



Preserving Christian Homes

January 2025



<http://www.livingwordupc.org/>

Easy does it

Well, it is finally time to turn the calendar page because the New Year has arrived once again. Over the next few days you will hear the call for a **Happy New Year** over and over again and whether you mean it or not you will say that to others. Anyway, I mention it because it means many different things to many people. Some see it as the closing of a chapter in their life of things which may have occurred in the past. This can be a positive or negative thing depending on what went on. Some will see it as a new opportunity to steer their lives in the desired direction whether personally or professionally. Students in the primary grades will see it as the second half of the current school year and the summer vacation is only a handful of months away. Those in the senior class will see it as graduation approaching and once that happens they may have to make some serious decisions as to what happens next. It gets even scarier if until this point they have made no plans. Those in the workforce may see the New Year as one year higher on the seniority scale and perhaps one year closer to retirement. Those who have already crossed the threshold into retirement may see the New Year as another opportunity to relax or they may see it as just another year of Doctor appointments. Whether you personally fall into one or more of these categories or none of them, we all have something in common. Life happens for all of us and what you choose to do next may affect you and your family as well as many you haven't met. In our society there is no such thing as total isolation nor an easy button. **At the company Christmas party, Joel's boss came over to him and shook his hand.** This was odd since the last time his boss shook his hand was eight years ago when he started working for the company. On Monday, the boss called him into his office and congratulated him on his promotion to District Manager. With two kids in High School and one about to enter college, this was the financial blessing he and Sharon were praying for. The promotion had a few strings attached. Despite many of the systems being high tech, Joel will be away from home often while he travelled around the District. With all the school and Church activities they were involved in this was not the best time to be out and about. There has got to be an easier way to meet the needs of the family and still fulfill his obligation to the company. **Tyrone has been retired for five years.** He and his bride of thirty-nine years decided he would retire from the Police Department and she would leave her position as an IRS Auditor and travel the world and that is precisely what they did. A life of relaxation and doing whatever they wanted was just what the Doctor ordered. That was until Tyrone actually saw a Doctor. During their recent cruise to Alaska, Tyrone started feeling a bit run down and experienced an occasional shortness of breath. Prior to going on the cruise he took his annual flu shot so he thought maybe he was reacting to that. He hadn't seen his Doctor since retiring so his Wife made him an appointment. After a battery of tests, Tyrone was diagnosed with high cholesterol and hypertension (high blood pressure). As the Doctor explained to them what needs to be done to get his health under control Tyrone began to get more and more depressed. Why work all of your life when at some point you may be unable to enjoy the fruits of your labors by sitting around relaxing and eating all the different kinds of food you enjoy. Exercising often and giving up on fried foods is not what retirement is supposed to be about. There needs to be an easier solution. **JoAnn is the mother of eighteen and twelve year old boys.** She has been raising them alone since her husband Jack passed away three years ago when a drunk driver ran a red light one afternoon. Prior to that, things were wonderful. Jack was the Athletic Director at the local High School and he ensured the boys had a balance between academics and other activities. JoAnn taught Sunday School and the family was very active in their Church. After his death, things changed. JoAnn could no longer be a stay-home Mom and had to resume her career as a legal secretary. She then needed to count on Thomas to look after his little brother until she got home. Jack had a special connection as their father that she doesn't have and as a result, Thomas has become quite the handful. There is nothing seriously wrong but when it comes to raising kids, there should be an easier way. Life does not have an "Easy Button" and the start of a new year rarely brings solutions. However, each year does bring a new circus but unfortunately if we don't take the opportunity to improve ourselves and do what's right, we are left with the same clowns.



January Anniversary



***Living Word Church wishes all of our
Couples a very
Happy Anniversary***



Baptism represents the forgiveness and remission of sins that believers receive through this covenant of grace with Jesus Christ. It is an outward demonstration of the transformation of new birth in the Lord Jesus. It is an act of obedience to the commands of Christ. It reflects a believer's willingness to follow Christ's example and teachings, being a servant of God, marking a significant step in Christian life.

Christmas Celebrations



Bro/Sis Porquis and their crew did a fantastic job constructing and then displaying our float in the City of Rio Rancho Parade



Sunday School



Our Sunday School Children did a fantastic job of illustrating the Reason for the Season



Christmas Eve Candlelight Service



Annual Max Mens Wild Game Cookout and Competition



This event led each year by Bros. **Mike Rinaldi** and **Brad Herrera** was another huge success. Along with great food and fellowship, there were wood cutting competitions and other manly activities. There were also a plethora of giveaways and donations.



Praise the Lord!

Jesus bless you all! 2024 has been a year of ups and downs both positive and negative but above all it has been a year of growth. Yes, we have lost loved ones, and we have dealt with grief, but we have also seen babies born and new life spring forth. Our theme, "More Like Him" has really changed people's lives and we have all grown. This next year is our 40th Anniversary year and I am believing God for miracles, signs, and wonders! I just know that this is going to be the best year LWC has seen. Stay tuned to what the theme for 2025 will be. If you did not get to attend the Candlelight Christmas Eve service, it is worth watching. The Service is available both on YouTube as well as Facebook and our App. I have never been to such a beautiful Service and special memories were made. I was thankful for each one who made it a priority to attend and be a part of the memories. Looking ahead, we are planning several revivals throughout 2025, and you should be able to see all of the events on the website for the year so please take a look and make plans to be a part. Mark your calendars for October 3-5, 2025, this will be our 40th Anniversary Service and we will have preaching and a special banquet to celebrate LWC! We will have Rev. Wayne Huntley preaching and it is going to be a very special time for the Church so please make special plans to attend. If you have pictures you would like to share with us, please see my wife or myself, we are trying to create a presentation of all the successes and experiences LWC has had over the last 40 years. We are so excited to celebrate with everyone and share what the plans are ahead. God is on the move; I have no doubt so keep the faith and don't get tired of doing the right thing!

Blessings!

Pastor Marquart



JANUARY 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Sunday Worship at 10:30 First Fruits Fast Concludes Communion Service	Midweek Matters with Bro Joe Ztpoli @6:00 pm	Pastor's Prayer @ 10:00	Midweek Matters @ 7:00	GriefShare @ 7:00	Youth Activity @ 7:00	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Sunday Worship and Sunday School at 10:30	Life Support- Celebrate Recovery @ 7:00	Pastor's Prayer @ 10:00	Midweek Matters @ 7:00	GriefShare @ 7:00	Prayer and Praise@ 7:00	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Sunday Worship and Sunday School at 10:30	Life Support- Celebrate Recovery @ 7:00	Pastor's Prayer @ 10:00	Midweek Matters @ 7:00 Missionary Edition!	GriefShare @ 7:00	Youth Activity @ 7:00	
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Sunday Worship and Sunday School at 10:30	Life Support- Celebrate Recovery @ 7:00	Pastor's Prayer @ 10:00	Midweek Matters @7:00	GriefShare @ 7:00		