

LIVING GOSPEL CHURCH NEWS

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Simply Living the Gospel

February 2023

God's Healing and Restorative Love

Isaiah 53: 4-5 NKJV *4 Surely He has borne our griefs
And carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken,
Smitten by God, and afflicted. 5 But He was wounded for our
transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities;
The chastisement for our peace was upon Him,
And by His stripes we are healed.*

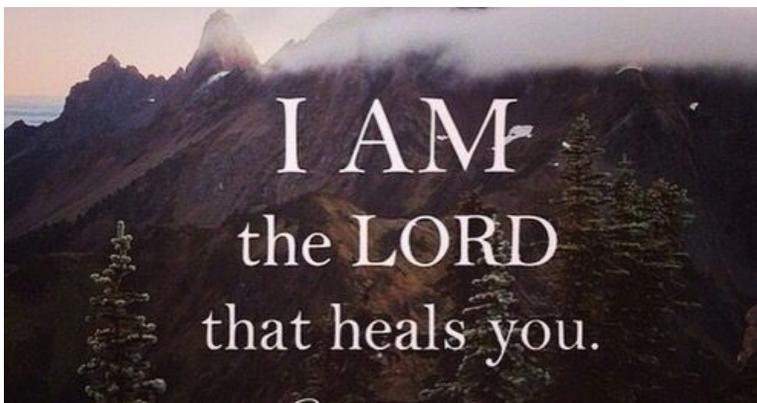
This broken world will at times leave our hearts torn and tattered, and yet we have a promise from our God that *He will heal every wound, and restore our health.*

This may mean our physical health, but it also means our emotional and spiritual health. His promise is to restore us and heal our wounds. This is why Jesus came and died on the cross; *by His stripes (wounds), we are healed.*

Jesus bore our griefs, sicknesses, and sorrows on the cross. He did all of this from His deep love for us, so that we could become healed through His redemptive blood that was poured out as the atonement for the sins of the world.

This month, as we hear messages about God's healing love, let us purpose in our hearts to first believe His promise that **He will restore and heal us**; and let us invite the Healer and Great Physician into the wounds we yet carry around so He might begin the healing process.

He knows your deepest wounds already and He desires to heal you and make you whole through His Son, Jesus Christ. He is simply waiting for you to invite Him to bring healing as only He can. Trust the Healer who knows exactly how to bring healing and wholeness to you. Trust Him with your heart.



Jeremiah 30:17

*But I will restore
you to health and
heal your wounds,
declares the
LORD.*

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Love Your Neighbor

Galatians 5:13-14 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. ¹⁴ For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: “Love your neighbor as yourself.

We believe in three simple statements that guide us in all we do in and through Living Gospel Church.

Love God. Love People. Love by Serving.

This means we offer our hearts fully to God and love Him with our all heart, mind, soul and strength. We love one another (*all others*), with a brotherly and sisterly love in Christ. The love we have for God and one another is demonstrated through our actions. This is not a love merely stated in words but carried out in deeds of kindness, compassion, encouragement, and honor.

Showing love to our neighbor begins with a decision in our heart that unity and harmony are of great value and understanding we can only attain these through the expression of loving actions and words.

Mr. Rogers shared great words of wisdom to remind us how we are to view the gift and importance of loving our neighbors:

"As human beings, our job in life is to help people realize how rare and valuable each one of us really is, that each of us has something that no one else has - or ever will have - something inside that is unique to all time. It's our job to encourage each other to discover that uniqueness and to provide ways of developing its expression."

"So, let's make the most of this beautiful day Since we're together, we might as well say Would you be mine? Could you be mine? Won't you be my neighbor?"

Celebrating-

February Birthdays

Sandy Ebert	February 7
Erna Manweiler	♥ February 10
Aubrey Benisch	February 13
Helen Buckley	February 15
Don Hessler	February 15
Jonathan Landsverk	February 17

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

We love to celebrate YOU!



2023 Annual Budget Meeting

**Sunday, February
19th**

Our board of directors is preparing a financial budget for 2023 and will share it with all at our annual budget meeting. This meeting will follow our worship service.

We very much encourage your attendance and engagement in this discussion and vote regarding our budget.

We will also be giving an update on the legacy fund expenditures from 2022 and potential projects for 2023.

It is important to have member engagement and buy in for the direction God is leading our church. We, as a board, want all members to know exactly where the tithes and offerings are going, to know what is required to support the many ministries offered through Living Gospel Church and to feel joyful about their contributions.

We ask each member to pray before the meeting for God's wisdom and favor over this year ahead. We also ask each member to pray and see what God is asking of you to help us meet this year's budget. He will show you what He desires from you as you ask Him. Trust He will provide and abundantly bless as you follow His lead.

We are richly blessed with a beautiful and historic building to care for, a loving community and church family to share our lives with, and an amazing and faithful God to worship and praise.

May God continue to bless Living Gospel Church and all who enter it.



The Heart of a Church Member

²⁴ And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, ²⁵ not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting *one another*, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching. Hebrews 10: 24-25 NKJV

Jesus gives all who believe in Him as their Lord and Savior a new command:

“A new commandment I give you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” John 13: 34-35.

The mark of our discipleship as a Christian, is **love**. This is what I see and feel every week when we gather as the Body. This is what is expressed in this picture.

Why is membership important? The best place for Christians to love as Jesus loves is in the assembly of God's people, called the Church. Those who are committed to following Jesus, know the importance the Church has in building His kingdom, **because it is through the Church, we learn and are given ample opportunities to love as Jesus loves.**

“It is in the Church where love is most visibly and compellingly displayed among God's people.” - Thabiti Anyabwile

This display of God's love is shown through the heart of the committed church member who: shows up week after week and lifts others simply by being there; serves with a smile; sings with heartfelt praise; offers a word of encouragement and prayer to others; faithfully gives to the ministry; comes early or stays late to prep and clean up so others are blessed; lovingly draws others in to the family; prays for the vibrancy of God's Church and above all, stirs up love in the Body of Christ. *Thank You to our members! We love your heart!*

Coming Events

Saturday, February 11th– Ladies' Breakfast/Fellowship. Shari Kleist's home W5192 Oakland Dr. Rio. 8 am. All ladies welcome!

Sunday, February 12th– Soup-ER-Bowl Fundraiser for children's Bible Camp. Stay for lunch or take some soup home, and help children raise funds for camp.

Sunday, February 19th– Annual Budget Meeting following worship service.

Monday, February 20th– Ladies' Prayer Group. 9 am at church. All ladies welcome!

Saturday, February 25th One Heart Seminar for ladies, WI Dells. 9-3 pm. Send registration in before Feb. 20th. Copies at church.

Small Group Discussions and Study: Build Friendships and Faith

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 and renewed.

Gather 2-3 others on a day and time that work for you. You will grow by leaps and bounds when you discuss His Word together!

Hebrews 10: 24-25 (NIV) ²⁴ And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, ²⁵ not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

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
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PLACE
STAMP
HERE