to a post over his grave. It made a lovely epitaph: *Dr. Williams Is Upstairs*.

**Prayers for those who are serving our country (military, firefighters & police) and their families and keep them safe:** Josh Jepsen, Chase, Seth Heard, Powell, Evan Gregory Blodgett, Ken Solbrack, Michael Elliott, Chris Berentson, Cole Lufkin (Gjerstad's grandson), Brady Woodman (Relma Burmeister's grandson), Devlin Durkin, Damien Benigno (Lydia Auge's brother); Curtis & Riley McKenzie, Brandon Bules (Carole Williams cousin), Jacob Ramsey (Fenimore's grandson), pray for safety and draw close to God. *Our prayers for all those in harm's way are urgently needed during this time of turmoil and strife in this country.*

**Prayers for those who have recently lost a loved one.** Prayers of comfort for the family of John Paul Webber on his passing.

**Prayers for those with cancer or long-term illness.** *Dixie* (Sharlene Parker's sister). *Don Minnick* (Harold & Clarice Liemohn). *Bob Lungberg* (Bob & Nancy Martin), *Aunt Glenda* (Lorraine Stargel), *Cousin Sandy* (Lorraine Stargel). *Snookie Pankrantz*. *Taressa* (Dennis & Judy Krumwiede's daughter-in-law). *Tony Horne* (Bob Martin & Hal Martin) *Robert Hawthorne* (Jim & Mei Barker), Sister-in-law **Wanee** (Sharlene Parker) starting her chemo, may her treatments go smoothly and she have no side effects. May God's peace be with her and her family. **Mary Anne Horiskey** (Bonnie DeBord), prayers for her eternal soul & for a peaceful passing as she is in the last days of hospice care.



**Prayers for healing and strength for those with health concerns and those facing or recovering from surgery.**

**Bob Ostrom** (Steves' daughter-in-law's father) prayers for wisdom for caregivers to restore him to full mobility after stroke. **Kay Dightman** (relative of Phil & Virginia Steves) who has shingles, pray for recovery back to full health and to be pain free. Praise to God for **sister Dixie's** (Sharlene Parker) successful surgical procedure, prayers for quick healing. Pray for son-in-law **Kurt Alfano** (Tom & Denise Alvord) as he recovers from a stroke, pray for strength, comfort and quick healing. Pray for healing and comfort for **Joan** (Sarah DeBord's grandma) in the hospital for an infection that is having complications. Niece **Savanah** (Sharon Edwards) who has Graves' disease, pray for her wellbeing and safe travel while on vacation. Prayers for **Roger** (Gary Gjerstad's brother) diagnosed with throat cancer, pray for doctor's discernment and successful treatment. Healing for daughter-in-law **Michelle Schmidt** (Larry & Linda Schmidt) hospitalized with lung infection. Pray for cousin **Merle** (Jan Halverson) hospitalized due to a fall. Prayers for **Carole Williams-Wood** who is suffering from a sinus infection. Jo Fletcher-Jacobson was recently released from the hospital and is now at Brookdale Assisted Living in Puyallup (123 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. #334). Prayers for Darlene Luberts' daughter, **Suzy Davison**, who is struggling to come out of a week-long coma.

**Prayers for faith, strength and guidance.** God's continued guidance and blessings in our search for a new church home. God's love to overcome hate and fear in hearts around the world. Pray for safe travels for all Living Word members during the summer.

## DO YOU BELIEVE?

There was a well-educated man who solemnly announced to his friends that he would never believe anything which he could not understand.

An old farmer overheard the remark, turned to the young intellectual and said, "As I went into town today, I passed a field where some sheep were feeding. Do you believe that?" "Yes," said the young man. "Not far away from the sheep some cows were also grazing. Do you believe that?" "Yes," was the reply. "Not far from the cows were some pigs eating grass. Do you believe that?" "Yes." "All right, now you listen to this," said the farmer. "The grass the sheep ate turned into wool. The grass the cows ate turned into hair. The grass the pigs ate turned into bristles. The grass that the chicken ate turned into feathers. Do you believe that?" "Yes," the young man said. "Do you understand it?" "No," admitted the young man.

"Young man," said the farmer, "if you live long, you will find that there are a great many things which you believe without understanding. God is one of them."