



August 2023

OUR MISSION:

To grow a loving community equipped to take the message of Jesus to our world.

Dear Church Family,

Benjamin Franklin allegedly said, “In this world, nothing can be said to be certain, except death and taxes.” His words, though humorous, remind us of the genuine truth: everyone dies.

But that leaves the question: What happens after you die? Do you cease to exist? Do we get to work out our salvation? Are we reincarnated? Do we all end up in our best version of heaven?

These are the questions that everyone asks, but few take the time to discover the answers. But the Bible provides a clear answer: it depends. It depends on what? Your relationship with God.

For the person who dies, there is life after death. The real question is where you will spend that life? It will be either heaven or hell.

For the Christian, it is the first immediate presence with God. There is no interruption of life at the end of this life, but we continue to be alive in our personal souls upon death. Paul said in 2 Corinthians 5:7-9: “For we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸ In fact, we are confident, and we would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹ Therefore, whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to be pleasing to him.”

Continued.....



Daily Devotions with Pastor Nat

Hey! How are you doing spiritually? Take the Spiritual Fitness Check-Up by scanning the QR code or go to our website www.livinglifereformed.org homepage and click on the scrolling announcement. You will get instant feedback and Bible content recommendations.

SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS

Deacons: Brett, Keith, Andy, Luke

August 6

Elder: Dean Hestermann

Greeters: Mark Atterbury

Coffee: Doug & Sandy Nieveen

PowerPoint: Tony Noble

Video: Randy Sieck

Sound Tech: Taylor TeKolste

Nursery: Courtney D & Helper Needed

SS 1st-5th Grade: Ron D & Dean H

Mowing: Brock Family

August 13

Elder: Bruce Docter

Greeter: Doug & Sandy Nieveen

Coffee: Dave & Suzie Oltman

PowerPoint: Avyn Olson

Video: Beth Olson

Sound Tech: Taylor TeKolste

Nursery: Beth Sieck & Helper Needed

SS 1st-5th Grade: Ron D & Dean H

Mowing: Kendall Weber/Mel Harms

August 20

Elder: Gary Hartgerink

Greeter: Mark TenHulzen

Coffee: Brandon & Nikki Oltman

PowerPoint: Tammy Goering

Video: Matthew/Ethan Sieck

Sound Tech: Randy Sieck

Nursery: Beth Sieck & Helper

SS 1st-5th Grade: Ron D & Dean H

Mowing: Kendall Weber/Mel Harms

August 27

Elder: Dean Hestermann

Greeters: Brittany Hart

Coffee: Gary & Peg Hartgerink

PowerPoint: Jenn Childers

Video: Ethan/Matthew Sieck

Sound Tech: Keith TenHulzen

Nursery: Dani & Luke Rasser

SS 1st-5th Grade: Ron D & Dean H

Mowing: Mark TenHulzen/Rick DeBoer

Thank you for all your help!

Continued.....

But then what? What about the non-believer? The clearest answer is found in Revelation 20:11-15. "Then I saw a great white throne and one seated on it. Earth and heaven fled from his presence, and no place was found for them. ¹²I also saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life, and the dead were judged according to their works by what was written in the books. ¹³Then the sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them; each one was judged according to their works. ¹⁴Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. ¹⁵And anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire."

For the believer, we are set apart for reward, while the lost are judged and sent to hell for eternity.

Are there second chances? No. Jesus shared a frightening story in Luke 16 where a rich man is in heaven, wanting to escape to warn his family of the coming judgment. There is no escape or do-overs.

So what? This should motivate us to live with urgency. When we realize there is no time promised to anyone, we should live as Paul said, "aiming to please Him." And there is no greater act of pleasing Him than being faithful to our mission of discipling the lost in everyday ways. The easiest way for many of us is to simply invite a friend to try come alongside us in our spiritual journey of becoming like Jesus. Include them in your life. Invite them to church. And in every opportunity, scatter the seeds of the gospel.

Today, allow the reality and finality of life after death to move you to please God by inviting others to move closer to Jesus today.

There is no time. So, let's live like it.

Pastor Nat Crawford



Adam & Eve

M	J	T	S	S	E	N	I	P	P	A	H	T	F	C
U	U	R	S	R	S	R	O	T	S	E	C	N	A	U
L	D	E	E	C	N	E	C	O	N	N	I	E	B	R
T	G	E	N	G	A	R	C	N	I	A	C	M	E	S
I	M	S	D	B	D	T	H	O	R	N	S	H	G	E
P	E	E	E	T	N	E	I	D	E	B	O	S	I	D
L	N	L	K	I	E	E	L	I	V	E	F	I	N	E
Y	T	T	A	U	A	A	D	W	N	M	I	N	N	L
A	P	S	N	R	S	E	B	D	O	A	G	U	I	L
S	M	I	T	F	B	E	I	Y	I	N	M	P	N	E
H	E	H	G	O	O	D	R	M	T	B	K	O	G	P
A	T	T	S	R	I	F	T	P	A	I	R	D	W	X
M	M	I	B	U	R	E	H	C	E	G	M	O	I	E
E	D	O	M	I	N	I	O	N	R	N	E	N	F	H
D	S	S	E	N	E	K	I	L	C	H	T	A	E	D

All the words listed are in the puzzle – left, right, up, down or diagonally. Find each word and circle it. The leftover letters will form the **mystery answer!**

- | | |
|--------------|-------------|
| Abel | Ancestors |
| Ashamed | Beginning |
| Cain | Cherubim |
| Childbirth | Creation |
| Cursed | Death |
| Disobedience | Disobedient |
| Dominion | Earth |
| Enmity | Evil |
| Expelled | Fig |
| First | Forbidden |
| Fruit | Good |
| Happiness | Hid |
| Image | Innocence |
| Judgment | Knowledge |
| Likeness | Multiply |
| Nakedness | Punishment |
| Serpent | Tempt |
| Thistles | Thorns |
| Trees | Woman |

From christianbiblereference.org

Children's Church Starting back Soon!

Children's Church is Sunday School time for potty-trained 3-6-year-olds held during the morning worship so parents can focus on the pastor's message. Please thank and encourage Katy Atterbury as she will be taking over the younger CC and it will start back up soon. We're also looking for additional teachers to join the rotation as a couple of our current teachers have brand-new babies! All materials would be provided for you, and the class currently averages 5-8 kiddos.

Please Note: Soon the younger CC will be back, and we will let you know as soon as possible! The kids are welcome to join the older children in the youth room or come into the nursery where we will entertain them with a bible video and coloring pages. If you are interested in joining our Children's Church Program, please contact Beth by email at church@livinglivereformed.org in the church office.



The Nursery is Open!

We're looking for volunteers to help in our nursery during Sunday morning worship for babies through 4-year-olds who are not yet ready for Children's Church. If you would like to join our rotation, please contact Beth at church@livinglivereformed.org to get added. As a reminder, we have a changing table in the nursery and a private place for moms who might need to feed their babies.

God's Kids Club

God's Kids Club will start before we know it! Watch for details for our fun Fall kick-off! Our first lesson night will be Wednesday, September 13.

Family meals will be served 5:30-6:30pm, with God's Kids Club classes meeting 6:30-7:30pm. God's Kids Club is for children who are 3 years old (and potty trained) through 5th grade. God's Kids Club offers many ways to learn about God's Love including lessons, crafts, service projects, and music. Please contact the church office if you have any questions.

Please register your kids on the church website (link in the scrolling banner), livinglifereformed.org, or use the QR code so we can plan and order materials.



4JCs and The Fire!!!!

4JCs & The Fire are a big part of our Wednesday Night programs for middle and high schoolers. 4JCs (For Jesus Christ) is for 6th-8th grade middle schoolers, and The Fire is for 9th-12th grade high school students. We'll start our new program year Wednesday, September 13 with fun activities! Wednesday Family meals are served 5:30-6:30pm. More information, including meeting times, will come soon. We'd love for parents of new and returning students to fill out the on-line registration form to help us keep you connected with program details. The 4JCs & The Fire registration form can be found at livinglifereformed.org on the homepage scrolling banner.

We're looking forward to an awesome year!



Branson Bus Trips!

Our church is hosting TWO bus trips to Branson, Missouri this year!

Oct. 10-13 & Nov. 28-Dec 1

Information packets for both trips are available on the table in the fellowship hall. SEATS ARE LIMITED! If you have questions, please see Linda DeBoer or Ilene Docter soon.

Mary & Martha Circle

Wed, August 10th
1:30pm

Lesson: Sandra
Wedding

Birthdays

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 2 Jeremiah Bartek | 19 Kimberly Henderson |
| Linda DeBoer | 22 Janelle DeBoer |
| Randy Thimm | Justin Birkett |
| 3 Troy Schroeder | 26 Olivia Hegler |
| 6 Allie Morrison | Samuel Johnson |
| Kathy Anderson | 27 Brandon Cramer |
| Trent Toelle | Gloria Rice |
| 11 Gary Hartgerink | Marvin Weber |
| DeAnn Weber | 29 Max TerMaat |
| 12 Edna Prange | Simon Crawford |
| 15 Gracen Crawford | Karen Harms |
| 16 Marjorie Coleman | 31 Kash Hart |

Anniversaries

- | | |
|----|---------------------------------|
| 2 | Doug & Sandy Nieveen (43) |
| 8 | Kelly & Kathy Anderson (36) |
| 9 | Doyle & Terri Petersen (37) |
| | Brian & Steph Auman (26) |
| 16 | Milan & Marjorie Coleman (65) |
| | Scott & Jody Null (32) |
| 17 | Gary & Peg Hartgerink (50) |
| | Alex & Beth Olson (21) |
| 23 | Stan & Kathy Carlow (49) |
| 24 | Keith & Charlene TenHulzen (40) |
| 26 | Ron & Carol DeBoer (28) |
| 28 | Cory & Brittany Hart (13) |
| 30 | Mel & Karen Harms (9) |
| | Shawn & Marie Gouldin (26) |

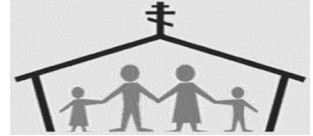
CALENDAR OF EVENTS – August

Tuesdays	6:30pm	Prayer Gathering
Fridays	6:00am	Men's Group at LLRC

Mon, Aug 7	1:00pm	"IF" Meeting (Ilene)
Tues, Aug 8	6:30pm	Consistory Meeting
Wed, Aug 9	1:30pm	Mary & Martha Circle
Thu, Aug 10		1 st Day of School (Norris)
Sun, Aug 13	7:00pm	Afterglow
Mon, Aug 28	1:00pm	"IF" Meeting (Ilene)

Monthly Consistory Minutes

The consistory voted at the May meeting that we will no longer publish the Consistory Minutes in the newsletter. If you would like to receive a copy of the approved July minutes, copies will be in the fellowship hall, or email the church at church@livinglifereformed.org after the Tuesday, August 8 meeting. If you have any questions, please see a member of the consistory.



Wednesday Activities Schedule!

Our Wednesday night routine is just around the corner, and we are SO excited!

Family Meals begin Sept. 13th and will serve 5:30-6:30pm

God's Kids Club.

September 13 at 6:30pm

4JC's (Middle School)

September 13 at 6:30pm

The Fire (High School)

September 13 to be announced soon.

Register online on our website. Invite your friends to join you!



Living Life Reformed Church
603 Russell, Box 295
Firth, NE 68358



Sunday Morning Worship

9:30-10:30am

In-person or Livestream on YouTube

Children's Church during worship

To Contact Us:

Church Office Hours

9:00am to 12:00pm

Pastor Nat Crawford

Nat.crawford@livinglifereformed.org

faith
Faith
For great is His love toward us,
and the faithfulness of the
Lord endures forever.
Psalm 117:2

Phone: 402-791-5800 • **Email:** church@livinglifereformed.org
Website: livinglifereformed.org • **Facebook:** Living Life Reformed Church | Facebook