



## *Preserving Christian Homes October 2024*



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

### ***It Ain't Just A Sunday Thing***

Growing up in the seventies, my family was about as average as any in America. During the week the children went to school and the adults went to work. On the weekends we normally slept in a bit before doing chores like housekeeping and laundry. We lived in an apartment so we having to do yard work so that was off the table. We then had the afternoon to hang out with our friends or do whatever we wanted to do. On Sunday, after breakfast we went to Sunday School. After that it was pretty much family time because we would hang around the house, have a big dinner together and then relax so we can get ready to resume our Monday through Friday routine. This lifestyle continued pretty much without change week after week, month after month and year after year. Every now and then we would go visit our Grandparents on Sunday. We would get up early on Sunday so we can get there early enough to go to their Church where my Uncle was the Pastor. After Church, my Grandmother would be in the kitchen making dinner. Two things I remember clearly about that time. Her cornbread was the highlight of the meal for me because she added a little sugar in it and called it sweet bread. The other thing I would remember is seemingly for no reason, she would shout "thank you Jesus". At first I thought she was storing up some prayers because she knew the trip home for us could be a problem. Sunday night traffic was always congested. Coupled with that the fact that our car had more leaks than the Nation's Capital during elections and it wasn't unusual for the car to overheat or stop because all the transmission fluid leaked out. Pop was prepared because he carried a gallon of water and a jug of transmission fluid in the trunk along with two spare tires. We were often delayed but never stranded. It was many years before I finally understood why Grandma was saying what she said. As an adult, I don't believe I had any more traumas in my life than anyone else. However, I have gotten into the habit of calling on the name of Jesus before I found myself up to my neck in alligators. Most of us find it easy to give a thumb up or a high-five when something good happens. It is just as easy to take the credit yourself when a plan comes together. However, by doing that, you are essentially saying I am in control and because I am, I feel I am the sole reason things are working out in my favor. That feeling is currently prevalent in our society. Take credit for the good stuff and blame someone else for the bad. I don't believe this blame game is valid. I believe good things happen to those who prepare. I also believe good things happen to those who do not prepare. The Bible refers this to raining on the just and the unjust. I can't be the only person on the planet who was rewarded for something I didn't deserve. I have been "blessed" numerous times when I know my work was straight garbage. I was tempted again to twist myself into a position so I could pat myself on the back. I know it wasn't me who got me through but it was Him. There are also times when I tried my best and still came up short. As disappointed as I may be, I know that no one wins 100% of the time. Every life has peaks and valleys and if you can't recognize the difference then you will become bitter during those times you find yourself in one of those valleys. Being on top is good but being in the valley isn't a bad thing either. Things roll downhill and in the valley there are more opportunities to do better. Those opportunities in the valley give you the resources you need to successfully climb to the top. Unless you are a mountain goat, only traveling half-way up and living on the side of a mountain isn't very desirable. That is what my Grandmother was talking about. Saying "thank you Jesus" wherever you are in your life's journey, acknowledges the fact that you would not have gotten as far as you have without Him helping you get there. Our Lord Jesus is involved in everything we do. Limiting your desire to say "thank you Jesus" to those times when you are in Church is not a good look. If praising him is something your kids only hear at the dinner table or during Church service, then you are sending them the wrong message. Praise isn't just a Sunday thing!

# October Anniversaries



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





# Fall Fest



The Fall Festival was a lot of fun for everyone. There were Hot Dogs, Cotton Candy and all the Popcorn you can eat. Kids won prizes after playing games like ring tossing and enjoyed a Hayride around the property



Sis Kohler fishing for ducks



The Mulligans having a cake walk



Folks with a sweet tooth craving cotton candy

# Fall Revival

with  
Rev. Hector Gonzales

LIVING WORD CHURCH

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20TH@10:30

1901 17TH AVE. NE, RIO RANCHO, NM 87144

[WWW.LIVINGWORDUPC.ORG](http://WWW.LIVINGWORDUPC.ORG)



# The Pastor's Corner

Here are some of the monthly and weekly events we offer at LWC in addition to our normal services. If you have questions about any of these groups please see a member of our ministry team for further information.

## **Families of Faith-**

This is always the first Friday of the month and is designed for families to pray together in the sanctuary, end in worship and go to back to the gym to have food, fellowship, and games. This activity was designed so the entire church, regardless of age, could come together, fellowship, and bond.

## **Pastor's Prayer-**

This is a Morning Prayer meeting held every Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary. Anyone who is available is welcome to attend.

## **HYPHEN-**

This is a small group designed for 18-30 somethings... This group was formed to spur our young adults to good works. Every month they have a new topic and new speakers, worship, snacks, and socialization. This is a great event to invite a young adult to, its an inclusive way to introduce Jesus to our community. This small group is a great way to bond and grow in Christ. Hyphen also has a new podcast which you can find on our app.

## **Thursday Basketball-**

We have basketball for the men almost every Thursday of the month. This event is headed up by Bro Brad Herrera, Bro Mathew Trowbridge, and Bro. Brandon Trowbridge. Please reach out for more details. Another amazing opportunity for outreach!

## **Family Church Prayer Night-**

Families of Faith is held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month and Prayer and Praise the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the Month are prayer nights for the whole Church and start at 7:00.

## **Elevate Youth Activity-**

This event happens on the opposite Fridays when we don't have prayer, and the young people play games and have snacks. We have a phenomenal youth committee and leaders that put a lot of time and energy into providing a safe place for young people to go on Friday Nights. This is another great opportunity to introduce someone to our church. This event starts at 7:00!

## **Armor Bearers Prayer Group-**

This group is designed to pray for the ministry of our church and to intercede for any requests that come to Pastor and Sis Marquart (at the person's request) This prayer team fasts weekly and comes together for a season of prayer on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month at 8:45 in the sanctuary. If you would like more information on this group or to be added to the prayer team list, please see Bro or Sis Newcomb.

## **Grief Share-**

Grief Share is a grief recovery support group. It is a Christ-centered, video-based support group program that equips lay volunteers to encourage and comfort people going through bereavement. The program is outreach-oriented and ministers to people within our church and throughout our community who are grieving the death of a loved one or friend. The Grief Share materials point to Christ as the ultimate source of healing. Grief Share is held each Thursday @7. Please ask a member of our Ministry Team if you would like more details.

## **Life Support- Celebrate Recovery-**

Is a Christ-centered ministry that gives people the resources and relationships to help find a new way of living. This ministry is for anyone struggling with past or current hurts, habits, or hang-ups, whether they are affecting their own life or the lives of those around them. Each night consists of a large group meeting with worship and a lesson or a testimony, and then we break into gender-specific small groups to share. We maintain a safe environment by adhering to Celebrate Recovery Guidelines. The purpose of Life Support-CR is to find God's healing power in our lives through the **Eight Recovery Principles** found in the Beatitudes. Time: 7:00pm every Monday evening and you can join at any time!

## **LWC Mothers of Mini's Group-**

This is a group for Moms of small children and babies. This group has periodic outings and is designed to help support moms together. For more information, please see Sis Brooke Medina. We are always adding to our groups and events so stay tuned for more information!

**We are always adding to our groups and events so stay tuned for more information! We are hoping to start a few more groups this Fall so keep looking.**

# OCTOBER

2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 Pastor's Prayer@10	2 Midweek Mattins@9	3 Grief Share @9	4 Families of Faith@9	5
6 Sunday School and Worship @10:30	7 Life Support- Celebrate Recovery@9	8 Pastor's Prayer@10	9 Midweek Mattins@9	10 Grief Share @9	11 Youth Activity@9	12
13 Anna Beams@8:45 Sunday School and Worship@10:30	14 Life Support- Celebrate Recovery@9	15 Pastor's Prayer@10	16 Midweek Mattins@9	17 Grief Share @9	18 Prayer and Praise@9	19 Hyphen Bonfire@9
20 Revival Sunday with Bro Gonzales Sunday School and Worship @10:30	21 Life Support- Celebrate Recovery@9	22 Pastor's Prayer@10	23 Midweek Mattins@9	24 Grief Share @9	25 Texico Youth Retreat. Ruidoso	26 Texico Youth Retreat. Ruidoso
27 Anna Beams@8:45 Sunday School and Worship@10:30	28 Life Support- Celebrate Recovery@9	29 Pastor's Prayer@10	30 Midweek Mattins@9	31 Grief Share @9		