

The Heart of the Community

**MATTERS
OF THE
HEART**

Living Word Church
Sunday, September 13, 2009

Welcome to Living Word Church

Welcome Guests

Welcome from Pastor Daniel & Sharon Cooper and the Living Word family. We are glad to have you here and hope you feel at home among us.

Regardless of your background — whether you are just beginning to ask questions about God or you are a committed Christian wanting to deepen your faith, Living Word is a place you can call home and find spiritual help, hope, and encouragement. We are honored to have you with us today and hope you will allow us the opportunity to get to know you as you get to know us.

Nursery

When you enter our front door our nursery is on your right. If you have a child from newborn to age 2 and need a nursery, you are welcome at any time to take your child to the nursery. We also provide well-qualified nursery workers who will lovingly care for your child if you want to return to the church service.

Connecting

We would like to acknowledge your visit today and answer any questions you may have. We hope you will feel comfortable enough to share your name and your choice of contact information (email, address, phone, however you prefer for us to acknowledge your visit).

Our greeters, ushers or hosts should have provided you with a connection card (if somehow we missed you, a connection card is available on the welcome table in the foyer). Please fill out the card and drop it in the offering or return it to the welcome table in the foyer. We promise not to “bug you” with spam or ongoing unsolicited calls or visits. We will, however, thank you for attending today and contact you to see if there is anything we can do to serve you and your family. Again, please indicate on the card how you prefer to be contacted by us.

Children's Ministry

We minister to children of all ages. Preschool (ages 3 to 5) meet in the classroom in the main church building (in the hallway next to the restrooms). Ages 6 to 12 meet in the Pebble (the youth building next door to the main church building). Our children's ministry features singing, crafts, snacks, and Bible stories. We begin at 10:30 AM on Sunday morning. We spend time together as one group and also go into classes based on age groups.

RockSolid Youth

There will be no youth service today due to the Disney World trip.

20 & 30somethings Cookout Today

We are grilling hot dogs and hamburgers following the second service today (around noon) for anyone in their 20s or 30s. We invite you to join us in the fellowship hall after the service. Bring the kids too! This will be a great opportunity to meet others in your age group and station in life. We will discuss plans and ideas for Life Groups for our 20s and 30s. Meet us in the fellowship hall after church.

Eagle Saints Lunch Monday, Sept 14

The Eagle Saints will be having a covered luncheon in the fellowship hall on Monday, September 14 at 12 noon. Eagle Saints are a group of friends age 50 and above who meet once a month on the second Monday of each month to fellowship over a meal and have a good time together. Bring your favorite covered dish and come join us. For information contact Maxine Hutto (538-5506).

Get Acquainted Cookout Wednesday, Sept 16

John & Pam Maxlow will be hosting a "get-acquainted cookout" for their first Life Group meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 16th at 7:00 PM at 21 Prestwick Place. For information or directions contact John or Pam at 217-8395 or 217-8389 This new Life Group is open to all ages and all stations in life. Join John & Pam for good food and fellowship and see how great a life group can be.

New Service Times

Our new service times are:

Sunday

First Service	9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
Second Service	10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon
Children's Church	10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon
RockSolid Youth	4:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday Night

No Service

Sunday Night — Saturday Night

Life Groups meet in homes throughout the community.

See pages 11-12 for Life Group times and locations.

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Acts 16:9-10; John 4; John 1:29-34; Matthew 5:13; Matthew 5:14-16

- ❶ The greatest need of a community is for Christians to demonstrate the love of God through self-sacrifice and servanthood.
- ❷ When we don't make excuses but look around us, we will find people ready to hear God's Word.
- ❸ People are looking for someone to give them security in an insecure world. Our responsibility is to point them to Jesus Christ.
- ❹ We can make a difference in the "flavor" of the world we live in, just as salt can change the flavor of food.
- ❺ God will use us to counteract the moral decay in our community, just as salt preserves food from decay.
- ❻ Be a beacon of truth in your community, and let your light shine brightly for Christ.
- ❼ Ask God to send you to the right person with the right message at the right time.

LIFE AT HOME

On November 15, 1991, The Gainesville Sun reported that Donald DeGreve, age 65, suffered a fatal heart attack in Winter Haven, Florida while playing golf at the city owned Willowbrook Golf Course with about 40 of his neighbors from Swiss Village Mobile Home Park. DeGreve was putting on the 16th green with three of his friends when he collapsed and died.

The three men who had been playing with DeGreve called 911 to report his death. His body lay on the 16th green, covered with a sheet, for hours while course officials tried to contact his wife and funeral home personnel.

Although DeGreve's three golfing partners abandoned their game, the rest of the Swiss Village group continued to play. Golfers walked around the sheet-cloaked DeGreve on their way through the course.

"Life goes on," said one man, "so we had to keep going."

If you are like me you are probably saying to yourself that you would never walk past your sheet-covered neighbor on your way to finish your golf game. But as I think about this story I have to ask myself if I am guilty of doing the same thing that the Swiss Village group did on the golf course that day?

Haven't I walked past my spiritually dead neighbor covered with sin ignoring them on my way to church or to a church function?

Living in the same neighborhood does not necessarily build community. Neither does going to the same church. Community is more than close proximity. Real community, real fellowship involves taking time to get to know people. Taking time to care for others.

Community is far more important than a golf game or even a church service. Somewhere in our busy lives we have got to slow down. Stop! And show a little more concern and respect for the people around us.

Dear Lord, help me to see people as you see them. Help me to hear their cries. To see their pain. To offer hope through Jesus Christ. Help me to be a good neighbor and a concerned member of my community. Help me to build community in Living Word and in my Life Group. Amen.

Life Groups

What is a Life Group?

A Life Group is made up of a small group of people who meet weekly to study, to share, and to support one another in their Christian lives. Each group is led by a trained leader. A typical meeting lasts for an hour and a half, and includes light refreshments. Some groups choose to also spend some time in singing and worship.

How important are Life Groups?

We consider Life Groups to be the heart of our ministry. They are the place where the real ministry of the church takes place as we encourage, support, and challenge one another. God doesn't want any of us to be left to walk alone-- we need each other.

How long does a group last?

Each Life Group session lasts about 10 weeks. Basically, we break the year into 4 quarters or sessions. At the end of each quarter, you have the choice of staying in the same group, trying a new group, or even taking a break. Most groups stay together throughout the entire year.

Which group should I join?

We suggest you join a group based on your "station in life" rather than on geography or the most convenient night of the week. We've found that a group works best when you share common interests, backgrounds, marital status or similar aged children. Frankly, it may take two or three groups before you find the perfect fit. But don't worry, you'll find it!

What is the required commitment?

Joining a Life Group requires a 10-week commitment to attend the weekly meetings and to do the homework ahead of time. Obviously, allowances are made for sickness, vacation, work conflicts, and other special events...but not much more! We believe this commitment is the key to strong relationships and healthy groups.

What will we study?

The studies are based on the previous Sunday's sermon. Imagine the sermon as a message on Christian living and the group meet-

ing as a place where you get to discuss how the sermon works out in real life.

Each week there will be a series of Bible passages and questions to study and complete before your meeting. The homework is included in this Life Group booklet. It will usually take 20 to 30 minutes to complete the homework.

When and where do these groups meet?

Our Life Groups meet on various days and nights of the week in homes throughout the community. A few of them actually meet at the church. Below is a list of our current Life Groups. Call one today for details on their group or call our Life Group coordinators Donald & Retta Lyons (909-8076 or 908-0057) for all other questions about Life Groups, or for hosting or leading a group. You can also email Donald at dlyons@lowcountry.com.

Life Group Times & Locations

<u>Sunday 6:00 PM</u>	Location	Focus
Ray & Josie Colson 538-2117	1789 Sidneys Road Walterboro	All ages
Donald & Retta Lyons 909-8076 or 908-0057	5672 Sniders Hwy (4 miles form I-95)	All ages
John & Barbara Steele 549-7751	30 Waverly Street (Longleaf)	All ages
Raymond & June Hiott 538-2172	225 Wells Lane (off Bells Hwy)	All ages
<u>Sunday 6:30 PM</u>		
Rick and Debbie Linder 562-2417	Smoaks	All ages
Linda Frazier 835-2327	Cottageville	All ages
<u>Tuesday 6:30 PM</u>		
Bob and Janet Rogers 599-1011 or 5991010	Living Word Church	All ages

Life Group Times & Locations

Wednesday 6:00 PM

Raymond & June Hiott
538-2172

Location

225 Wells Lane
(off Bells Hwy)

Focus

All ages

Wednesday 6:30 PM

Clyde & Bonnie Reid
532-1708 or 835-5249

202 Stark Drive
(Woodland Terrace)

All ages

Ben Langdale
Shawn Langdale
893-6859

299 Dandridge Road
(Hyde Park)

Teenage Boys

Stacy Langdale
909-0758 or 893-6456

6117 Jefferies Highway
(Walterboro North)

Teenage Girls

Wednesday 7:00 PM

John and Pam Maxlow
217-8395 or 217-8389

21 Prestwick Place
/corner Wexford Way
(right on Wexford—past country club)

All ages

Thursday 7:00 PM

Buddy Buchanan
908-1510

Living Word Church

Men

Andy Harrison
909-1122

Living Word Church

Men

Friday 5:00 PM

Andy Harrison
909-1122

106 James Street
(Forest Hills)

Boys & Girls
6th—8th grade

Friday PM

Steve & Danielle Phillips
475-2140 or 860-3678

Living Word Church

20s & 30s