



LIVING WORD LUTHERAN CHURCH & CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Rooted — Growing — Experiencing Christ

FEBRUARY 2012

BROKEN PEOPLE

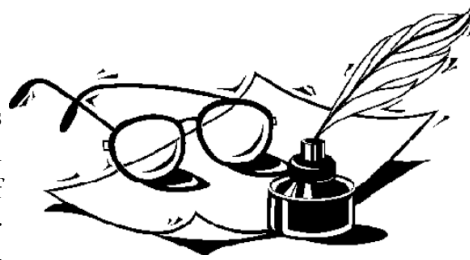
We see the people around us. Perhaps we are among them. They are hurting. They are searching for answers. Perhaps they are searching even for the right *questions* to ask. They are **broken people**, who have “fallen through the cracks” in our society, who now suffer because of many and various reasons.

It could be an illness, a family that is falling apart, a bad situation at work, stress, or a rebellious child. Whatever it is, it affects the afflicted each and every day — there seems to be no escape — and it just feels as if things in life are not working the way they are

supposed to. Life is **broken**.

Is this you that I’m speaking of here? Is it your neighbor, your relative or someone else that you know?

It seems hard to believe, but in a few short weeks, we as God’s people will enter into the penitential season of Lent on Ash Wednesday. In Lent, of course, we take an extended and deepened look at Jesus’ Passion and see powerfully and poignantly how our Lord and Savior was “**broken**” for our sins and nailed to the cross. It boggles the mind and imagination to contemplate



the degree to which our innocent Lord suffered **brokenness** for us! It was, in fact, all the way to death and hell itself.

When we look to God’s Word on this subject, we see several things. First of all, we see that indeed, we *are broken* — all of us — **broken** because of sin. Our relationship with God and with each other has been

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*“Create in me a
pure heart,
O God, and
renew a
steadfast spirit
within me.”*

Psalm 51:10

“LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF”

This is a concept that is taught every day to the children at Living Word Child Development Center. It may be as simple as learning to share toys with each other, but it an important life lesson. As parents and teachers it is so important to be good ex-

amples to the children God has entrusted to our care. We need to demonstrate how we care for our neighbors and help all those in need. Watching a little one run up to a new classmate and say, “Come and play with us,” says it all. Maybe the children are the

best example for parents and teachers!

It may be cold, but it is so fun to play outside. Please make sure to bring your Outdoor clothing, boots, mittens & hats in everyday. Whenever the temperature feels like it is

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INSERTS:

CALENDAR
VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

(see separate links from the “Calendar of Events tabs” on the website.)

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damaged beyond any of our efforts to repair it. *“The earth is defiled by it’s people; they have disobeyed the laws, violated the statutes and **broken** the everlasting covenant.”* - Isaiah 24:5

We also see clearly that God has a special place in His heart (so to speak) for those who are not only **broken** because of what sin has done, but also for those who are **broken** and **brokenhearted** because of the general **“brokenness”** of their lives. He says *“The Lord is close to the **brokenhearted** and saves those who are crushed in spirit.”* (Psalm 34:18) *“He heals the **brokenhearted** and binds up their wounds.”* (Psalm 147:3) Isaiah, prophesying through the Holy Spirit said of the coming Messiah, *“The Spirit of the sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the **brokenhearted**, to proclaim freedom for the captives, and release from darkness for the prisoners...”* (Isaiah 61:1). God loves us with a tender, gentle heart, and tends to our **brokenness**.

We also discover from the Scrip-

ture that this being **broken** has some *desirable* things about it.

I think the most easily understood verse here is from David, in Psalm 51 when he writes of being **broken**, *“The sacrifices of God are a **broken** spirit; a **broken** and contrite heart, O God, You will not despise.”*

You see, even though it’s not a fun thing to be **broken**, not working the way things are supposed to, and to be damaged in various aspects of our lives; but the Lord allows these things to enter into our lives for a purpose — to draw us closer to Him.

What is the attitude of our hearts when we are **“broken”** in life? Is it also then, *spiritual “brokenness”* before God? Do we surrender to Him and His gracious will, asking how our trials can be used for His glory, or do we struggle and fight with Him for our own way — what we think will be best for us? Are we **broken** spiritually?

Even though we **broke** the covenant with God, He promised through Jeremiah that He would make a new covenant, one in

which we would know Him, and He us; one in which He would forgive our sins and remember them no more. (Jeremiah 31:31-34). That promise was fulfilled by our Lord Jesus Christ.

When we come before Him **broken**, He heals us, binds us up and makes us new. In Christ we are a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 6:15). He has made us new in Baptism; He makes us new through the Word; He makes us new and forgives us, and empowers us through the Lord’s Supper — in which, by the way — “Jesus took bread and **broke** it...”.

Are things **broken** in your life? Come to God, who knows all about **brokenness**. Come before Him as David said, with a **broken** and contrite heart. He will not despise you, but raise you up and see you through whatever your trial of **brokenness** may be — to your highest good, and for His glory! See you in church!

Pastor Huesmann

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over 20 degrees, we plan to go outside!

Thank you for the great response to our Pizza Fundraiser! We are excited to be able to purchase some new inside group activities to keep us busy when it’s too cold to go outside.

In His Service,

Laura Mortag



CDC SPECIAL MENTION:

- **February 20th — No Part-day Preschool**
- **Please be sure that you and others picking up your child(ren) are familiar with the new security phrase.***

**Please remember to bring your security cards, order a new one if you lost yours, or order an extra one if someone else picks up on a regular basis. Our first priority is caring for the children and this may require you to wait for a while for us to respond to the doorbell. Thank you.*

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

SCRIP

Highlighted Specials: Harry and David offering 3% bonus contribution through February 17th
Kwik Trip is offering 5% bonus contribution through March 30th

CHURCH COUNCIL NEWS

The newly elected Church Council met on January 20, 21 & 22 for an intensive weekend of “Rapid Policy Development” together with our Consultant, Dr. Jim Galvin. We worked long and hard over these three days to develop and write Living Word’s “Policy Manual”.

If anyone would like to see what this document contains, there will be a copy available *to check out* from the church office. You may arrange this through Carolyn Dosland (677-1685 or cdosland@mylivingword.com).

In addition to the work of creating policy, the Council also elected its executive officers. They are: **Chair:** Larry Gray; **Vice Chair:** Mike Dosland; **Secretary:** Amy Swiertz; and **Treasurer:** Eric Demmon.

Please continue to pray for these leaders, our Church Council, and our Congregation as we transition to our new form of governance!

BIBLE STUDIES AT LIVING WORD

It’s really not too late (it’s never too late to study God’s Word!) to get involved in one (or more!) of the small group Bible studies offered through Living Word. See an overview of the topics, the list of times, locations on our website:

www.mylivingword.com

YOUTH NEWS AND EVENTS

Youth Grades 6 - 12

Save the Date: Youth will meet at Skateland on Highway 60 in Cedarburg on Sunday, February 19th. Kids will be enjoying the Christian Skate time from 4-6 PM. Friends always welcome! Please see Kelly Patterson at church or call her at (262)-366-0588 to RSVP.

Sunday School "Second Sunday Celebration" The Sunday School students will be meeting in large group on Sunday, February 12th in the Crossing. The theme for the devotion and special craft project will be based on 1 Corinthians, Chapter 13, Verse 4: *"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud."*

DAILY DEVOTION FROM LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES

www.lhm.org

(Jesus said) *"Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life."* Revelation 2:10

"The best-laid schemes o' mice an' men gang aft agley." That was the way Robert Burns said it. Me, I'm not that poetic. I prefer this: even when we try hard to do what is right, things can still get mightily messed up.

A cleaning woman at Dortmund, Germany's Ostwall Museum would agree. The zealous soul noticed something was wrong with a piece of artwork done by Martin Kippenberger. She spotted a major stain on the presentation, which is called, "When It Starts Dripping From the Ceiling." It's a presentation valued at \$1.1 million.

Various news agencies describe the art as being made up of "wooden slats under which a rubber trough was placed with a thin beige layer of paint represent-

ing dried rain water."

Apparently, the cleaning lady thought the "dried rain water" was just that, and she cleaned it up. Conscientious soul that she is - - and in the best of German traditions -- she cleaned that spot until it was -- well, until it was spotless.

The curators of the museum say the piece is ruined beyond repair. And the cleaning woman? Well, I pray you will forgive me if I say her reputation remains ... spotless. (Sorry about that.)

But back to the point: most Daily Devotioners would agree there are times when their best intentions haven't always worked out the way they hoped, and almost all of us can think back on times when we tried to say or do something to help someone and our involvement was unapplauded and unappreciated.

So what is a person to do?

Many folks end up concluding the best thing for them to do is throw in the towel and never get involved with anything or anyone.

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS

One of the ways we here at Living Word can encourage church attendance for our mid-week Lenten services is our Soup Suppers. When we work together and "lift each other up" by easing some of the pressures (for example "What's for dinner tonight?") that may be added to coming to church on a busy weeknight. Soup Suppers also offer another benefit -- it fosters fellowship among members. These simple meals are made up of small contributions. Please take a minute and stop by the front desk today and review the signup sheet and prayerfully consider bringing something. Thanks!

All of us can rejoice that Jesus, throughout His life, continued to do what was right and continued to follow the Father's will. This He did when the disciples didn't understand Him, when one of His friends betrayed Him, when His church condemned Him, and the people He had come to save called for His crucifixion.

Thank heaven He did because as Isaiah said, "by His stripes we are healed" (see Isaiah 53:5). And so, my friends, let this devotion be an encouragement to you: continue on doing the best you can, whenever you can, to whom-ever you can, as often as you can. And try to do it with your work always being in harmony with the Father's will.

THE PRAYER:

Dear Lord, help us lead our lives glorifying You and not longing for the approval of humankind. This we ask in the Name of Jesus who did just that. In His Name we pray it. Amen.

LIVING WORD LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

Report To Churches-February, 2012

January always marks the mid point of our school year. We have again been blessed as we work to focus on and live out our theme for this school year: *“Living lives worthy of Him, pleasing Him in every way.”* Colossians 1:10

Dr. Stelmachowicz receives lots of mail each day, below are a few sentences from one he received just after Christmas: “I am the grandmother of a grad of the class of 2011. I cannot allow this year to come to a close without sending a heartfelt thank you to you, the teachers, and the school counselor. You took a chance that he was salvageable, but it took two years to convince him that he is worthwhile. Thank you.” Being around this school each day, you begin to realize that it indeed is a place where everyone knows that they are “salvageable”, and worthwhile because of Jesus Christ. That makes it a great place to show up, even on Monday mornings!

FACULTY: Congratulations to teachers Mrs. Kim Ehley and Mrs. Kelly Staub who are expecting babies in April. Please keep them in your prayers as they juggle family and teaching in the months ahead.

WINTERIM was just completed here. It is a three week slot in January when each student takes only one class. There was a Spanish immersion group that went to Costa Rica with Miss Yahr, Pastor Navurskis led a hands on “autoshop class”, the freshman took a winter rec and health class, and some other class titles included: American Film, Mixed Media 3D, Advanced Business, Discipleship, and World Religions. Each class is planned for out of the building experiences and/or bringing people of expertise into our classes. It is definitely a favorite time of the year for our students.

BUILDING A LEGACY campaign kick off held on Nov 5 as many were gathered in the gym for the tenth annual Dinner Auction. Dr. Stelmachowicz got a “haircut” and announced that we are moving into the public phase of our campaign to service and reduce our debt, begin an endowment to support student scholarship, and if successful with these two, to build a new student center/cafeteria. We are excited to announce that through the generosity of leader gifts we have currently received pledges totaling \$1.7 million towards our goal of \$3 million. We will spend 2012 going out to our congregations to give lots of others an opportunity to support the mission of LWLHS!

AMERICAN MATH COMPETITION, Feb 7, 2012. Thirty math students will compete. The competition includes “junior varsity” competition for 9-10th graders and “varsity” competition for 11th-12th graders.

OPEN HOUSE/REGISTRATION held on Sunday, January 29. The second in a series of three. The last will be held in spring (keep checking LWLHS.com for the date). Our “house” of course is always open for student “shadow” experiences each school day (just call the school office) and open by appointment for tours and registration.

DRAMA DEPARTMENT has recently announced that the Spring Musical this year will be “MY FAIR LADY”. Auditions are scheduled to begin during the week of Jan 30 and the show is scheduled to go on the stage April 27-28. Hope you will put it on your schedule of “things to do”.

WINTER SPORTS teams are moving through another eventful season. The ladies are “in the running” for a possible Mid West Classic Conference championship and recently enjoyed a thrilling come from behind victory over cross town rival Lake Country Lutheran. Senior leadership on the team is provided by Emily Hesse, Samantha Steger, and Taylor Luce-St John-West Bend, Chanel Stelmachowicz and Dana Rich-First Immanuel-Cedarburg, and Kendall Meysenbourg-St Paul-Grafton.

The guys are a young team with lots of sophomores and juniors but playing some entertaining basketball. Seniors on the team include: Caleb Cain and Ben Rennie-First Immanuel, Max Soucy-St John-West Bend, and Ben Werner-St Paul-Grafton.

The ladies Dance Team has provided some great entertainment at games this year. The team is led by seniors: Anna Boesch and Ellie Kegley-St. Paul-Grafton, Madelyn Manseck-First Immanuel, Hannah Grosskreutz-Pilgrim, and Kristin Peterson-St John-West Bend.

OUTDOOR FIELD DEVELOPMENT: The new softball diamond had the posts for backstop and other fencing installed last November thanks to Graff Masonry of Jackson. We hope to complete benches and other fencing this spring and have the diamond ready for use in April.

IMPORTANT CALENDAR EVENTS AHEAD:

February: 23-Mid Quarter Reports, Parent Teacher Conferences, 24 - No Classes, Student Help Day, 28 - WIAA BB Regional Competition Begins

March: 6 - WIAA GB Regional Competition Begins, 23 - 3rd Quarter Ends, 30 - Music Department Spring Concert,

April: 6 through 13 - Easter Celebration Break



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AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

www.mylivingword.com

CELEBRATE FAMILIES

Let's celebrate families! Bring your family to our
Twenty-first Annual Celebrate Families!

February 12th

at Washington County Fair Park

11 AM - 4 PM

This free event marks the start of "Celebrate Families Week". There will be entertainment on two stages, activities for teens including game room, free raffle, and a sporting autograph session. Families can also participate in bingo, rock climbing, archery, scavenger hunt and more! Also enjoy the model train display, animals, Treasure Chest, clowns, face painting, child ID and finger printing station too.

FREE EVENT!

A non-perishable food item for donation would be much appreciated.

FREE TAX ASSISTANCE FOR SENIORS

Offered by Trained AARP Volunteers

Interested parties should bring along last year's form, all 1099 forms from banks, Social Security, or annuities; W-2 forms from any employers, monthly Social Security amount, and rent certificate. Forms can be obtained at libraries or your local post office, etc.

Contact these locations ahead to confirm availability. If you have questions, please call the **Aging & Disability Resource Center of Washington County at (262) 335-4497**.

Call the Church Office for a schedule for the free tax assistance in your area (. West Bend, Germantown, Hartford, Menomonee Falls, Cedarburg and Port Washington).

Reservations are required in most location