

# Cross CURRENTS

Issue 14.6

June 2019

A monthly publication to keep you informed about the ministry of Living Water and the opportunities for you to grow your relationships with the Lord and each other.

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## “Along the Road...”

**Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.**

*(Deuteronomy 6:4-9)*

The Israelites at the time of the verses above and Living Water members at the time of this article were at different stages of life. After forty years of wandering in the wilderness as punishment for their rebellion and ingratitude against God, the Israelites were on the precipice of entering Canaan, the Promised Land. After decades of living a mobile, nomadic life, they were about to enter and own the land God had promised their ancestors for centuries. Soon, sturdy homes would replace the

temporary tents. Permanent doorframes would stand instead of tent stakes. Well-worn roads would lead to established cities instead of dusty wilderness paths to nothingness. Their way of life was about to go from temporary and mobile to permanent and fairly local.

As for us southeast Wisconsinites? Quite the opposite from the Israelites in our text! Now that summer has (unofficially) arrived, many of us go from permanent and fairly local to temporary and mobile. The RV's and tents have been brought out of storage. The cabins up north have been de-winterized. Family reunions hundreds of miles away on the interstate have been planned. After being cooped up all winter and enduring less-than-ideal spring weather, many of us want to be out and about on the weekends, not stuck at home!



So what's the connection between Moses' words to the Israelites then and his words as we read them now? God's Word can be with us whether a believer is beginning to settle a new house and be inundated with the distracting

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business of life or a believer is hitting the road and is tempted to unplug from business, school, and even church. Said stronger, God's Word should and must be with us whether we are at home or along the road.

Moses gave the Israelites practical tips (and some still practicing Jews still take them literally, tying leather boxes called phylacteries on their heads and wrists) to have God's Word before them even as they settled into permanent homes. Moses hasn't directly given us practical solutions for a 21st century world, but it's not hard to do so ourselves.

We can just as easily talk about God's commands and his promises when we get up and have breakfast at the cabin; before checking phones, have a five to ten minute conversation on a passage. We may not walk along the road but as we drive for hours and hours on it, we can turn down the radio, take out the earbuds, and discuss a Bible story. You could tie Bible passages to your hands and foreheads, but maybe it's easier to set a daily reminder on your phone to read a devotion through the WELS app. You could write passages on the doorframes of your cabin or camper, but might I instead suggest putting favorite passages on your cabin or camper's mini fridge with a magnet?

The beautiful thing about our blessed American life is that we have both the freedom and means to travel and technology that makes it so easy to have God's Word go with us along the road. You can find local WELS congregations in your destination's area on the internet. We have Monday night services after weekend getaways. Our sermons are uploaded on Tuesdays for easy playback. Questions (and answers) on the sermon text are as well, making for spiritual conversation starters around a campfire. No matter which method you choose, the Holy Spirit guarantees that your faith in your forgiveness will increase, your love for God will grow stronger, and your relaxation will be more relaxing. May the one Lord, our God, bless your summer plans and your study of his plans for you!

In Christ,

Pastor Aaron Voss



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## Tomorrow's Choice Golf Outing

Tomorrow's Choice is hosting their annual golf outing fundraiser on Saturday, June 15 at Brookfield Hills Golf Course. More details can be found in a brochure in the narthex. They still need 1-2 teams of 4 golfers for the event. Please contact Sherry Dahl at 262-271-4948 by June 2 if you would like to golf. It is Father's Day weekend, so consider golfing with your children, your father, or other fathers. Donations are needed for the

silent auction coinciding with the golf outing.

You can sponsor a hole (\$200 and there will be a sign with your company/name on one of the holes-needed by June 2) or donate items such as gift cards for restaurants, tickets to sporting events, gift baskets, sports memorabilia, etc. Please contact Sherry Dahl at 262-271-4948 if you would like to donate items (tax deductible) to arrange pickup. Donated items are needed by June 10. Thank you!



We've had a busy month of May—with two different activities. We had a very interesting tour of St. Peter Lutheran Church on 8<sup>th</sup> and Scott in

Milwaukee. We learned that the buildings are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It was originally founded in 1860 by German immigrants. The neighborhood has changed several times since then, from mainly German to Polish to the current Spanish/Mexican and Burmese. They now have services in English, Spanish and Karen, which is the language of Burma and Thailand. St. Peter's is a beautiful church with stained glass windows, wonderful woodwork, and a gorgeous pipe organ. We had some extra time after our tour of St. Peter's, so we stopped to check out the Basilica of St. Josaphat, which is a smaller version of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. It has a cross-shaped floor plan with a huge central dome. This is the largest church in Milwaukee and certainly one of the most beautiful. We were even treated with an impromptu organ recital. Following our church tours, we had a great German lunch at Wegner's St. Martin's Inn. Thank you to John Wiederhold for planning this activity. Our second May activity was our annual fish fry at Doc's on the Fox in Waterford. We had 25 of our seniors attend and enjoyed good food and fellowship.

We're looking forward to the Belle City Brassworks Concert at Union Grove High School on Sunday, June 9 at 3:00 pm. Following the concert there is a light lunch. The concert and lunch are free, but you do need a ticket to get in. Sign up on the sheet in the narthex and we will make sure you get your tickets. Thank you to Boyd and Marlene Recknagel for planning this and picking up the tickets.

We're planning to go on the Mailboat Tour of Geneva Lake on Wednesday, July 24. Mail is delivered to about 75 homes around the lake on a daily basis from June 15 to September 15. We will spend an entertaining 2 1/2 hours aboard the Walworth from 10 am to 12:30 pm. (boarding time is 9:30). The cost of the tour is \$38. If we have more than 10 people, we could get a discounted group rate. Sign up on the sheet in the narthex by July 14.

On Sunday, August 25, there will be a summer concert and potluck picnic. The concert will begin at 2:00 pm at Lions Legend Park in Franklin. Milwaukee's premier 17-piece big band, Swing Nouveau, will perform sounds from the 30s, 40s & 50s to today. Following the concert we will go to Ken and Sue Gawrisch's house for games and a potluck picnic. Bring your lawn chairs and a dish to pass.

*Senior Moments is a service organization to provide social opportunities for the congregation. All members, 50 and older, are encouraged to join us for fun and fellowship.*

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## Pastor Voss Vacation

Pastor Voss will be on vacation from June 18-25. Pastor Wayne Shevey of Wisconsin Lutheran College will be guest preaching and leading Bible study. Pastor David Kuehl (St. Paul's, Muskego, and circuit pastor for our area) will be available for pastoral care. Pastor Kuehl can be reached at his cell phone 414-861-0635 or [dkuehl@stpaulmuskego.org](mailto:dkuehl@stpaulmuskego.org).

## Vacation Bible School



Mark your calendars to hit the water to "Set Sail" the week of July 22<sup>nd</sup>. Living Water will be hosting our Vacation Bible School in the evenings for children entering 4K-6<sup>th</sup> grade. Invite your family, friends and neighbors to

join us for Christian education and fun. There are many opportunities for **you** to help as well—crafts, food & refreshments, teaching, music, and many more. Watch for more information to come. If you have any questions or to volunteer to help, feel free to contact Brian Haag - 414-416-6332 or [education@livingwaterlutheran.com](mailto:education@livingwaterlutheran.com). We'd also like to thank Lori Moldenhauer who has served as VBS coordinator for so many years!



We would like all women in the congregation to fill out a survey regarding our group called Women in God's Service (WinGS). There are paper copies located in the narthex or the form can be filled out at <https://forms.gle/km6K9xEBNY3SRU7S6>. Please complete the form by June 2 to help us plan activities for the upcoming year.

All women of the congregation are invited to a potluck social gathering on June 30 at 2:00 to discuss the results of the survey completed and to plan activities for WinGS for 2019-2020 year. The gathering will be held at the house of Sherry Dahl, S67 W17176 Martin Drive in Muskego. Please sign up in the narthex if you will be able to attend.



## Widow's Mite Rummage Sale

Spring cleaning? Please consider donating the BEST items that you no longer want to the biggest Reuse-Repurpose event of the year at Shoreland – the Annual Widow's Mite Rummage Sale! Clean clothing, shoes/handbags, jewelry, books, toys, household items, small furniture and appliances will be accepted. Unfortunately, pianos, televisions, computers and monitors will not be accepted. Drop off times are May 28 and 29, 9:00 am – 6:00 pm. Volunteer – This event is made possible through a strong team of

volunteers that are retired or available during the day. Please consider volunteering for anywhere between one hour up to the entire time.

Volunteers are needed during the following days and times: Sorting - Tuesday, May 28 and Wednesday, May 29; 9 am-6 pm; Setting Up - Thursday, May 30; 9 am-ready; Selling - May 31; 7:45 am-4:30 pm and June 1; 7:45 am-1:00 pm.

You can sign-up online to volunteer at <https://tinyurl.com/y8foxyns>. Mark your calendars to come and shop the Shoreland rummage sale: May 31, 8:00 am – 4:30 pm; June 1, 8:00 am – 1:00 pm at Shoreland, 9026 12th Street, Somers, WI. Please contact Joy Lee at [development@slhs.us](mailto:development@slhs.us) with questions.

## **I AM the Light of the World** TEEN DEVOTION

**Jesus said, “While I am in the world, I am the light of the world. ... For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind.” —John 9:5, 39 (NIV)**

“You believe in creation? Look at the scientific proof! Are you blind?”

“Why won’t you have sex with me? Look at what everyone else doing. If you watch The Bachelor, you’ll see that being a virgin is not a good thing for a relationship. Are you blind?”

“You think that just because I don’t believe that Jesus is the way to heaven, I am going to hell? Look at all the good, kind things I have done. Look at how loving I am. I know my loving God wouldn’t send me to hell. Are you blind?”

Do you ever feel blind? Do you ever feel like you can’t see what other people seem to clearly see?

Now let me ask this: is it better to see through the world's eyes or to see God and view the world through his eyes? Jesus said, “For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind.”

Jesus is the light of the world. He shows us God. We were walking around in darkness and uncertainty, but he has given us sight. We see the love the Father has for us in Jesus who died for our sins. We see our relationship with God restored so that we are his dearly loved children. We see the gates of heaven opened and the paradise that is waiting there for us. We see our lives in a new way. They aren’t for us to live for ourselves, but to live for God the way he calls us to live. We see everything clearly now. We were once blind, but now we see through Jesus.

So you—you stand in the light of Jesus. You clearly see your God, and he sees you. May this truth give you strength and encouragement to stay in the light as you walk through this world of darkness.

**Prayer:** Dear Jesus, you are the light of the world. I ask that you give me the strength to resist those things which try to pull me back into the darkness. Keep my eyes fixed on you until that day when I will spend eternity in your beautiful light in heaven. In your name I pray, Amen.

Teen Devotions are brought to you by WELS Commission on Youth and Family Ministry.



## Prayer

This month we remember in our prayers:

- Our confirmands and new communicant members, that Living Water be a community of Christian brothers and sisters to them and that their reception of Christ's body and blood in Holy Communion strengthen and encourage their faith.
- Our members who are graduating from various levels of education this spring, that the God of all creation bless their transitions to new stages of life, equip them to use their knowledge to his glory and the benefit of those around them, and help them grow in their knowledge of his magnificent created order.



- For all those traveling this summer, that God send his angels to protect them and give them rest so that they may be refreshed in body, mind, and spirit.

We pray these things for the sake of Jesus Christ who died and rose to give us access to the Father's throne as the Holy Spirit presents our prayers to the Father for us. Amen.

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## Council Corner

*In an effort to be transparent about topics being discussed at the council meetings each month, we will be sharing some highlights and notes from the month's council meeting in the monthly newsletter. The council encourages members to ask questions and offer insight into any of the topics being discussed.*

**VBS** - Dan Hanke will be leading the VBS program this summer. VBS will be the week of July 22. We will be looking for many volunteers. See page 4 for more information.

**Projector/Screen/TVs** - Council reviewed the recommendation from Elders to remove the current screen and projector and replace with 2 TVs mounted where the banners are currently hung. This recommendation will be brought before the congregation at the July Voters meeting.

**Ministry Plan** - Council will be dedicating the majority of the June Council meeting to review the current Mission Statement. This is the first step in creating the ministry plan.

**Voters Meeting** - A Voters Meeting will be held on Sunday, July 14 after fellowship. Hope to see you there.

# June 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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2 8:20 am Prayer Group <b>9:00 am Worship with Communion</b> 10:30 am Bible Class	3 <b>7:00 pm Worship with Communion</b>	4 8:00 am Men's Breakfast	5	6	7	8
9 8:20 am Prayer Group <b>9:00 am Worship</b> 10:30 am Bible Class 3:00 pm Senior Moments Concert	10 <b>7:00 pm Worship</b> 8:00 pm Elders Meeting	11	12	13	14	15
16 8:20 am Prayer Group <b>9:00 am Worship with Communion</b> 10:30 am Bible Class	17 <b>7:00 pm Worship with Communion</b> 8:00 pm Church Council Meeting	18	19	20	21	22
23 8:20 am Prayer Group <b>9:00 am Worship</b> 10:30 am Bible Class	24 <b>7:00 pm Worship</b>	25	26	27	28	29
30 8:20 am Prayer Group <b>9:00 am Worship</b> 10:30 am Bible Class 2:00 pm WinGS Gathering						



6525 Milwaukee Avenue  
Wind Lake, WI 53185

## Worship Information

**Sunday Worship Service** - 9:00 AM

**Sunday Education Time** - 10:30 AM

**Monday Worship Service** - 7:00 PM

## Contact Us

**Pastor:** Aaron Voss

**Church Office:** 262.895.3700

**Pastor's Cell Phone:** 262.330.3399

**E-mail:** [pastor@livingwaterlutheran.com](mailto:pastor@livingwaterlutheran.com)

**Office:** [church@livingwaterlutheran.com](mailto:church@livingwaterlutheran.com)

**Website:** [www.LivingWaterLutheran.com](http://www.LivingWaterLutheran.com)

### 2019 Church Council

Here is a list of people to contact if you have any questions or suggestions regarding anything happening in our ministry. Also, if you send a single e-mail to [council@livingwaterlutheran.com](mailto:council@livingwaterlutheran.com), it will reach all members of our Church Council.

**Mike Graffenius**—President  
**Jim Mertz**—Treasurer  
**Craig Scherbarth**—Financial Sec.  
**Bob McGill**—Secretary  
**Jeff Roska**—Head Elder  
**Neil Hankwitz**—Outreach  
**Gary Steffens**—Trustee  
**Brian Haag**—Education



## 4th of July Parade

Do you have a desire to invite people to Living Water and get to know Jesus better...with an artistic flair?

The Outreach Committee is in need of a coordinator to oversee the church's involvement in the Waterford 4th of July parade. As coordinator, you will enlist the help of fellow Living Water members to determine how our church will be represented in the parade. If interested, please contact Neil Hankwitz or Pastor Voss.