

LIVING GOSPEL CHURCH NEWS

www.livinggospelchurchrio.org

Simply Living the Gospel

January 2023

Take Hold of the Promised Land!

Joshua 1:11 *“Get your provisions ready. Three days from now you will cross the Jordan here to go in and take possession of the land the Lord your God is giving you for your own.”*

God gave Joshua a charge, that he in turn gave to the people of Israel as their appointed leader:

To get ready, for the time had come for them to take hold of that which was rightfully theirs. It was time for them to enter and take possession of the land that had been promised to their ancestors long ago.

They had to first ready themselves spiritually and prepare to leave the comfort of their established way of living. They had to pick up their belongings, and by faith, cross the wide Jordan river together. They would face many battles before being able to settle in to their new land and establish new homes.

The faithful would persevere by focusing on God’s words of encouragement spoken over them and by believing for His promises to come about. The faithful were victorious and took hold of their rightful inheritance

This same charge is given to all Christians yet today. Get ready (spiritually), for you have been called to cross your Jordan River and take hold of all that God has promised you.

This will require great faith, leaving behind what is comfortable. It will also require obedience to His call and instruction, and an unwavering certainty that victory in Christ is yours! Let’s cross this river together for we have been given a bountiful promised land!



Joshua 1:9

Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go .

In This Issue

- Loving God and His Church
- 2023 Budget
- Seek the Lord Always
- January Celebrations
- Coming Events



Loving God and Loving His Church

Galatians 5:13 You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love.

God is ever faithful to continue to build His Church and draw the hungry and thirsty unto Himself.

Look back over the course of the past couple years and take notice of the many new faces and families God has called to Living Gospel Church. **What a blessing and joy to see how He draws those seeking to connect to the Body and how each person strengthens us in a new way.**

We all have purpose and have been divinely called to *this church specifically*, to fulfill the purpose God created us for at this time in our lives. Know this.

Let us be careful to never think our presence doesn't matter or that our gifts are irrelevant.

The health of the Body is greatly impacted when we begin to think it doesn't matter if we are there; that no one will miss us. This is a lie from the enemy. **Your presence matters. Your service matters.** What God is able to do through our church is greatly impacted by our faithful presence and service.

Please pray and seek God's will for you in how you will serve Him and His people in 2023 through His church, and *your church*. He has a purpose and plan for you; seek it out and follow what He shows you. There is great joy and fulfillment in serving where He calls you. Maybe your service will remain the same; maybe He has something new for you. Seek and He will show you.

Areas we could use help: nursery volunteers for our toddlers not quite old enough for children's ministry, greeters, online social media support (back-end technology), worship and praise team, men's ministry and support, starting small group connections... serve where you are passionate and gifted. There is not one person created who is lacking gifts. We all are gifted to serve in some capacity. Humbly serve and reap the blessings you sow.

God bless you and reward you abundantly as you serve Him and His church!

Celebrating-

January Birthdays

Bob Breneman	January 1
Abra Denman	January 4
Karrie Landsverk	January 11
Fran Porter 	January 18
Brody Keepses	January 19
Kassadie Sugden	January 22
Debbie Gundlach Rogers	January 23
Shari Kleist	January 25
Brinleigh Batz	January 26
Brigitte Buchmeier	January 27

Please let us know if you want your birthdays or anniversaries added to our database for 2023! We love to celebrate YOU!



2023 Budget and Vision

Our board of directors is preparing a financial budget for our 2023 year and we welcome your input.

We will hold our annual meeting to discuss and vote on our 2023 budget near the end of February, following a worship service. **We very much encourage your attendance and engagement in this discussion and vote.**

We are so grateful for the faithfulness of God to help us meet our yearly budgets, and to all who give to the care of this church. Please spend time seeking Him to see what He desires for you to give to meet His divine purposes in this upcoming year. He will never call you to give beyond your means, but He will stretch you to give by faith.

What are His purposes? Showing us how to deepen our relationships with Christ, increasing our understanding in His Word so we learn to live by it, taking His Gospel message to others in our surrounding communities and around the world with ministry partners He connects us with. We as the church live our mission as we fulfill His purposes. **There is MUCH involved with living our mission: Loving God, Loving Others and Loving by Serving.**

As we each faithfully obey and follow His will, God faithfully and creatively provides means for us to fulfill His vision for this church and His collective church.

Let us continue to build and give in faith this year, knowing He is able to do immeasurably more than anything we can ask for!



Seek the Lord with all Your Heart!

Psalm 105: 2-4 ² Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts. ³ Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice. ⁴ Look to the LORD and his strength; seek his face always.

As children of God we are called to seek Him with all our heart, mind, soul and strength and as we do, **we will surely find Him.**

God knows how easily our confidence can be shaken, how quickly our faith fades and how consumed we can be with our ever changing circumstances. This is why we are called to seek the Lord always, to renew the courage and strength we have that comes from Him; to build our faith in Him and to keep our eyes fixed on eternal things over temporal things.

God delights in pouring out His blessings upon us and revealing hidden mysteries the world will not see or understand, as we seek to know Him. He created us to be vessels that He fills with Himself. He created us to be one with Him, through His Spirit.

In order to receive the fullness that He desires to give us, we must seek the Lord with all our heart. We must open our heart to receive His love and choose to offer our love back to Him. We must choose to trust Him beyond what we can see or understand. **We must choose to make Him first in our lives.**

In 2023, let us seek the face of our Lord and purpose to do what the Holy Spirit tells us to do and to take action in faith as the Holy Spirit calls us to act. Let us put our trust in Him and prove His faithfulness. *Decide now in your heart to seek His face each day this year and watch the mighty work of God in your life!*

God bless and watch over you always. *Sing praise to Him! Glory in His name!*

Coming Events

Sunday, January 15th– Board meeting following worship service.

Monday January 16th-Ladies prayer group 9 am at church. *All are welcome!*

Save the Date: Sunday, February 19th– Annual Budget Meeting following worship service.

Save the Date– Saturday, February 25th One Heart Seminar for ladies, WI Dells. 9-3 pm. Talk with Pastor Karrie for details and registration info.

Small Group Discussions and Study: Go Deeper in His Word

Wednesday's: 7:00 pm at church; **All are welcome: from brand new Christians to lifetime followers of Christ.** We learn and grow together. Come for the fellowship. Leave blessed.

Being able to have a discussion about His Word is beneficial in many ways! Join in the conversations and grow in relationships!

Create your own small group on a day and time that work for you. Dive into His Word with a brother or sister in Christ. You will grow by leaps and bounds when you discuss His Word together!

Joshua 1:8 (NIV) *Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.*

Encouragement With Pastor Karrie

When is the last time we have chatted? Really chatted and connected. You matter to me. What's on your heart and mind matters to me.
Let's connect in this new year.

Email: pastor@livinggospelchurchrio.org

Or via cell phone:
608 566-3936

**May God Bless You
and Make His Face
Shine Upon You.**

Living Gospel Church
322 Lincoln Ave.
Rio, WI 53960

PLACE
STAMP
HERE